

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Funeral in St Thomas of Canterbury:

Ann Alfano's funeral will take place on the 6th of December at 10am.

We extend our sympathy to Ann's family

May she rest in peace

Anniversaries: Francis Keane, Martin Thomas, Lena Tyson, Ruth Comorford, Roger Higgins, Elizabeth Stoffel, Lucia Nie, Patricia Greene, Katherine Delaney, Martin Fuller, Joan Hayes, Leslie Bond, Ethel Humphrey, John Fernandez, Peter Morgan

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

Christmas Fayre—Raffle Prizes

We still have some raffle prizes to be collected. Please check the numbers below and collect from the Parish Office Pink ticket numbers **200**. White ticket numbers **54, 113**.

Plant sale

There are some plants that were not sold last weekend at the Fayre. You will have a second chance to buy some this weekend after masses. All proceeds will be going to the restoration fund.

Thank you

The Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Chigwell) would like to thank those who have used stamps for their missions. Your help is really appreciated.

St Antony's School Nursery

Children born between 1.9.16 and 31.8.17 can now apply for the school year 2020/21. Those children born between 1.9.16 and 31.12.17 may also apply to start in January 2021 if there are vacancies. Application forms are available on the school website www.stantonyscatholicps.co.uk. Closing date for receipt of forms is 12pm on Friday 14th February 2020.



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

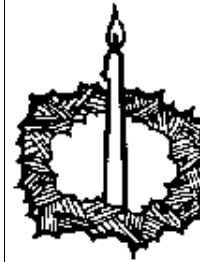
Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

1st Sunday of Advent Cycle A 1st December 2019

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



At the beginning of the Advent season, we consider the coming of the Lord at the end of time. This is because Advent is the experience of all the year round. Every time we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come", we are living the power of Advent. Christ will come again.

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

We climb the mountain of God separately, but we meet at the summit.

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

We are in the night, but we can see the dawn is coming.

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

Pray, think, care, and then you will be awake, ready for God in all things.

Responsorial Psalm

I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house"

Newsletter

To receive the newsletter by email please sign up on our parish website www.stthomaswoodford.org or mail communications@stthomaswoodford.org

Christmas Fayre

What a splendid afternoon we had last Saturday! You came in great numbers. There was a happy buzz as the cash tills hummed, you picked up conversations too long squeezed out by busyness, sat and enjoyed the excellent band. Thank you for contributing so generously to stocking the stalls beforehand. Teddy bears and bottles were in abundance. I thank the great team of organisers for all the work you put in in the preceding days and weeks. It was a real family-meeting of the whole parish. We are not yet sure of exactly how much the Restoration Fund gained by all the effort, but it will be over £5000. Thank you.

Catholic newspaper

It is important that we all keep up with what is happening in our church, both at home and abroad. So we need to have access to the catholic press. Unfortunately the publishers will no longer give us a sale-or-return service. So from January 1st we must pay for all the copies they deliver to the parish. At present you see a large number remain each week unsold. I am reluctant to add any more administrative work to our overworked volunteers. What would you think to the suggestion that those who wish to receive a paper should pay each quarter in advance? We can then leave a named copy to be picked up from the porch. Other suggestions will be welcome.

Health and Safety

The defibrillator is now installed beside the first aid cupboard outside the parish office. Last Monday more than 20 came and received thorough training in how to use it. I thank the donor and all who cooperated in providing instruction and installation. Your office staff spent best part of a day receiving first-aid training. Let's hope neither will be needed. But you are being well-cared for.

Parish Activities

Monday 2nd December

- Join us for refreshments after 10am Mass
- Keep Fit in the Becket Centre at 8pm
- Parish Council Meeting at 8pm

Wednesday 4th December

- Journey of Faith in Assisi Room 7.30pm
- CWL 8pm

Thursday 5th December

Scripture Prayer Group in the Francis 7.30pm

Saturday 7th December at 10am

Saturday School upstairs in the Becket Centre for children who do not attend Catholic Schools

Sunday 8th December at 4.30pm Ecumenical Advent Carol Service

The Woodford Fellowship of Christian Churches is holding an Advent Carol Service at St Thomas's. There will be a retiring collection for the work of The Redbridge Cold Weather Centre and Mary's Meals. This will be followed by refreshments in the Becket Centre. Donations of mince pies welcome.

Mass Online

Saturday vigil mass will be recorded and available to view online. To view mass online visit our parish website www.stthomaswoodford.org Click **Mass Online**, then click the link to **Online Mass**.

Chigwell Convent Advent Reflection

On the **9th, 10th & 11th December**, the 9.30am Mass will be a little longer than usual as Fr. Michael Copps will give a short Advent Reflection during the homily.

Advent - Walk with me

Is available from the back of the church, cost £1 please leave in the basket next to the books.

Parish Diaries 2020

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Diaries for 2020 have arrived. Please leave your donation in the basket provided at the back of church.

Jam Jars wanted

Wanted Urgently – Jam Jars (1 lb only please) for Charity Jam makers! If you have any please contact Solange 020 85055171 and will collect.

Children Liturgy

On Sunday 22nd December after the 10am mass the Children liturgy Catechists are hosting a short Carol Service in the Becket Centre. Children will be singing carols, accompanied by a guitarist. Polish cakes and Christmas biscuits and mince pies will be served. There will be an arts and craft table for children to enjoy. Everyone is welcome we look forward to seeing you.

Camp wild

Is organising a Christmas party on the **23rd of December & Camp Wild** activities on the **2nd and 3rd of January 2020** from 8.30am till 5.30pm in the Becket Centre Hall. Prices and availability can be checked on www.camp-wild.co.uk or call 07414274015 for more information.

Altar Servers

We have some longer Albs now available in the Parish Office Also for those who serve at St Thomas' we wish to update our records so can you please fill in the sheet provided with your details.

Church Cleaning Thursday 5th December at 10.30am

Jean Burke, Mary Charter, Dorothee Gabriel, Florence Kiggundu, Sue Mansbridge, Louise Deans

Please note that the big Christmas clean will take place on 19th December at 9am

Baptisms Congratulations



We welcome into the Harriet Kavanagh, Aoife Lynch, Jada Wak-Williams, Vincent Horne, Sofia Stefansdottir, Marta Estanislao, Alfonso Amodio & Fin Dooner who were baptised at St Thomas of Canterbury during November.

Sunday Teas

Don't forget to join the community for refreshments after the 10am and 11.30am masses on Sundays. It is a great way to meet new people and support each other. You may also like to volunteer on a rota basis with the after mass teas If so, please contact Sheila on 020 85804 3839.

Save a life training (Defib)

If anyone who attended would like the link to the videos mentioned please email the parish office.

Trinity School Vacancy

There is a position of Science available. Please visit the school website for more information.