

LITURGY

We are blessed to have an excellent choir and many who engage regularly and faithfully in our liturgies. Yet in some respects these are growing tired, listless and in need of renewal. Holy Week is almost on us. It is full of rich possibilities of experiencing Jesus, then and now. So I have some small suggestions for making it come more alive. Will you help?

On Palm Sunday the procession at 11.30am is important. I hope to enlist a Big Bass Drum to co-ordinate singing of a round as we wend from Becket Centre into church. It will be fun, as was the original day. The day then goes sour. I want a group to speak the crowd parts of the Passion. Especially to scream: Crucify Him!!

Thursday: with careful timing we join Jesus for the Last Supper. He washes feet (by special order of the Pope: Women's feet also) It is all about being committed. So I hope we will have representatives of all the caring and service groups in the parish to bring up a symbol, and together we will renew our commitment to serve.

More then on Friday and especially Saturday night. Come and be part of it.

STEWARD OF THE GOSPEL

Three weeks ago you heard Bishop Alan. He asked us to find a Steward who will co-ordinate the progressive renewal of our parish. Or rather be a king-pin in the progress. So far I have received only three communications of what you think about the idea, and whether there is any readiness to join in. I have to find somebody by Palm Sunday. Can you think about it? If you think it unreal and not a feasible project I would still like to hear your view. Remember well—the bishop said: I want it not to be dictated from the top, but rising from the roots. Does what you have read fit this bill?

HOLY FAMILY

Lay Associates Meeting on Monday, 7th March at 7.30pm at Maureen's House.

LENT LUNCHES

In the Becket Centre on Tuesdays in Lent. 12.15pm—1.30pm in aid of Mary's Meals (an organisation which provides meals for school children in crisis-stricken countries). Home Made Soup and French Bread £3. Everyone is welcome.

EASTER TRIDUUM

**Readers, Ministers of Communion,
Ushers & Sacristans:**

If you will be attending any of the services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday, please add your name to the lists located at the back of the church.

MAUNDY THURSDAY (Washing of Feet)

We are looking for up to 12 volunteers (male or female). If you would like to take part, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

GARDEN FETE

Working fridges desperately needed for the Garden Fete. If you can help, please call Mick 07875473269.

Calling all gardeners of the parish. To make the Garden Fete Plant Stall a success, we need help from all the "green fingers" Please bring along your plants on Fete Day. Many thanks.

SACRED HEART COMPANIONS

Will meet on Monday, 7th March at 2pm at Chigwell Convent. New members welcome.

CHURCH FLOWERS

We are in need of ladies who would be prepared to learn how to arrange the church flowers on a rota basis. If you are interested, please contact Barbara, Parish Office.



MERCY

Tuesday, 8pm in the Becket Centre.

We will meet to explore further **MERCY**. What is the precise relevance of so much stress on it? Do I have a sense of mercy, feel the need of it, need to hear such insistence on it? Is it about God's mercy or mine? Please come to tease out what we have heard over the past three weeks.

24 HOURS EXPOSITION

The Pope has asked parishes to have a 24 hours Exposition in the Year of Mercy. Is there any interest for such in this parish? Please let me know. Quentin.

SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Would you like to do something to help the refugees fleeing war-torn Syria? Join members of our parish TELCO team, other organisations in Redbridge and individuals locally on a training afternoon to learn about ways we can work together to welcome refugees seeking sanctuary to Redbridge. Sun. 20th March 3pm—6pm in the Claire Room upstairs in the Becket Centre. Please email Daniel.Mackintosh@citizensuk.org for more information or to register your interest.

TUESDAY CLUB

Bring along some **POETRY!** (If you'd prefer not to read it—someone else will). Join us and Pam Ayres, in the Becket Centre at 2pm on the 8th March.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

The SVP are trying to help a family find a 2 bedroom property to rent in the local area, preferably situated on the ground floor or on one level. Please contact 07754 100149 if you can help.

ALSO two bedroom house for a couple in Walthamstow or South Woodford. Please contact 020 8527 1504.

SAINSBURYS VOUCHERS

Once again the Mother and Toddler Group are collecting Sainsburys vouchers and would appreciate your help. Please hand them into the parish office. Thank you.

SUNDAY TEAS

We serve tea and coffee after 10am and 11.30am Masses most Sundays. Do pop in and join us. A good chance to meet old friends and new people.

JUMBULANCE ACROSS QUIZ

Sat. 19th March in the Becket Centre 7.30pm for 8pm. £5. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tables of 8—10. Contact Sheila 0208 504 3839.

VALENTINE SINGERS

Sat. 12th March 7.30pm at St. Andrew's Church, The Drive, Ilford IG1 3PE. See poster in porch.

SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS

We are up London again next Wed. and would be grateful to receive sandwiches, fruit, cakes, sweets and toiletries. No clothes please as our cupboards are full and we need to clear the backlog. Thank you for your continued support. Items can be left in the parish office during opening times or in the Becket Centre between 7pm & 8pm on Wed.

JOHN BRADBURNE

Free booklets about John Bradburne are available from the back of the church. Moves are being made to present his case in Rome once the Commission for the Causes for saints in the Secular Franciscan Order is set up to promote potential candidates.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please register with the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Betty Bere, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Liz Browne, Genevieve Campbell, Eustage Chesley, Claire, Ann Carmody, (Kieran's Mum), Mike Crutchlow, Bernadette Clancy, Carmel Cork, Claver D'Souza, Teresa Daly, Don Dourado, Laurie Durrant, Maureen Halford, Thomas Hefferman, Joan Farrelly, Maurice Flynn, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Karen Gallagher, Trish Gardner, Mary Grisdale, Cynthia Gregory, Catherine Heagney, John Harris, Doris Harriss, Tony & Mary Keane, S. Kuntz, Lauren, Chris Lavin, Mary McKay, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Bridie McCoy, Claudia McNulty, Jutta Menzies, Pat Morgan, Miriam Mullally, Josephine Mullen, Frances Piller, Dr Courtney Price, Anneli Prowse, Lily Reding, Mary Ryder, Dermot Ryle, Edward Shearer, Joshua Smikle, Jane Spring, Melda Tierney, Pauline Tuite, Astrid Turner, Mary Quaine, Kath Vaughan, Evi Maria Vogel.

Anniversaries Mary Lee, Pauline White
Latently Dead Ted Bulled, Frank Hattersley, Rev. Michael Etheridge, Stephen Garrett, Paul McDonnell, Clare Schofield, Aida Testro, Norah Tiernan, Tina Woolf, Mario Zeppa.

Stephen Garrett's Requiem will take place on Tues. 8th March at 10am in St. Thomas'. Aida Testro's Requiem will take place on Wed. 9th March at 10am in St. Thomas'.

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

CHURCH CLEANING

Saturday 10.30am 12th March Charmaine Turnell, Rachel Woolf, Christine Pinnock, Rosie O'Connor, Eweline Allen, Debora McNamara.

TEA ROTA

We need additional people to help serve teas on a 7 week rota basis after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday. If you feel you can help, please contact Sheila on 8504 3839.

SALWAY SINGERS

Invite you to an Easter Concert on Sat. 19th March at 3pm at Salway Church, Top of Forest Approach, Woodford Green. Admission Free.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 10th March at 7.30pm. Please note it will NOT be in our usual location owing to the Confirmation Programme but come to the usual entrance and you will be directed to us. Please ring Angela on 020 8505 0356 if you have any queries about this meeting.

TOYAKWAI KARATE

Contact 020 8985 6228 for details. All ages and abilities.

HOUSEHOLD DUTIES

Cleaning/ironing etc. Good rates, references available, CRB checked, works in all areas. Please contact 07960 077452.

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 Web: www.stthomaswoodford.org

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT CYCLE C

6TH MARCH 2016 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



We gather today to remember the goodness, love and mercy of our God, and to celebrate God's goodness in this great act of thanksgiving.

First Reading
(Joshua 5:9-12)
After renewing their covenant with the Lord, the people set out to take possession of the promised land.

Second Reading
(2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
It is God who reconciles us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

Gospel
(Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)
The prodigal son comes to his senses and remembers his father's love.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Taste and see that the Lord is good

SVP
Wishes to thank parishioners for their generosity last weekend. £800 was raised.