

Austin, ofm

Death gives us control over the conclusion of our autobiography whether our life is ultimately a comedy or a tragedy. God made each one of us to live with God forever, face to face. But we cannot know God in that intimate way in our earthly condition. God is Spirit, and if we want to know God as God really is, then we have to know God in Spirit.

We must let God translate our story into divine language. We must walk through that final closed door. If we respect the mystery of death without being paralysed by it, we realize that the purpose of death is to recycle our earthly experience into a form transferable to heaven, and to transform our imperfect self into someone capable of enjoying the personal friendship of God. *Now, death, where is thy sting?*

### **LENTEN TALKS**

The Fifth of Fr. Austin's talks will be on Wednesday at 8pm in the Becket Centre.

### **SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION**

St. Thomas' 7.30pm on Monday, 14th April. A number of priests will be available to hear confessions. No further public times for celebrating this sacrament before Easter.

### **SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS**

We are up London again on Wednesday night and would be grateful to receive sandwiches, fruit, cakes, sweets and warm men's clothing. Items can be left in the parish office on Wednesday morning or in the Becket Centre between 7pm and 8pm on Wednesday evening.

We would like to provide each person who needs our help with an Easter Egg. If you can help with this appeal we would be very grateful.

*Please remember in your prayers the Confirmandees who are on retreat this weekend.*

### **OVARIAN CANCER FUNDRAISING NIGHT**

8th April Fund raising evening for Ovarian Cancer in the Becket Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets available from Angela 0208 504 2138 or Gloria 0208 418 1125. Fish and Chip supper £10 per person.

### **IN TOUCH**

The parish magazine, is on sale at the back of the church. Price £2.

### **BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

The Woodford Bereavement Support Group is having a Service of Remembrance at St. Thomas of Canterbury for those who have died young. We invite you to join us on Sunday, 27th April at 4pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and afterwards in the Becket Centre for refreshments. Any enquiries please contact Kathie on 07778 216212.

### **HOLY FAMILY**

Lay Associates' Meeting on Monday, 7th April at 7.30pm at the Convent.

### **FAMILY WALK AND PICNIC With Children's Treasure Trail**

At Hanningfield Reservoir on Wed. 9th April in solidarity with the 1 in 8 people who go to bed hungry each night. Meet at the Visitor Centre from 11am leaving for the walk about 11.30am. 020 8502 9722 or brentwood@cafod.org.uk for more information.

### **SACRED HEART COMPANIONS**

Will meet at the early time of 1.45pm on Monday, 7th April at Chigwell Convent. All new members are welcome.

### **A BIG THANK YOU**

To everyone who donated to the second collection in aid of HemiHelp last weekend. £580 was raised.

### **LENTEN LUNCHES**

Lenten lunches have so far raised £575 for Mary's Meals. There are only two weeks remaining, so if you have yet to sample our delicious home-made soups, come and join us in the Becket Centre on Tuesdays from 12.15pm—1.30pm. Soup, French bread and butter are just £2.50.

### **BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD**

Those parishioners who traditionally make Easter baskets of food can bring them to the Becket Centre on Holy Saturday, 19th April at 11am. We will bless them then.

### **EASTER TRIDUUM**

(17th, 18th and 19th April)

Many thanks to all those who offered their services last weekend we do however, still need more Readers & Ushers for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday. Please add your name to the lists located at the back of the church if you are able to help.

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

#### **Washing of the Feet**

We are looking for up to 12 volunteers (male or female), so far we only have ONE volunteer! If you would like to take part in this moving re-enactment of Our Lord washing the feet of his disciples, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

### **HOLY WEEK**

Copies of the Holy Week Flyer are available from the back of the church. Please take one.

### **LENTEN POSTERS**

Are available from the back of the church. "HE IS RISEN" should be folded over until Easter Sunday.

### **STEWARDS REQUIRED**

Volunteers are required to help assist with stewarding at the 6pm Mass on Saturdays. If you would like to find out more about being a Steward, please contact Myrtle Scannell on 020 8504 6609 or 07956289441.

### **MOTHER, BABY & TODDLER GROUPS**

Will be closed over the Easter Holiday from 8th & 9th of April, till we re-open on 22nd and 23rd April. Have a lovely break.

*Rachel and Sheila*

### **MARRIAGE CARE**

Marriage Care, Ilford Centre are looking for suitable volunteers (male or female) to be trained as Marriage Preparation Providers/Counsellors/FOCCUS Facilitators. For further information please contact Glenda Spencer on 020 8590 7775.

### **TUESDAY CLUB**

Welcome to **BINGO & EASTER EGGS** on Tuesday, 8th April in the Becket Centre at 2pm. All welcome.

### **MOBILE HAIR STYLIST**

Harrods trained. Over 25 years' experience. Call Tina 07957977380.

### **FLORISTRY SKILLS?**

We are looking for people with floristry skills to join a rota for church flowers. If you would like to become involved in this ministry please contact the parish office.

### **LONDON MARATHON**

Alan Mair will be running the London Marathon on April 13th April for Asthma UK.

Please support Alan at  
[www.virginmoneygiving.com/](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/)  
ALANMAIR 1963

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Sick:-** Phil Archer, Ellen Armstrong, Mary Barnes, Moira Bisset, Teresa Bonaventure, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Janet Canty, Donald Dourado, Bernie Doyle, Mary Duffy, Michael Durcan, Harold Elston, Alan Farmer, Ray Finney, Fr. Jim Fitzpatrick, Philomena Freeman, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Nora Gaiger, Martin Garnar, Ollie Gaynor, Judy & John Gilmartin, Kathleen Gissane, Joan Green, Pat Greene, Lyndsy Greck, Doris Harriss, Christine Hewstone, Maureen Howlin, Desmond Kavanagh, Sophie Jordan, Phyllis & Geraldine Kelly, Fr. Austin Kinsella O.F.M., Claire Lauren, Nora Lucey, Mary McKay, Gloria McQueen, Roger Machin, Hannah Martin, Paul Mason, Sadie Meade, Jutta Menzies, Kay Meyler, Jean Morgan. Trisha Morgan-Smith, Maureen Moss, Miriam Mullally, Maureen Noden, Betty Norton, Anthony O'Boyle, Mary O'Boyle, Joanne O'Boyle, Fr. Con O'Connell, Mick O'Hara, Una O'Mally, Janet Pinfold, Anneli Prowse, Jacky Rott, Debbie Smythe, Karen Spencer, Carmel Sweeney, Mary Sullivan, Lan Anh Ta, Christine Thurston, Teresa Warnock, Terry Wauer, Monica Worsefold.

**Lately Dead:-** Mrs Birne, John Burnham, Robert Mavir, Declan O'Neill, Ray Stokes.

**Anniv:** Alec Murphy

### **NEED A RELIABLE BUILDER?**

No job too small—All work guaranteed. Contact [www.justrightworks.co.uk](http://www.justrightworks.co.uk).

### **NORFOLK COTTAGE**

Thinking of a weekend away only 2 hours from Woodford on the North Norfolk coast. Sleeps 10 persons. Ideal for family get-togethers. Parishioner discount. Call Peter on 07970239007. Bank Holiday weekend in May still available.

### **KILARNEY/RING OF KERRY**

By coach—full portorage. 7 days (6 nights). Dinner Bed/Breakfast. Departure Sunday, 1st June 2014 and return 7th June. Price per person £629 (single supplement £48). Cover against cancellation, if required £15 per person. Price includes 3 excursions and there is also entertainment each evening in the Hotel. The tour operator is Airedale Tours Ltd [billlazzellsmith@btinternet.com](mailto:billlazzellsmith@btinternet.com).

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Thursday, 10.30am 10th April Mary Charter, Dianne Molloy, Dorothee Gabriel, Rowena Li.

### **CLEANER?**

Very reliable, good rates. References available. Contact Lisa 07988453839.

### **FOUND**

A white and blue Gizmo after the Assisi Lunch in the Becket Centre.

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

#### **St. Thomas'**

1st Mass Sat. 6pm; 8.30am;  
10am (Children's Liturgy)  
11.30am

#### **Chigwell Convent**

10am

#### **St. James URC**

(Buckhurst Hill)

9am (Children's Liturgy)

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

#### **St. Thomas'**

10am

#### **Chigwell Convent**

9.30am

Saturday 10am

(1st Weds of the month)

No morning Mass

#### **Trinity High School**

8.20am on Lower Site.

### **SATURDAY**

#### **CONFESSIONS**

##### **St. Thomas'**

10.30am—11.30am

5.00pm—5.45pm

##### **Chigwell Convent**

After 10am Mass

#### **BAPTISMS**

1st and 3rd Sundays

Of the month

# **St Thomas of Canterbury**

557/559 High Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0RB

**Served by the Franciscans**



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844



Email: [parishoffice@friar.org](mailto:parishoffice@friar.org) Web: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)

## **5TH SUNDAY IN LENT CYCLE A**

**6th APRIL 2014**



In one of the most important incidents in the Gospel, Jesus weeps at the death of his friend Lazarus, and shows his divine power by raising him from the dead, foreshadowing the true resurrection.

### **First Reading (Ezekiel 37:12-14)**

Through the prophet, God announces the reality of a future, physical resurrection from the dead.

### **Second Reading (Romans 8:8-11)**

Paul teaches that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, given to us by Christ, is the source of our own resurrection from the dead.

### **Gospel (John 11:1-45)**

Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus teaches that he himself is the door to eternal life, being both fully God and fully human.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**  
**May your love be upon us, O Lord,**  
**As we place all our hope in you.**