

LATELY DEAD:

Noel Molloy
Sr Mary Slaven from Rock Ferry Convent

ANNIVERSARIES:

Louis Ah-Lim, Veronica Allen, Anastasia Barfoot, Annie Bartley, Olivia (Eve) Begley, Theresa Bennett, Elizabeth Birmingham, Bernard Blumsom, Veronica Boe, Hugh Bowler, Irene Boyle, Elizabeth Browne, John Burnham, Mary Butler, Michael Butterworth, Joseph Byrne, Beatrice Cafon, Lynn Chaplin, Mary Chappell, Allen Charles, Kathleen Clark, Albert Clifford, Jacqueline Collett, Joan Collins, Evelyn Cook, Donald Copping, Carmel Cork,

St Vincent De Paul Society

Are you in urgent need – financial or other?
Call us on 07547 491067 and leave a message. We will call you back.

VOLUNTEERS


We are always looking for new volunteers. If you are interested in helping the Parish in any capacity, please let the parish office know.

Donations for the Homeless

The parish Young Vinnies group will be visiting the SVP homeless shelter in Southend in February and March and have been asked for donations of good quality coats joggers, hoodies, hats, gloves and new socks. If you have any you would like to donate please leave with the parish office between the **7th February - 23rd March** for collection

SUNDAY MASSES

1st Mass: 6pm Saturday;
8.30am; 10am & 11.30am Sunday
(The 11.30am Mass is recorded)

Join us for tea/coffee after
Sunday Mass in the Becket
Centre 
10am Chigwell Convent

WEEKDAY MASSES

10am St Thomas'
9.30am Chigwell Convent except on
Saturday's when mass takes
place at 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am
and
5.15 to 5.45 pm

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays
of the month

Baptism Congratulations

To the following children who were baptised
at St Thomas in **February**; Hudson Heaney;
Levein Archer

VACANCY

The Governing Body of St. Antony's Catholic
Primary School have vacancies for a Class
teacher and Midday to work in our school. The
closing date for applications
is Thursday 19th March (Noon)
For more information, please visit our
website [http://www.stantonymcatholicps.co.uk/
vacancies](http://www.stantonymcatholicps.co.uk/vacancies)

LENTERN LUNCHEAS

Lunches will be available every Friday in Lent,
starting on February 20th. Homemade soup,
French bread and tea/ coffee will be served
between 12.15 and 1.30 in the Becket Centre,
all for just £5. Please do come and join us. The
money that we raise goes to Mary's Meals, a
charity that feeds schoolchildren in some of the
poorest countries in the world.

YOUR PLACE SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second Collection after mass on
Sunday 8th March—Envelopes will be
available at the back of the church



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org



Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (A) **SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH 2026**

Please note the nearest Fire Exit to you whilst you are in the Church

Our faith is rooted in the God who calls us, and Jesus Christ revealed to us. We are offered glimpses of the glory of God, which nourish and sustain us in life.

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4a

Calling Abraham, God promises blessings upon blessings.

Responsorial Psalm

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O'LORD

Second Reading 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

The salvation God promised us before the ages began is revealed in Jesus Christ.



WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

Lent is a time for repentance and that means changing our ways and becoming aware of the presence of God in our lives. When we look into ourselves, we should always do this having put ourselves into the Presence of God. To do so without the loving and forgiving presence of God is merely introspection and will depress us. That is the last thing the Lord wants for and we understand this from Pope Francis words on the Transfiguration: -

*This Second Sunday of Lent invites us to contemplate *the Transfiguration* of Jesus on the mountain, before three of his disciples. Just before, Jesus had announced that in Jerusalem he would suffer greatly, be rejected and put to death. We can imagine what must have happened in the heart of his friends, of those close friends, his disciples: the image of a strong and triumphant Messiah is put into crisis, their dreams are shattered, and they are beset by anguish at the thought that the Teacher in whom they had believed would be killed like the worst of wrongdoers. And in that very moment, with that anguish of soul, Jesus calls Peter, James and John and takes them up the mountain with him.

*The Gospel says: He "led them up a high mountain." In the Bible, the mountain always has a special significance: it is the elevated place where heaven and earth touch each other, where Moses and the prophets had the extraordinary experience of encountering God. Climbing the mountain is drawing somewhat close to God. Jesus climbs up with the three disciples and they stop at the top of the mountain. Here, he is transfigured before them. His face radiant and his garments glistening, which provide a preview of the image as the Risen One, offer to those frightened men *the light*, the light of hope, the light *to pass through the shadows*: death will not be the end of everything, because it will open to the glory of the Resurrection. Thus, Jesus announces his death; he takes them up the mountain and shows them what will happen afterwards, the Resurrection.

*As the Apostle Peter exclaimed it is good to pause with the Lord on the mountain, to live this "preview" of light in the heart of Lent. It is a call to remember, especially when we go through a difficult trial — and many of you know what it means to go through a difficult trial — that the Lord is Risen and does not allow darkness to have the last word.

NOTICE FOR READERS

Those readers who will be reading at the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent should know that Michael Murphy has kindly produced a dialogue version of the Gospels on these

Sundays. This suits these Gospels because there is dialogue in the text. It would be good if you came to the sacristy today to see the text you will be reading.

The Priest will do the part of Christ and three other readers will do the other parts.

Race Equality Foundation would like to invite **Redbridge** residents to participate in our upcoming programs, funded by the London Borough of Redbridge. We are offering two free online initiatives:

* Parent Conflict Resolution

* **Programme Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities Programme** Courses are designed to support families and communities within the borough.

Please register on the website <https://strengthening-families.net/rpc-registration/>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the cross will take place every Friday during Lent at **7.30pm** from the 20th February until the 27th March. We will make this journey and would like you to join us.

Royal Osteoporosis Society

is hosting an informal event in the Becket Centre on the 26th of March, 1-3pm. Karen Smith will attend as our guest speaker.

A Day With Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 14 March 2026 (9.45am to 5.00pm). Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

HELPERS : EASTER MASSES

Are you able to help during the Easter masses? If so, please add your name to the list on the notice board at the back of the church - thank you

UNDER 5's

St Thomas under 5's group is running every Tuesday & Wednesday morning at 9.30am—11am term time only.



Mass Intentions 1-8 March

Sunday 1st March

8.30am - Brendan Brosnan RIP
10am - Kathleen Ruddy
11.30am - Mary Spillane anniversary
Erlinda Urug RIP
Margaret Mary Brown

Monday 2nd March

Olga Machado anniversary
John Potter RIP
Kathleen McCarthy anniversary

Tuesday 3rd March

Monica Shrub anniversary
Carrie & Tom Howley
For success in exams

Wednesday 4th March

Myles O'Malley RIP
Howey family
Rosanne Perera RIP

Thursday 5th March

Meyler family
Chigwell - Tamie Mitchell

Friday 6th March

Thanksgiving
Constantine Iona (sick)

Saturday 7th March

10am - Bowler family
6pm - Laurence Cunningham RIP

Sunday 8th March

8.30am - Mary Lee anniversary
10am - Friends of Maria Millman
11.30am - Denis & Remona Armstrong

MUSIC GROUP

There will be NO music group at 10am Mass on Sunday, 1st March.

Church Cleaning
Thursday, 5th March at 9am
Sue Mansbridge, Jackie John, Mary Charter, Srimathie Crusz, Margaret Parkinson, Chelsea Chaplin

CAFOD Lent Appeal Family Fast Day collection Sunday, 1st March

This Lent, live the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you can help another family put food on the table.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall

7th March 2026 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall, Wanstead E11 2PR (1-5pm)
We are delighted that Jenny Sinclair, Founder and Director of Together for the Common Good, will be our keynote speaker. The afternoon will include time to reflect on our key areas of focus (homelessness, refugees and the environment) and to explore how we might respond collaboratively during 2026. Attendance is free, to register please visit: <https://DOB-NETWORK.eventbrite.co.uk>

Becoming a Chorister

Families can explore chorister opportunities at Westminster Cathedral Choir School's next **'Being a Chorister' Zoom Information Session** takes place on; **11 March 2026 at 6:30pm.** <https://tinyurl.com/2zsf92j8>

Discover why becoming a chorister is such a transformative experience for boys in Years 3 and 4. During the session, you'll have the chance to meet some of our choristers, learn what chorister life is really like.

The choristers receive a first-rate education at Westminster Cathedral Choir School with up to 100% off the fees.

QUIZZ NIGHT

Friends of Trinity Quiz night Friday, 13th March at 7.30pm. Tables of 6-8 people £10 per person. Food, bar and soft drinks available.