

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lately dead:

The funeral of Grace O'Malley-Kumar member of our parish will take place in Westminster Cathedral this Friday 21st July at 10.30 am.

Anniversaries:

William Wright, Charles Collins, David Driscoll, Elizabeth McEvoy, Paul Zupan, Stephanie Walsh, Stanley Stringer, Pamela Taylor, Elizabeth O'Brien, Henry Davies, Albert Witham, Alice Haster, Bernardo Ferrari, Isabelle Tudisca, Jackie Jones.

FOOD BANK

The Redbridge Food Bank is in urgent need of more supplies – please remember those in need and continue to donate items to the Food Bank box at the back of the Church. Thanks for your continued assistance.

Lost Property

Items left in lost property will be in the porch this weekend. Any items not collected will be disposed of.

Music Group 10am Mass

The Music group will take a break for the summer after this week. We will be back early in September.

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

Thank you

The second collection last weekend raised
over £380 for Sea Sunday



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green
A FAIRTRADE PARISH



Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

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Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 16th July 2023

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

Faith is a two-way relationship. Human beings yearn for God, and God our Father longs for us to turn back to him. We are free either to answer that call, or to turn away. We have both the freedom and the responsibility to choose the Christian life.

First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11

The word of the Lord is like rain falling on the earth, enabling it to bear fruit.

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

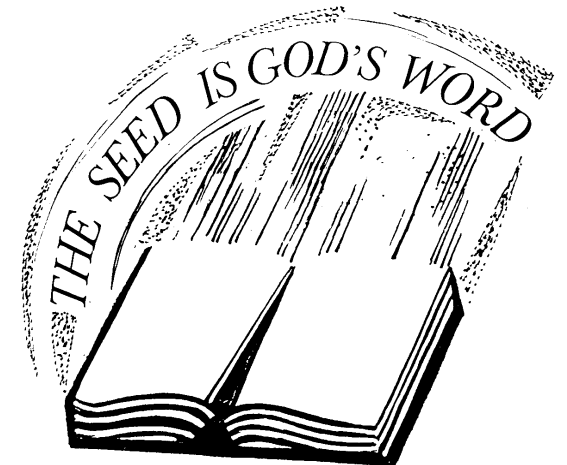
Humanity, like creation, is waiting for God to set it free.

Gospel Matthew 13:1-23

People are like the places where seeds fall – their faith will determine whether there is a harvest of God's riches.

Responsorial Psalm

Some seed fell into rich soil and
produced its crop.



St Thomas of Canterbury AGM

I thank the parishioners who engaged in last Sunday's AGM. It was a good occasion well-used to review the past year and look forward to the next stage as we return from holidays. It had an air of *fin de siècle* about it as we took a longer view of the Council's work. Two factors have dominated. Covid has had effects both bad but also some good. The other huge benefit has been Pope Francis. During his reign the Parish Council has taken on its due role of managing the parish. The wider church is much divided about sharing all responsibilities, duties and decisions. We have come a long way and sincere thanks were given to Kit for his leadership and practice. A good example of St Paul's "*constant concern*" for us and church. His membership of the Council has one year to run but under a chair to be chosen.

Our financial position is sound. Premises have been upgraded and greatly improved. More projects are already in hand, notably in the Henrietta suite of Becket, the car park and others. Needs of our rising generations and their faith were not forgotten. Most urgent of all is the replacement of the sound-enhancing system of the church. The process has been tortuous despite expert help and diligent investigation. We are at the point of committing to a contractor and optimistically hope we may have an installation by Christmas.

Now it is over to you. Everywhere we hear the cry: "*No one is volunteering*". You are busy and beset with problems. Yet if you want something done – ask a busy person. And you are all disciples.

The Saturday Concert

In past years we have had some very good concerts. Last Saturday evening in St Thomas was exceptional. The orchestra – marimba included - maintained its high standard of yesteryear. But the delight of the evening was our choir. It comprised current members of our parish augmented by some who have now moved on elsewhere but came back to their roots for the occasion. May we hope to see new shoots for music at our weekly masses? I want to thank all who have worked for weeks in organising and rehearsing and for your generosity. Most special thanks go to Kathy Wilson. She has worked most of all through the difficulties of drawing together an array of talented musicians as well as all the logistics of the evening.
Thank you Kathy.



Preparation of 7-8 year-olds for Holy Communion.

If you wish to include your child please register with the Parish Office before September 6th. Notice that it is not a preparation for **first** communion. Our catechists are ready and eager to help you. No one else but you can give your child the steady accompaniment as they come to know Jesus. Joining the community regularly at mass each Sunday is indispensable.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 16th July

8.30 Margaret O'Connor
10 Grace O'Malley Kumar RIP
11.30 Ian Howes ill

Monday 17th July

Kitty Conroy intention
Rosemary Moone RIP

Tuesday 18th July

Chris Douglas RIP
Noreen Smith recovery

Wednesday 19th July

Memorial of Leon's family
Mary Passa bereaved
Trinity intentions

Thursday 20th July

Irene Crosby RIP
Jim Sullivan
Funeral 1pm John O'Malley

Friday 21st July

Pat McCreesh RIP
Grace O'Malley-Kumar RIP

Saturday 22nd July

10 Sr Nuala Gaffney RIP
6 Karen Davies

Sunday 23rd July

8.30 Peter Amper West RIP
10 People of the parish
11.30 Sr Cecily Bourdillon RIP

Church Cleaning

Friday 21st July at 9am

Claire Hobbs, Susanna Barnoin,
Michelle Liddle, Agatha Emohare,
Susan Juffs & Julia Bever

International Food Evening

On Saturday 14th October @ 7:30pm we will be hosting an international food evening as a Parish fundraising event. If anyone would like to contribute a dish to this event please contact Michelle on michellespears@live.co.uk.

Young Adults Formation

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham*. To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

London Marathon 2024

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the London Marathon taking place on SUNDAY 21st April 2024. If you are an experienced runner or someone who would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event please contact Damian Dillon for further details on 07912 308000 / ddillon@bccs.org.uk. The closing date for completed applications is Friday 28th July.