

## **BISHOP ALAN**

Our Bishop met with all the priests of the Diocese this week. The plan he proposed was simple: He has no intention of ruling loftily from above, sending down orders and programmes. Instead it has to come from us, from you, from the whole membership of the Diocese.

### ***Dialogue, Discernment, Consultation, Collaboration***

Today you hear his letter. For each family and household there is a leaflet setting out the start of a plan prepared by a committee. Please tell Quentin what you think.

## **FR. AUSTIN MERCY**

Do come to the Becket Centre on Tuesday at 8pm to hear Fr. Austin on this subject. On the following Tuesday, 23rd February, we will come back to discuss his wisdom and absorb it.

## **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.

## **LENTEN FLYERS**

Please take a flyer, if you have not already taken one, from the back of the church giving you details of Masses and services during the Lenten period.

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Each Friday we engage in this devotion. After the 10am Mass it is led by a volunteer of the parish community. The friars will generally lead the evening devotion at 8pm.

## **FAMILY FAST**

### ***Friday, 19th February***

This Lent Fast Day, we have an opportunity to come together as a Catholic community to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. CAFOD is working with local expert organisations around the world to bring water to family homes, so girls who used to spend hours collecting it every day, now have time for school, study and to play with their friends. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Collect your Fast Day envelope from church today and remember to fast on Lent Fast Day. The UK Government has promised to match every pound and penny you give this Lent! Please give as much as you can.

## **REPOSITORY**

Now that Lent is here we would like to draw your attention to the Repository stock of books which will be a help to children of all ages in understanding the season as we approach Easter. We have, of course, a good selection of Easter Cards.

## **CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE**

Father Quentin will be available on Wednesday 24th February in the Becket Centre from 7pm for approx an hour. There are no individual appointments just pop along.

## **EAST LONDON THREE FAITHS FORUM**

On Thursday, 10th March at 8pm, Bishop Alan Williams will be speaking in St. Anne Line Parish Hall, Grove Crescent, South Woodford E18 2JR ON "Spirituality and High Places". All welcome. Light refreshments afterwards.

## **TELCO**

On 28th April 2016, just one week before we elect the New Mayor of London, 6,000 organised voters will gather at the Copper Box in Stratford for the London Citizens' Mayoral Accountability Assembly. London Citizens will present the Mayoral Candidates with the following four proposals on which the Mayor has the power to act in order to tackle the Housing Crisis.

### **We are asking the Mayor of London:**

- To back the London Living Rent, put it in the London Plan and deliver 10,000 London Living Rent homes by the end of the Mayoralty.
- To set up a staffed, permanent Rogue Landlord Taskforce and appoint a Deputy Mayor to oversee it.
- To back our Good Development Standard, and use planning, land and finance powers to ensure that new developments in London live up to it.
- To back Community Land Trusts, working with us to deliver 1,000 CLT homes by 2020 and 5,000 by 2025.

St. Thomas of Canterbury parishioners can play a significant role by attending the Mayoral Election on the 28th April. Coach Transport will be provided. Tickets for the Assembly: call Angela Meyler 020 8504 2138 or Bernie Harris 077 54477532/

***The coach leaves St. Thomas' at 5pm  
prompt. Don't miss it!!***

## **IN TOUCH**

All articles for In Touch Magazine by Feb. 20th please. Do any of you have glorious spring bulbs in your garden? If so, please send photographs to: kathrynwilson900@btinternet.com.

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

## **BAPTISM**

If you need to attend a baptism course for your first child please contact the parish office for details. We advise parents to attend a course before the birth of their child.

***Welcome into the parish community  
Brielle Asiri-Yaa Hazel Opoku, Jeasmine  
Kaur Weatherley and Keeva Mary  
Heyburn who were baptised in St.  
Thomas' last weekend.***

## **PLEASE NOTE**

Due to half term the Toddler and Baby Groups will not be meeting on 16th and 17th Feb but will resume on 23rd Feb as normal.

***The Gospel Sharing Meeting will resume  
on Thursday, 7th April.***

## **15TH WOODFORD GUIDES**

The 15th Woodford Guides have spaces for girls between the ages of 10-14. We meet on a Friday 6.30pm—8pm. If interested please contact Janet at 07803810666.

## **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.

## **CHILDREN'S MASS PLAYALONG**

Will be rested during this Season of Lent. It will take up again after school holidays on Sunday April 10th.

***We will miss you all. Music Group.***

## **ORGAN**

There is an organ in the cloister which would be grateful for a new home. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Sick:-** Mike Angelo, Maria Ashley, Baby Oliver Barker, Betty Bere, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Liz Browne, Genevieve Campbell, Yvonne Carpenter, Eustage Chesley, Claire, Ann Carmody, (Kieran's Mum), Mike Crutchlow, Bernadette Clancy, Carmel Cork, Claver D'Souza, 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, S. Kuntz, Lauren, Chris Lavin, Mary McKay, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Bridie McCoy, Paul McDonnell, Claudia McNulty, Jutta Menzies, Pat Morgan, Miriam Mullally, Frances Piller, Dr Courtney Price, Anneli Prowse, Lily Reding, Dermot Ryle, Edward Shearer, Joshua Smikle, Jane Spring, Melda Tierney, Pauline Tuite, Astrid Turner, Mary Quaine, Kath Vaughan, Evi Maria Vogel.

*If you know of any sick or housebound parishioner who would like to receive communion, please contact the parish office.*

**Lately Dead** David Gibbs (Chigwell School), John Morgan, Michael Worsley Q.C.,

There will be a memorial service at St. Mary's Church, Chigwell for David Gibbs on Sat. 14th May at 2pm.

### 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.

## CHURCH CLEANING

Thursday 9am 18th February Frances Branch, Cathie Fitch, Michael & Rose Doherty, Rosanna Baker, Leah Bettis, Sheila French.

## TEA ROTA

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

## CHARITY BALL

Tickets are available for a Charity Ball on Friday, 15th April at Packfords Hotel in Woodford to raise money for Target Ovarian Cancer in honour of late parishioner, Letitia Featherstone. If you would like to attend or want further details, please contact Rachael on rachael12512@msn.com or 07971 375073.

## TUTORING

Do you require a tutor to help you with core, additional or triple Science. An ex-Trinity student is willing to help.  
£7.50 per hour. Call 07474 403126 or lakshanperera@live.co.uk

**Also** Experienced tutor with BSc Physics Degree and MSc in Mechanical Engineering. Tutoring available in A-Level Maths and Physics and all Sciences and Maths at GCSE level, or lower school. Prices vary per circumstance so please call Sukie on 07866805405.

# St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

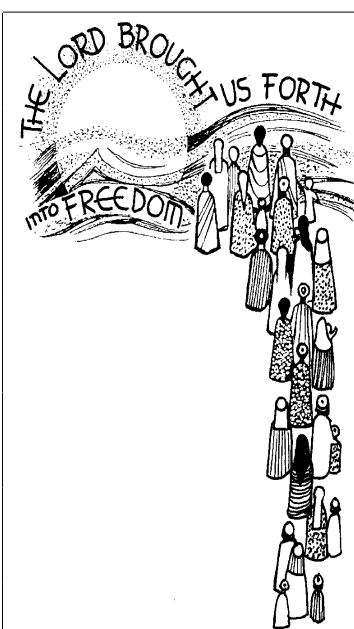
Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844



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

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT CYCLE C

14TH FEBRUARY 2016



Like the people of Israel, we gather to remember that we are God's chosen people and to offer thanks for the many blessings we have received from the Lord our God.

### First Reading (Deuteronomy 26:4-10)

The people make a thanksgiving offering to the Lord, remembering God's great act of liberation.

### Second Reading (Romans 10:8-13)

The Lord is rich in mercy to all who call on him.

### Gospel (Luke 4:1-13)

The devil tempts Jesus with good things

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Have mercy of us, O Lord, for we have sinned.*