

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Truci Abrahams, Anna Appiah, Aichard Abangwu, Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela Barrett, Belinda, Olivia Begley, Miss Terry Bennett, Sandra Bourke, Angela Bromfield, John Browne, Antonia Buck, Claire Merrins, Nigel Dillon, Bernadette Fernandes, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Don Dourado, Antony Dover, Lenny Finney, Trish Gardner, Garrie Godkin, Phyllis Gould, Cynthia Gregory, Mary Grisdale, Alice & John Gyre, Betty Halliday, Doris Harriss, Ethne Hubbard, Peter Jacques, Baby Samuel Keys, Jane Kirk, Eileen Lea, John Leahy, Ruby Lennon, Charles Long, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Clare Merrins, Angela Meyler, Patrick McGurk, Mary McKay, Jutta Menzies, Janet Morris, Con Mulvahill, Kathleen Ogles, Yvonne Poulter, Lily Reding, Joan Reynolds, Jacky Rott, Dermot Shean, Debbie Smythe, Madelaine Sydric, Astrid Turner, Beryl Vaughan, Rita Watkins, Anne Winzer, Cian Wright.

Anniv. Rev. Jim Fitzpatrick, Mary Lee, Pauline White,

Lately Dead : Bruno Celaschi, Vincent Duggan, Aggie Tanner, Iris Witchell, Mary Wood,

We extend the sympathy of the parish to Sheila Celaschi and family on the death of Bruno. Bruno's remains will be received at Chigwell Convent on March 12th at 5.30pm followed by his Requiem on Monday 13th 11am at Chigwell Convent.

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

CHURCH CLEANING



Friday 9am 10th March
Christine Acons, Clare Hobbs, Julia Bever, Maureen Insole, Jack Edwards.

WORKS OF MERCY

The next Rosary Procession will be on 11th March at St. Thomas'. Mass will be at 9am and then we process to Marie Stopes Abortion Centre in Russell Road, Buckhurst Hill. We pray 15 decades of the Rosary and then return to St. Thomas' for refreshments. Please see details on poster in church porch.

VALENTINE SINGERS

Sat. 25th March 7pm in St. Andrew's Church, The Drive, Ilford IG1 3PE. Book on line www.valentinesingers.org. Box Office 8550 4654.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

24th April 4 days by air from Luton, £375 per person sharing including flights and half board in the 4* Hotel Lux Fatima. Contact Northern Star Travel 0161 773 2115.

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

St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH



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FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT CYCLE A

5TH MARCH 2017



The season of Lent summons us to turn our faces to the Lord and allow the gaze of his mercy to touch our hearts. We pray that, through the generosity of our Lenten observances, our hearts may be more loving towards our neighbours.

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Adam and Eve succumb to the temptation of the serpent and eat of the tree forbidden to them by God.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Jesus Christ gives the utterly free gift of salvation to all people.

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fights the temptation of the devil and reminds us to worship God alone

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned

How to read *The Joy of Love*.

It is best not to try starting at page one and plodding through. Instead look at the chapter headings in the Contents and pick what touches you most closely. So – Chapter 5 for married couples, chapter 8 for everyone. I find chapter 6 most helpful. Chapter 4 is a commentary on 1Corinthians 13. It is magnificent, for everything in the exhortation depends on each one staying close to Jesus in prayer and meditation.

I thought I had worked this out for myself. But then I went back to the text and found the Pope himself said it on p.9.

Lent Discussions on *The Joy of Love*

The first session will be at 8 pm this Wednesday in the Becket Centre. We have worked hard to plan and organise this exercise. Please come and help us all, first to take in what the Pope is saying. Then to see how we can live it better here in Woodford and environs. You have been given quite a lot of publicity. Unfortunately some dates have been wrong. So with much concentration I tell you the meetings are to be: this Wednesday 8th, Wednesday 15th, Thursday 23rd, and (possibly) Wednesday 29th of March. Apologies for the mistakes. NB Pope Francis tells us to be tolerant of what is less than perfect...

RITE OF ELECTION

This afternoon three who have plodded long through their Journey of Faith will meet the bishop at the Rite of Election. He will welcome them into the family of the Diocese. Pray that they grow to be enthusiastic and active members of our family here.

CERTIFICATE OF PRACTICE

Fr. Quentin will be signing certificates on Tuesday, 7th March at 9.00am and also at 7pm.

PARISH AFTERNOON TEA

March 12th 3–5pm

We hope to use the afternoon to show how our active groups are currently serving the community and to discuss the questions and formulate answers to the Bishop's questionnaire handed out recently. The Steward will give a brief summary of the Steward of the Gospel initiative. During the discussions he will give a brief introduction to each of the four questions, enlarge upon their meanings and display some of the answers already submitted. He will also show the time line of the development of Brentwood Diocese suggested by the newly appointed Director of Development, Steve Webb.

Attendees are encouraged to visit the stalls of various active groups for information and to join.

3pm Welcome and Prayer

3.05–3.20pm Steward of the Gospel

Initiative: William Yeung

3.20pm–4.20pm Panel Discussions

4.20–4.55pm Tea and Biscuits

4.55–5.00 Summary and

Closing Prayer.

FAMILY FAST DAY

Friday 10th March.

Please take an envelope as you leave church and return it next weekend.

CWL

Wednesday, 8th March—short meeting at 7.30pm prompt.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Thurs. 9th March at 7.30pm. Please note it will NOT be in our usual location owing to the Confirmation Programme but will be held in the William Scott Room upstairs. Come to the usual entrance and you will be directed to us.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Through Lent we will provide the mediation for this devotion each Friday evening at 8pm. Also the stations will be said every Friday in Lent after the 10am Mass.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

Beginning March 7th and every Tuesday until 11th April in the Becket Centre from 12.15pm to 1.30pm. Come and join us for home-made soup and French bread with butter, all for £3. All proceeds will be sent to Mary's Meals to provide lunches for schoolchildren in Haiti.

THE TABLET

Once again this week there are complimentary copies of this periodical for you to browse through – in the porch. Only one more week to go. It is a most stimulating and helpful publication to help support a growing faith. Try it.

SMILE PLEASE

The very observant will have noticed a few changes around the Church and Friary recently. The Parish Council and Friars have upgraded the CCTV cameras we previously had in the Church area and extended them so the Car Park and Becket Centre are now covered. This we feel will provide increased security in these areas without being too intrusive. The intercom system on the Friary door has been upgraded as part of the same package.

HOLY FAMILY LAY ASSOCIATES

Meeting 7.30pm on Monday, 6th March at Maureen's house.

CENTENARY MASS

Diocese 22nd March

There is still one ticket left if anyone wishes to use it. Please contact Fr. Quentin.

SOUP RUN

Wednesday, 8th March. We would be grateful to receive warm men's clothes, sandwiches, cakes, sweets, toiletries on the day during office hours 9.30am–1.30pm or at 7pm to the Becket Centre. Please do not bring items in before this date as we do not have storage.

CAKE SALE

After 6pm Vigil Mass and after Masses this weekend in the Becket Centre. All proceeds to the Alzheimers Society.

EXAM INVIGILATORS

Trinity Catholic High School is currently recruiting invigilators for the 2017 GCSE & GCE Exam Series. If you are interested in part-time occasional work (May and June 2017) as an exam supervisor then you can access the application form and Job Description from Trinity's website <http://fc.tchs.uk.net/>

SACRED HEARTS COMPANIONS

Meeting on Monday, 6th March at 2pm.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

7 Nights half board, airport flight and transfers 22nd–29th April and 13th–20th May Gatwick to Dubrovnik £459 per person Jackie@med-irishcentre.com or 020 3239 8662.

HAPPY 20TH BIRTHDAY TELCO

Join 1,200 of us on 9th March 6.45pm–8.30pm York Hall (next to Bethnal Green Underground). A special invitation to all of our community but especially the 52 people who supported us at The Copperbox.

SVP

Thank you all for your generous donations to last weekend's collection, over £700 was raised. We are sending some of this to help the baby feeding programme in Sudan.