

The Bishop has asked all parish priests to send in a report on what we are doing to help migrants and refugees in our respective parishes. I was able to report the impressive work already done and being done by our Telco Group. They have led our parish to a lobby exercise in Parliament just before Christmas, urging Mr. Cameron to take in an extra 1,000 refugees. Then a considerable number of exercises to stimulate local authority's will to build affordable housing. Please tell me what more I can add. He has asked: What are you doing? What are the needs you perceive? Thanks to our Telco Group our record is good.

The Parish Council met and took measures to assist the many and various works in hand. Much is being done to put the Becket Centre on a surer footing and effect repairs. Now we intend to look at the Rotas currently organising our work in church, centre, homes and beyond. The existing structure is good. A huge number of works—facilitating prayer, formation and education, care etc. are at present assembled under a range of rotas naming persons for each specific work. Some of these rotas are no longer working efficiently because of departures, waning energies, illness and even death. Sometimes we need to refresh memories about what the given role involves. So we hope to revitalise all and to see where the Council can provide help.

Quentin

BIBLE SHARING



You are invited to a Bible sharing group which will meet fortnightly to pray using the Scripture readings of the following Sunday. We will meet in the

William Scott Room upstairs in the Becket Centre on Thursday, 21st January at 7.30pm finishing 8.30pm. Hope to see you there!

BADMINTON

Come and get fit in 2016. We play Thursday night in Trinity School, Mornington Road between 8pm and 10pm. Cost £5 per night. For details please 'phone Liz 07759 410304.

KEEP FIT

Lose weight and keep fit for the New Year. Come to our fun keep fit class on Monday evening 8pm—9pm in the Becket Centre. Only £3.

BUCKHURST HILL

As part of the parish of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Mass is celebrated at St. James United Reformed Church in Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill at 9am each Sunday. We are a friendly and welcoming community and currently have spaces available in our children's liturgy group. If anyone would like to join us they will be very welcome.

BANKING

As planned, we have opened a parish deposit account with Liberty Credit Union. Based in Barking, it is a "not for profit" organisation set up to assist low income families with simple banking facilities. Regular savers are also able to borrow money at competitive rates, providing a sound alternative to banks, high interest payday loans and doorstep lending. There are some leaflets at the back of the church if you have any interest in joining this credit union. All deposits are covered by Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

SATURDAY SCHOOL

Has restarted. It is for children who attend non-Catholic Schools 10.30am—11.30am upstairs in the Becket Centre.

CATECHISTS' MEETING

There is a meeting for all First Holy Communion catechists next Wednesday, 20th January at 8pm in the Assisi Room.

BECKET CENTRE CHAIRS

Ushers please note:

Any chairs taken from the Becket Centre for Sunday Masses **MUST** be returned immediately after Mass as they are required in the Becket Centre during the week.

REPOSITORY

We have re-stocked with Lent and Easter in view thinking particularly about books to help children understand what's happening in church. There are also some lovely new statues of Our Lady and some saints. Come and have a browse—if you can't see what you need perhaps we can order it for you.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL, WANSTEAD OPEN MORNING

Wed. 27th Jan. 2016 9.30am—10.30am

Applications are invited for our Nursery Class to start in Sept. 2-016—girls born between 1.9.12—31.8.13 and Reception Class birthdays between 1.9.11—31.8.12. Please contact our Admissions Secretary to arrange a visit on the above Open Morning where you will have an opportunity to view the school and to find out about our admission procedure. Please 'phone 020 8 9 8 9 4 7 0 0 or email enquiries@stjosephsconventschoo.co.uk.

SPANISH CLUB

Spanish lessons for kids on Fridays at the Becket Centre. For times and availability please contact Amaia on 07957 133176 or babelia@btinternet.com.

WEEK OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

January 17th—24th 2016. The Service for Christian Unity will take place at St. Paul's, Woodford Bridge on Sunday, 24th Jan. at 6pm. All are welcome.

BAPTISMS

If you need to attend a baptism course, please contact the parish office. Baptisms take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. We recommend couples to attend a course before the birth of their child.

CHIGWELL SISTERS

NEARLY NEW & JUMBLE SALE

Sat. 13th Feb. at 2pm in the Becket Centre. Please leave your donations in the church porch. Many thanks.

ECUMENICAL ADVENT SERVICE

A belated thanks to all who helped in any way, and to all those who contributed so generously to the retiring collection. A total of £700 was raised, which was divided equally between Redbridge Cold Weather Centre and Mary's Meals.

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 rachael2512@msn.com or 07971 375073.

SACRISTANS' ROTAS

Are now available from the Sacristy.

PEACE SUNDAY

The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice.

There will be a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Mike Angelo, Maria Ashley, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Liz Browne, Genevieve Campbell, Yvonne Carpenter, Eustage Chesley, Claire, Mike Crutchlow, Bernadette Clancy, Claver D'Souza, Don Dourado, Laurie Durrant, Maureen Halford, Thomas Hefferman, Maurice Flynn, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Trish Gardner, Mary Grisdale, Cynthia Gregory, Catherine Heagney, John Harris, Doris Harriss, S. Kuntz, Lauren, Mary McKay, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Bridie McCoy, Paul McDonnell, Claudia McNulty, Jutta Menzies, Pat Morgan, Miriam Mullally, Frances Piller, Dr Courtney Price, Lily Reding, Gerard Seeberan (seriously ill), Edward Shearer, Joshua Smikle, Melda Tierney, Pauline Tuite, Astrid Turner, Mary Quaine, Kath Vaughan .

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

Latelý Dead Leonora Cavanagh Catherine Gillham, Pauline Petherwick, Mattie Maher, Sergio Masotti, Ann O'Gara (Stockport), Winifred Warriner (Chris Brown's Mother)

Anniv: Fiona Daniels, Bridget Kelleher, Bill Mansbridge, Iris Mansbridge, Victor Van Boolean.

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

SIXTH FORM STUDENT

Are you willing to pop in 4 nights a week for half an hour to read with a 6year old? Will pay £5 per night. We live in the Woodford Green area so may work for someone at Trinity Sixth Form on their way home after school.

If this is something you are interested in please contact 07903 674872.

DAWN McNULTY FOR HAIR

Freelance hairdressing Contact
07808921962/01992214303 or email
Foghornrdawn@yahoo.co.uk.

CHURCH CLEANING

Sat. 10.30am 23rd Jan Charmaine Turnell, Rachel Woolf, Christine Pinnock, Rosie O'Connor, Eweline Allen, Debora McNamara. We need 1 more person to help clean on a Friday at 9am on a rota once in 7 weeks. Please contact Pat Bell on 8504 4577.

SUNDAY TEAS

We are looking for 2 people to help with teas after 10am Mass on a Sunday morning in a team of 3 on a rota once in 7 weeks. Please contact Pat Bell on 020 8504 4577 or email mrmcbell@btinternet.com if you can help.

IN TOUCH

Parish Magazine on sale at the back of the church price £2.



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE C

17TH JANUARY 2016

In this church today we come together as a group of very different people with a variety of opinions, experiences and gifts. We unite in the name of Jesus, and in the power of his Spirit. Here we can glimpse again something of the glory of God with us.

First Reading (Isaiah 62:1-5)

Isaiah speaks of the extraordinary joy that the Lord takes in his erring, exiled and failing people. It is a divine joy expressed in the language of love, marriage and intimacy.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

St. Paul reminds us that in all our differences, and through all our different ways of expressing the Gospel, we see the work of the one Spirit, active in our midst.

Gospel (John 2:1-11)

The sign worked at the wedding in Cana is named by John as Jesus' first sign, and one that showed the glory of who he was. It is here, in the family intimacy of the wedding, and the exchange between Mother and Son, that the great gift of God's presence is revealed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Proclaim the wonders of the Lord
Among all the peoples