

Lately Dead:

Francis Ellen Hoorn, Ann McShea

Funeral:

The funeral of Francis Ellen Hoorn will take place on Monday, 20th April at 12pm. Barbara Leppert's funeral will take place on Thursday, 23rd April at 11am.

Anniversaries:

Sarah Wilkie Saunders, Chu Chin Ooi, Mary Wilkinson, Christopher Nestor, Lorna Barrientos, Brigid Sharkey, James Cavanagh, Patricia Biggs, Reece Doyley, Carlton Hayes, Rosina Marshall, Sister Margaret O'Brien, Mollie Wood, Keith Barron, Raymond Konrath, Sister Conrad McCarthy, Thelma Fogg, Anne Newton, Anna Ayles, Hazel Wilding, Helen O'Donovan, Mabel Harris, Sr Madeleine Carey, James Brown, Alexander Alexander, Julia Harris, Colin Taylor, John (Sean) Gilligan, Oluwarotimi Olateju, Hannah Dowdell, Gerhard Michna, Alice Tucker, Harry Kelley, Lourdes Alice Fernandez, Kathleen (Kitty) Mallott, Ana Maria Dias.

Being a Chorister'

Zoom information session.

The session will take place at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 29th April at 6:30pm and will last approximately 30 minutes. **Register here - <https://tinyurl.com/2zsf92j8>** Alternatively, contact Rachel Bonnet at **020 7798 908**, or **RBonnet@choirschool.com**

FRIARY TENNIS CLUB QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 2nd May in the Becket Centre, 7pm for a 7:30 start. £9 per person, bar provided; supper is an optional extra. Please contact **ftcwoodford@gmail.com** if you would like to come.

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

BAPTISM COURSE DATES

6th and 13th May.

Both dates must be completed

Second Collection Promotion of Vocation

A second collection will take place after all masses next weekend.

NEW STOCK : 1st Holy Communion

The Repository has some beautiful items for Holy Communion. A lovely selection of cards, gifts reasonably priced. Please come and have a look. The Repository is open after the Masses on Saturday evening and Sundays.

CONFIDENT PARENTING IN A WORLD OF SCREENS

Join 'Celebrate' for a webinar on 29th April at 8pm. Kate Duroux from 'Care for the family' will give advice on how to support teenagers through the challenges of the digital world. For access to the webinar, contact **info@celebratetrust.org**

Mass For Migrants 20th Anniversary

Monday, 4th May at 12pm. Join us at St Antony of Padua Catholic Church, 56 St Anthony's Rod E7 9QB.



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org



Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: [@STOCWoodford](https://www.facebook.com/STOCWoodford)

Twitter: [@STOCWoodford](https://twitter.com/STOCWoodford)



Served by the Franciscans

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) SUNDAY, 19TH APRIL 2026

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

The Easter adventure continues! Lives are changed forever by encounters with the Risen Lord! Today, Jesus makes himself known to the Emmaus disciples in the breaking of the bread; he comes to meet us, too, as we gather at his table.

First Reading Acts 2:14. 22-33

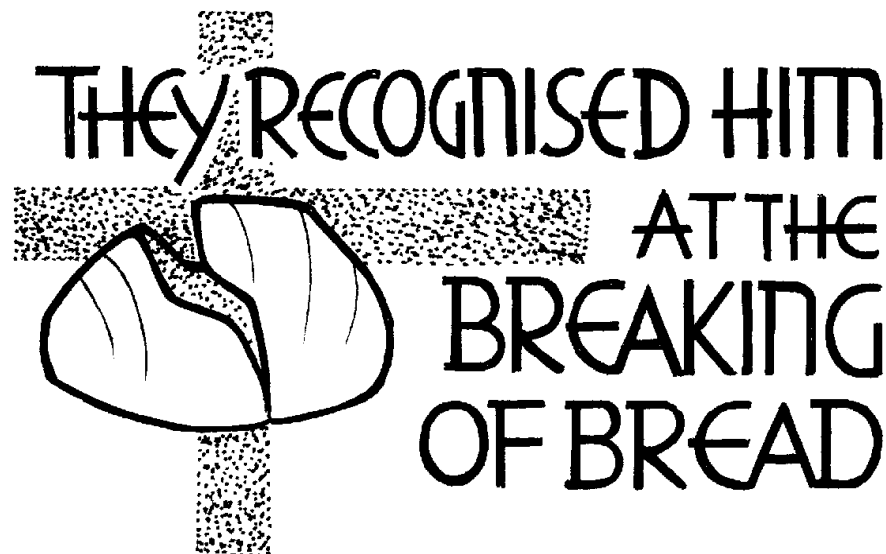
Peter helps the Jewish people recognise Jesus as the Holy One of God.

Responsorial Psalm:

O Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21

The death and resurrection of Jesus were part of God's eternal plan. His glory is at last revealed.



COMMENTS ON THE GOSPEL OF THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

On the walk, Luke explores the relationship between absence and presence in the midst of ordinary daily life, in this case after trauma, death and suffering. As the disciples move towards a sense of presence they must emerge from a place where absence and loss abound.

The ultimate inner knowing of Divine presence comes in the form of a simple meal of bread in a landscape of hospitality and willingness to give generously to the other. This is the dynamic birthplace of the Divine. The sharing of bread at table by the one laid in a feeding bin at his birth, leads to the extraordinary possibility of spiritual transformation and a way of believing that requires seemingly impossible amounts of courage and heartfelt strength. It is evident that the disciples are carrying an immense amount of loss, bewilderment and grief as they try and move on from Jesus' appalling death on the cross.

What they hoped for has now come to naught. This reality is explicitly named at this point. They seem to be walking away with their hearts emptying out as they journey onwards. The depth of their experience unfolds as they encounter someone who appears as a stranger to them. It is only later in the text that they realise it is 'the risen Lord'. In an odd literary moment, the disciples provide Jesus with a detailed account of his own death. Jesus draws them out through continuous dialogue and gentle questioning as he listens and engages as an equal. As evidenced in the Jewish Scriptures, the Jewish nation expected a Messiah to liberate them from political injustice. Jesus, who becomes the Messiah through death, must endure absolute suffering as a result of abusive power and authority.

This was the unexpected twist attached to Jesus' experience. The notion of the Suffering Servant can be traced back to the Jewish Scriptures ([Is 53: 3](#), [Zec 12: 10](#) & [13:1](#)). Those closest to Jesus during his lifetime and the early church community had to face this ultimate spiritual conundrum. Today's reader is invited to explore this seminal question about the centrality of suffering to Jesus Christ's identity as the Son of God. The highpoint of this appearance story is when the

disciples' eyes are opened, and their hearts burn for the first time. They now recognise Jesus in a new way. It was him all along in the mystery of unknowing and dialogue. Critical to this moment of recognition is Jesus' action of taking, blessing, breaking, and giving bread to those who provide him with ordinary hospitality in the evening.

This eucharistic moment reminds the reader of the Feeding of the Five Thousand ([Lk 9:16](#)) and The Last Supper ([Lk 22:19](#)). As we interpret this rich text from our modern stance, we must remember that it forms part of a Gospel constructed several decades after Jesus' death and resurrection. From this perspective, it reflects the developing spirituality and intellectual psyche of the emerging early church.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations 26th April

The Church considers and prays for Vocations and especially as baptised Catholics, to be a priest and religious, along with the call of marriage and the Catholic single life. Let us reflect and pray together on the specific call in the religious life and ordained ministry so vital and necessary for the present and future of our Church. We, in particular as Franciscans, pray for more young men and women, aged 18-40, to think about such a way of life, calling and service as a Franciscan friar, sister and lay Franciscan. **Why not make enquiries from a friar; via the website - [friar.org](#); and/or emailing - vocations@friar.org**

Holy Communion Masses 2026 Calling all Sacristans, Readers, Ministers of Communion, Altar Servers

Between 9th May & 13th June there will be first holy communion masses on Saturdays at 11.30am. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help.

St Vincent De Paul Society

Are you in urgent need – financial or other? Call us on 07547 491067 and leave a message. We will call you back.



Mass Intentions

19th—26 April

Sunday 19th April

8.30am - Peggy Carrig RIP
10am - Chu Chin anniversary
11.30am - Mrs Rejami anniversary

Monday 20th April

Annie Teresa Hoban RIP
Sarah McCarthy
Sheila Miles

Tuesday 21st April

Johanna Roedl RIP
Bryan Correya in memory

Wednesday 22nd April

Peggy Carrig RIP
Sr Sandra Harrington int
Craig Lobo RIP

Thursday 23rd April

Irene D'Costa RIP
Dorothy Hegarty
Joel Phillips

Friday 24th April

Anne Potter RIP
Camille Malone (sick)

Saturday 25th April

10am - Kitty Mallot anniversary
- Catherine Gaughan
6pm - Ray Konrath anniversary

Sunday 26th April

8.30am - Sr Teresa Quinn H Family RIP
10am - Peg Carrig RIP
11.30am - Emily Dempsey anniversary
Chigwell Mrs Kilkenny RIP

CAKE SALE

There will be a young Vinnies Cake sale in the Henrietta Suite after
10am AND 11.30am
Sunday masses this weekend



Church Cleaning
Saturday, 25th April at 10.30am
Rosie O'Connor, Charmaine Turnell

Vacancy

St Thomas of Canterbury

We are seeking to recruit a part time Parish Administrator to provide support to the Parish by implementing and maintaining office systems, processes and procedures. The successful candidate will have an understanding and empathy for the mission and ethos of the Catholic Church. The Job description and person specification can be found on our website

www.stthomaswoodford.org

If interested please send your CV and one side of A4 covering letter setting out how you meet the person specification to suzanne@stthomaswoodford.org.
Closing date Monday, 26th April

**** ADVANCE NOTICE ****

Local Elections on Thursday, 7th May
St Thomas will be used as a polling station from 6am—10.30pm. The Becket Centre will be CLOSED and the car park will not be available for the pick up or drop off that day

50th Anniversary Celebration

Trinity Catholic High School is proudly celebrating 50 years of serving our community. To mark this important milestone, they are hosting a 50th Anniversary Black Tie Ball, an elegant evening bringing together students, families, alumni, and local supporters on **Friday, 15th May at Woolston Manor**. Please contact Avril on 07805296582 for more information.

Ecumenical Lenten lunches

The lunches this year raised £3535.55, which was a wonderful total. Many thanks to all who supported this initiative: those who donated the soups, those who helped and those who lunched. The money has been sent to Mary's Meals to help their campaign in Haiti. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Refreshments Friday, 24th April

Join us in the William Scott room after
10am mass.