



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

### Lately dead:

- ◇ Aneta Musielak,
- ◇ Frank Saville,
- ◇ Breege Maguire,

Tony Ogdin's funeral will be held at St. Anne Line on Tuesday, 24th January at 11am

*May they rest in peace*

### Anniversaries:

Michael Sullivan, Peter Hinton, Martha Tracey, Patrick Grant, Madeleine Khai, Zofia Baranska, Hilda Hannigan, Philippe Camilleri, Christine Thurston, Ann Selfe, Joseph Byrne, Annie Hill, Eric Leary, Hilda Stratford, Dennis McCarthy, Sister Brosnan, Victor Palmer, Brian Connell, Patricia Tugby, Cornelius Sullivan, Edith Playle.

### Parish Council

The Parish Council will next meet on 30th January

### Becket Centre hire

The Becket Centre is available for hire for any of your events. The hall downstairs will hold a party for 100 people the rooms upstairs can hold up to 20. Private hire or regular classes are welcome. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

## Mass Timetable

*The masses on Saturday evening and Sunday at St Thomas' are live streamed*

### 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

**Tea and coffee after 10am Mass on Friday 27th January  
Come and join us**



All are welcome. Do come and join us for a chat and catch up in the Becket Centre (Upstairs). We will be serving delicious Fairtrade tea and filter coffee.



**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
Woodford Green  
A FAIRTRADE PARISH



Parish Office: 020 8504 1686  
Friary: 020 8504 1688



Website: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)  
Facebook: @STOCWoodford  
Twitter: @STOCWoodford

Email: [parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org)

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 22nd January 2023

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

For a people in darkness Isaiah foretells a great light – a prince of peace who will free us from all oppression. Jesus in Galilee fulfils this promise.

### First Reading Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3

People who once suffered invasion and war will one day be blessed with the joy of true light and liberty.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13. 17

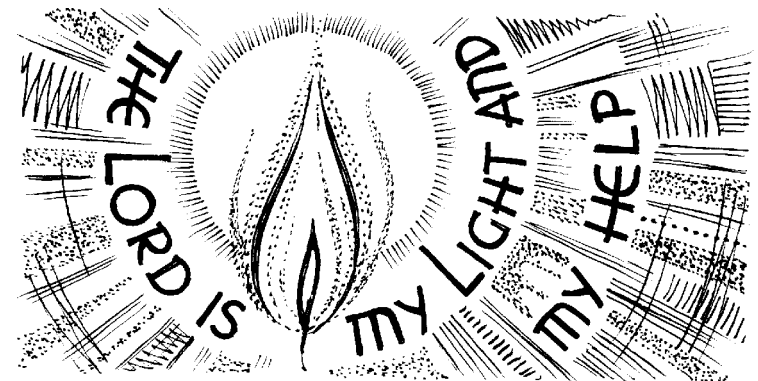
Paul appeals for unity among the followers of the Lord.

### Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his mission in Galilee with the light of his teaching and his healing power.

### Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my light and my help.



## The life of contemplation

This week's feast of St Anthony of the desert (not, to be noted, not he of Padua) brings to mind the need of serious commitment to this essential element of our church and so of every parish. Anthony stands for a large movement, in the early centuries of our church, of people who sought out solitude in order to dedicate themselves totally to prayer. Greek philosophers and many others visited Anthony to engage him in secular thought and affairs. He staunchly rejected them as dangerous to his single-minded contemplation. I believe we have here in our parish people similarly committed to a life of prayer. Many are housebound. They have little of incident in their lives. But they find acceptance of their restricted horizons and company in trusting prayer to the Lord.

## Their carers

Fortunately there are several caring people who identify the needs of the many sick, housebound, and those imprisoned by mental and physical illness. They consistently visit, shop, bring Holy Communion to them, transport them to medical and hospital treatment. Much of their caring goes unnoticed. But today I want to recognise what they do, and thank them. I know there are also other faithful members of the parish who have borne the many tasks and duties of making our parish through their active years. And then when they fall sick we do not give them the similar care they deserve. The need is heavy on my conscience. More on this subject next week, particularly concerning ministers of communion.

## Diversity in Church Unity week

Once upon a time we thought the only true religion was to be found in the Catholic Church. It is quite natural to think that our way of doing things is better than others. But gradually a realisation has spread widely that diversity is an important thing in all fields of life and experience. The Pope tells us to dialogue with each other. The churches of the Reformation have taught us the importance of careful listening to the Word of God in the bible. Perhaps Congregationalists give us a needed warning to avoid the clerical love of power and control. This week we try to take Ecumenism seriously. We will register our commitment in the Unity service this evening in St Paul's church Woodford Bridge at 6.30 pm.

## A Day for Readers

We will be holding a Day for Readers at the church on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January** from 10:15am to 3:30pm; which will be facilitated by Sue Seward who is a former English teacher and now drama coach. Sue ran a very successful course for us in January 2020 which some of you may remember. So far the response has been disappointing but it's not too late to reserve your place on this course, please phone the Parish Office (0208 504 1686) as soon as possible. The day is also open to anyone, young or old who would like to become one of our regular Readers.



## Mass Intentions

### Sunday 22nd January

8.30 Kevin Hopkins anniversary  
10 Stubbings family thanks  
11.30 Friends of Sheila Smith-Pryor

### Monday 23rd January

Carol Bastie health  
Maryann Farrow intentions  
Peter & Petrina

### Tuesday 24th January

Angela Kirkland RIP  
Deceased sisters SHJM

### Wednesday 25th January

Sam Anna Michelle Saharaweera  
Peter Butcher  
Trinity intentions

### Thursday 26th January

Ted Duffy RIP  
Eufemia Mastroddi RIP

### Friday 27th January

Ken Jones RIP  
Kathleen McMenemy RIP

Funeral 11 Anne Driscoll

### Saturday 28th January

10 Helen Atherton RIP  
6 James Armstrong RIP

### Sunday 29th January

8.30 Lyn Dolman ill  
10 Maureen Pestell health  
11.30 Pamela Gibbons RIP

**Church Cleaning**  
**Saturday 28th January at 10.30am**  
Rosie O'Connor & Charmaine Turrell

## Service for Christian Unity

The service will take place on **Sunday, January 22nd** at St. Paul's, Woodford Bridge at 6.30 pm. Light refreshments to follow. All are welcome.

## 15th Woodford Rainbows

If you would like your daughter to join rainbows please go to the girl guides website and go on to wishing to join and add your details to the 15th Woodford and you will be contacted.

## Cleaner Sought

Elderly Catholic couple is looking for an honest, reliable cleaner to help clean their flat in Chigwell, near the convent. It will be for 2 or 3 hours per week at £13 per hour. If interested please ring 0208 500 5670. Messages will be returned after 28th January. References will be required.

## "AWAKE LONDON"

A Catholic Bible convention and Healing ministry on Saturday **28<sup>th</sup> January 2023** from 3-5pm at Christ The King, Chingford  
[www.sehionuk.org/www.sehion.net](http://www.sehionuk.org/www.sehion.net).

## School/nursery applications

Fr Quentin will be available on **23rd January** between 3 & 4pm to sign certificates of practice