

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Lately dead:

Graeme McNeill

May he rest in peace

Anniversaries:

Ben Naismith, William Burke, Mary Sears, Cornelius Neenan, Patricia O'Connell, Evarita Sidonie, Ayles James, Kathleen Linge, Jean Baker, Eileen Foulger, James Gorman, Yvonne Poulter, Margaret Hall, Richard Stout, Arthur Alphonsine, Ellen Courteney-Bennett, Elizabeth Gevaux, Mary O'Keefe, Christine Knock, Sheila Davighi, Sister Liquori Sinnott, Cecil Ayles, Patricia Freeman, Guilielmuis Latore, Jeremiah Murphy, Bertha Aplonia Noranha

PROCLAIM THE WORD: A SERIES OF TALKS FOR READERS/LECTORS

Fr Adrian Graffy, Scripture scholar and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, will be giving the first talk in a series planned for readers/lectors. This first talk, entitled 'He stood up to read (Lk 4:16)', will survey how the ministry of reader has developed from the New Testament to the institution of readers at Vatican II. The talk will take place on Wednesday 27th November at 7 pm (refreshments from 6.30) at the hall of the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Entrance is free, and the talk will also be available on-line at www.whatgoodnews.org

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

Mary's Meals

17th November collection

would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency no matter how old or obscure. On 17th November there will be envelopes at the back of church for you to take home and put all your foreign coins and notes into. Clear out your drawers and have a look under the sofa. Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign coins and notes you can help feed the next hungry child. Mary's Meals feeds in over 17 countries. Because of our low costs we can do this for as little as £19.15 per child per year! They also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender.



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

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 3rd November 2024

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

As Jesus comes to the end of his public career, he sums up his teaching in the great commandments: to love God above all things and to love our neighbour as ourselves. How can this succinct message become the foundation of all our lives?

First reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Second reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Christ's power to save is utterly certain.

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

Jesus gives us the two great commandments.



Responsorial Psalm

I love you, Lord, my strength.

IT IS A HOLY AND WHOLESOME THOUGHT TO PRAY FOR THE DEAD

Last Sunday we woke to a truly glorious morning but by 5 o'clock it was dark. November the month of prayer for the dead is with us and here are some thoughts of Pope Francis on prayer for the dead.

Praying for the dead and asking God to welcome them into his presence forever helps Christians remember what life and death are really about. Such prayers "instill in us a true vision of life; they reveal to us the meaning of the trials we must endure to enter the kingdom of God; they open our hearts to true freedom and inspire us unceasingly to seek eternal riches." In his homily, Pope Francis focused on Jesus' promise: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Jesus' promise is a challenge to believers, the pope said. "We, too, are called to believe in the resurrection, not as a kind of distant mirage but as an event already present and even now mysteriously at work in our lives." However, he said, like Jesus, who cried at the tomb of his friend Lazarus, "our faith in the resurrection neither ignores nor masks the very human bewilderment we feel in the face of death." "As we pray for the cardinals and bishops deceased in the course of this last year," the pope said, Christians should ask the Lord "to dispel that unholy grief which we occasionally feel, thinking that death is the end of everything — a feeling far from faith, yet part of that human fear of death felt by everyone." Faced with "the riddle of death," with its end of earth life and beginning of eternal life, Christians are called to conversion, he said.

"We are called daily to leave behind our instinctive image of death as the total destruction of a person," Pope Francis said. "We are called to leave behind the visible world we take for granted, our usual, commonplace ways of thinking, and to entrust ourselves entirely to the Lord who tells us: 'I am the resurrection and the life.'" When Christians believe that, he said, their prayers for the deceased are "truly Christian" prayers. Such prayers "enable us to have a truly realistic vision of the lives they lived, to understand the meaning and the value of the good they accomplished, their strength, their commitment and their generous and unselfish love," he said. And they also help people "understand the meaning of a life that aspires not to an earthly homeland, but to a better, heavenly homeland."

Bereavement Service 17th November at 4pm

If you are attending the service and you wish to add any other names please send them to **the parish office by 7th November**. The names of the family and friends who have died will be read and candles lit in their memory during the service. We are looking for two Ushers to help with setting up the candle stands.

YOUNG VINNIES (Youth SVP)

A new group is being started for 12—14 year olds who would like to take their concern for the community and world in which they live and turn it into positive action. There is a schedule of 13 dates between November and July. The first session is **9th November 3-5pm in the Becket Centre** for anyone interested in learning more. Please email Gemma for more information (Gemmabourdillon3@hotmail.com)



Mass Intentions

Sunday 3rd November

8.30 Tom Fahy RIP
10 Honoria Mathieson RIP & family
11.30 Margaret Aherne RIP
Chigwell Michael Kilkenny

Monday 4th November

John Potter RIP
Sr Jude Groden intentions

Tuesday 5th November

Dominic Thayandan RIP
Sr Joan Breen intentions

Wednesday 6th November

William Burke anniversary
C.W.L

Thursday 7th November

Paul Crighton sick
Intentions Leni Realbit
Trinity intentions

Friday 8th November

Harold Hetherington anniversary
William Correya anniversary

Saturday 9th November

10 Deceased relatives & friends
of Costello & Murphy families
6 Thomas Carvalho anniversary

Sunday 10th November

8.30 Sgt Pilot Denis Hurley &
associates RIP
10 All named at the altar
11.30 Brian Beveridge anniversary

**Mass every day for those
named before the altar**

Church Cleaning
Saturday 9th November 10.30am
Rosie O'Connor & Charmaine Turrell

Baptism Congratulations

To the following children who were recently baptised at St Thomas'
Jacob Aina, Delaney Lawrence, Austin Harrison, Grayson O'Brien, Bryson Salin, Remi Hayes & Oliver Johnston

Ginger Telco Group

Will next meet on Thursday **7th November** at 8pm in the Assisi room.

Remembrance Sunday 10th November 10.00am Mass

Church parade with the Rainbow, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Confirmation Programme 2024/5

We would like to invite Year 10—13 students who are baptised, registered parishioners and who attend Mass at St Thomas to apply to join our 2024/5 confirmation programme. Please visit our website to complete the registration form <https://forms.office.com/e/GQnQqk9H4b> **The closing date for applications is 4th November 2024.** For those who have already registered please do not forget to hand in your personal statement by 4th as well.

Christmas Fayre Date for you diary

**Saturday 23rd
November 12pm-4pm**
Trinity Lower site.

