

LENTEN TALKS

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

All welcome

REMINDER

Please refrain from putting flowers on the side altars during Lent. Grateful thanks.

JOURNEY OF FAITH RETREAT

Directed by Fr. Austin McCormack O.F.M. All are welcome at Chigwell Convent on Sat. 29th March registration and coffee at 10.30am for an 11am start. Cost £20 to include a three course lunch. Contact Leon on 07454556565 or leon@racionzer.net.

WELCOME

We welcome into the parish community Maia Lourdes Lalani, Flynn Jarlath O'Sullivan and Alfred Maksymilian Golding who were baptised in St. Thomas' last weekend.

SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS

We are up London 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 Wed. morning or in the Becket Centre between 6.30pm and 8pm on Wed. evening. With more and more people finding it hard to live on the income they have we find they are turning to soup runs for help. Please continue to support us. We would also like to thank the parents of nursery children at St. Antony's for the food donations they are making during Lent.

IN TOUCH

The parish magazine will be on sale at all Masses next week. This is a family magazine that has evolved over the years to become more of a journal with something for the young and for the old. Excellent value still at the price of only £2.00.

CAFOD QUIZ NIGHT

Tom Jarvis (ex St. Antony's pupil) is running the London Marathon for CAFOD on 13th April and is organising a Quiz Night in the Becket Centre on Sat. 29th March to go towards his sponsorship. 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Tables of 8. Suggested donation £10 per head to include a Ploughman's supper. Bring your own drinks. Contact David Underwood on 07905 741033. If you can't attend but would still like to sponsor Tom, please go to www.justgiving.com/Thomas-Jarvis1.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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.

GRATEFUL THANKS

To all parishioners who responded so generously to the appeal by Across last weekend. A fantastic sum of £1,530.44 was raised.

TUESDAY CLUB

Why not follow the Lenten Lunch with the entertainment and revels of THE LOUGHTON LADIES' CHOIR? They like to start promptly at 2pm. So, if you have to arrive later, please come through the kitchen. See you all on the 25th in the Becket Centre.

ST ANTONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Require a School Caretaker (Permanent (non-residential). 36 hours per wk with evening and weekend lettings as overtime. Scale 3 points 14-17 £17,685—£18,768. Contact 020 8504 4706 or email admin.st-antonys@redbridge.gov.uk

LENTEN LUNCHES

Tuesdays in Lent in the Becket Centre 12.15pm until 1.30pm. Homemade soup with French bread £2.50 (tea and coffee extra). All funds raised will be sent to Mary's Meals, which feeds schoolchildren in Haiti.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent. After 10am Mass and at 8pm in St. Thomas'.

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.

11.30am SUNDAY TEAS

We are in urgent need of help to make tea after the 11.30am Mass on a Sunday. It will be on a rota basis once in 6 weeks. If you can help please ring Sheila Smith Pryor on 8504 3839.

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.

KILARNEY/RING OF KERRY

By coach—full portorage. 7days (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. billayzellsmith@btinternet.com.

ASSISI LUNCH

Friday, 28th March in the Becket Centre.

Austin O.F.M.

Often, to satisfy our great need for love, we use things like: food, work, looks, accomplishment, other persons, sex, drink and so on. While these are all good in themselves, yet because they are finite they can never satisfy the need in us that is infinite—they leave us with "Is that all there is?"

No, that is not all there is. We are each built in such a way that we die without real love. Our small selves have been fitted with a soul that opens wide to love and especially to the greatest love of all, God. We can use whatever careful steps will get us there—Lenten quiet, self-denial, reflection on our lives, even coming to peace with our losses. Who knows—we too might meet somebody looking for a drink of water.

SALWAY SINGERS

Present Easter Music with soloist Hannah Bennett on Sat. 5th April at 3pm Salway Evangelical Church, top of Forest Approach, Woodford Green IG8 9BW. Retiring Offering for two charities, Missionary Aviation fellowship & Street Pastors. Admission Free. Disabled Access.

CONFIRMATION

Please remember in your prayers our Confirmandeos who are being presented at Brentwood Cathedral this afternoon (Sunday).

SVP

There is an SVP collection after all masses this weekend.

Also, we are looking for girls' clothes age 4/5 and 11/12 yrs, and boys' clothes age 7/8 and 14-16 years. If you can, help please leave donations at the Parish Office. Many thanks for your support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Phil Archer, Ellen Armstrong, Mary Barnes, Moira Bisset, Teresa Bonaventure, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Janet Canty, Siobhan Davids, Rudi de Burgh, John Burnham, 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, Judy & John Gilmartin, Kathleen Gissane, Joan Green, Pat Greene, Lyndsy Greck, Doris Harriss, Maureen Howlin, Baby Harry Johnson, 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, Maureen Noden, Betty Norton, Anthony O'Boyle, Mary O'Boyle, Joanne O'Boyle, Fr. Con O'Connell, Mick O'Hara, 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:- Joseph Byrne, Stanley Desborough, Frank Fuscoe, Gerald Mooney & Baby Julian Rojas-Figueiredo
Joseph Byrne's Requiem will take place at 10am in St. Thomas' on Monday, 24th March. RIP

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

Stan Desborough's Requiem will be on Tues, 25th March at 10.00am in St. Thomas'. RIP

Gerald Mooney's Requiem will take place at the 10am Mass in St. Thomas' on 27th March. RIP

Frank Fuscoe's Requiem will take place on Friday, 28th March at 10am in St. Thomas'. RIP

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

A family with 2 children would like to rent a house 2 or 3 bedroom in this parish area. Please contact a.s.a.p 07587146664. Email franklin 7712000@yahoo.com.

NEED A RELIABLE BUILDER?

No job too small—All work guaranteed. Contact www.justrightworks.co.uk.

TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Trinity Catholic High School require a teacher of Religious Studies with effect from Sept. 2014. For details and application form email Margaret keegan@fc.tchs.uk.net. Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Monday, 7th April 2014.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

For tax year 2014/15 are at the back of the church for collection if you have requested them.

St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

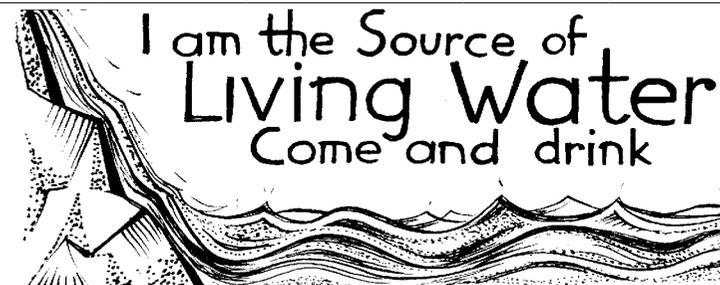


Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844

Email: parishoffice@friar.org Web: www.stthomaswoodford.org

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT CYCLE A

23RD MARCH 2014



A life without love can seem like a desert. Jesus changed the lonely existence of a Samaritan woman into a fruitful and beautiful life for others when he poured his love into her heart.

First Reading (Exodus 17:3-7)

After their escape from slavery in Egypt into the barrenness of the desert, the Israelites begged Moses to give them water.

Second Reading (Romans 5:1-2. 5-8)

Our thirsty souls need the life-giving water that is love. Through Jesus, the Spirit of love gives us the life for which we all long.

Gospel (John 4:5-42)

The Samaritan woman represents all of us who thirst for the spring of water "welling up to eternal life", which Jesus makes available to us in himself.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O that today you would listen to his voice:
"Harden not your hearts."