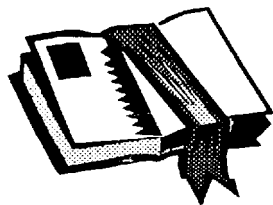


## PRAY FOR THE SICK



### Lately dead:

◇ Moya Murphy

May she rest in peace

### Anniversaries:

Patrick Brolly, Paul Mahoney, Mary Rees, Winifred Talbot, Mary Coughlan, Sister Valeria Morris, Rory Roberts, Stanley Negus, Colm O'Herlihy, Wayne Stratford, John Walsh, Aldo Iervolino, Marion Peachey, Jack Poulter, Eileen Punter, Patrick Redican, Grace Taylor, Marie Casper, Bernard Halliday, Liam McGowan, Patrick Black, Martin Dempsey, Bridget Dewey, Sonia Malone, Margaret McCreesh, Mary Poynter, Bernard Woolerton.

### The General Election.

This week the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have launched a set of informative resources to help us think about our election choices. It covers pro-life issues as well as the criminal justice system, education, poverty, the environment, refugees and migrants. The Bishops remind us: *"We are not merely the passive recipients of politics but active citizens. An election is the best time for us as Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead."* The resources include suggested questions for candidates, links if you want to go deeper, and actions we can take to make a difference. You will find everything at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

### 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

### Chigwell Companions

Will meet on 10th June at 2pm

### Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection this weekend for sick clergy in the Diocese



# ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

Email: [parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org)



Website: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

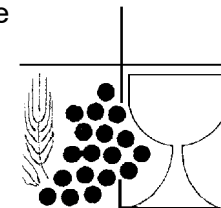
Twitter: @STOCWoodford



## The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (B) Corpus Christi—2nd June 2024

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

The Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life". As we celebrate together as a community today, we are reminded of the words of Pope Benedict XVI, who said that Corpus Christi processions enable us to "immerse Christ, so to speak, in the daily routine of our lives, so that he may walk where we walk and live where we live."



### First Reading

Exodus 24:3-8

Moses tells the people the Lord's words and laws, and they respond with one voice.

### Second Reading

Hebrews 9:11-15

Christ is the mediator of a new covenant. We are called to serve the living God.

### Gospel

Mark 14:12-16. 22-26

The disciples make preparations for the Passover. Jesus takes and offers to his disciples the bread and wine, his body and blood.

### Responsorial Psalm

The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name

## The Blessing of the Eucharist from a Homily of Pope Francis

Why is it good to bless? Because it turns a word into a gift. When we bless, we are not doing something for ourselves, but for others. Blessing is not about saying nice words or trite phrases. No, it is about speaking goodness, speaking with love.

That is what Melchizedek did, when he spontaneously blessed Abram, who had not said or done anything for him. Jesus did the same thing, and he showed what the blessing meant by freely distributing the loaves.

How many times too, have we been blessed, in church or in our homes? How many times have we received words of encouragement, or a sign of the cross on our forehead? We were blessed on the day of our baptism, and we are blessed at the end of every Mass.

The Eucharist is itself a school of blessing. God blesses us, his beloved children, and thus encourages us to keep going. And we, in turn, bless God in our assemblies (cf. Ps 68:26), rediscovering the joy of praise that liberates and heals the heart.

We come to Mass, certain that we will be blessed by the Lord, and we leave in order to bless others in turn, to be channels of goodness in the world.



## Father Austin McCormack OFM

I first met Father Austin when in 1958 I went to St Bernadine's College Buckingham for my Secondary School. Austin taught PE, games and History and Latin to the younger boys.

The school was small (120 boys) so Austin had to double up as groundsman and he would whizz around the playing fields on a tractor with a gang-mower in tow. For such a gentle man you might be surprised at a game he supervised in which a medicine ball which was placed in the middle of the gym had to be moved to the end wall. Two teams contested with no holds barred and in my experience no-one ever succeeded. We played football and cricket against much bigger schools and did very well and that was down to Austin's training.

When Buckingham closed, he came here and was involved as Director in the Samaritans in Ilford. His caring nature and ability to listen carefully were assets in such work. Sometime after leaving Buckingham, he went on a course in Spirituality in Rome and that equipped him to give retreats. He did many retreats mainly to religious and priests but he also gave many talks in this parish. Many of the friars used him as a spiritual director and in his time in Canterbury he taught courses in Spirituality. He was the Provincial Minister of our Province for nine years and the friars found him very approachable. His habit was to go to bed early but to be at his desk from 4 a.m. because he found he could work in the early morning.

We miss him in community as a genial companion and we pray that he will find genial company with Our Lord.

Michael Capps



## Mass Intentions

### Sunday 2nd June

8.30 Charles Chapman RIP  
10 Sean Cox sick  
11.30 Emily Dempsey RIP

### Monday 3rd June

Frank O'Malley anniversary  
Mary Anne Chandradasa

### Tuesday 4th June

M Lonergan – C Hyde wedding  
Eileen Sullivan birthday

Funeral 11am Thomas King

### Wednesday 5th June

Mrs Cecily Lean anniversary  
Holy Family associates

### Thursday 6th June

Henry & Theresa Ang intentions  
Mary Blanchfield anniversary

### Friday 7th June

Bridget Sharkey RIP

### Saturday 8th June

10 Sr Sandra Gold Jubilee  
6 Brian Correya RIP

### Sunday 9th June

8.30 Daniela Cassettari RIP  
10 Chevonne Lobo RIP  
11.30 Fr Austin RIP

## Church Cleaning Thursday 6th June 9am

Jackie John, Sue Mansbridge,  
Srimathie Crusz, Margaret Parkinson  
& Mary Charter

## Baptism Congratulations

To the following children who were recently baptised at St Thomas'

Jude Nelson, Rhys Ford, Oliver Ward  
& Summer Guichard

## Trinity Vacancies

- Science Technician,
- SEN TA
- Counsellor

Please visit the school's website <https://www.tchs.org.uk/about-us/employment/> for further job information.

## Sunday 9th June Mass in the garden at 11.30am

This has now become one of the most enjoyable gatherings of our year – or at least of our summer. So on Sunday there will be no mass in the church at St Thomas. Instead I hope everybody – all those who normally attend one of the morning masses and many others, will gather in the garden at 11.30. First there will be Mass. And then a picnic. Please bring your own and then maybe we will share a little. And do pray for sunshine. Music and dancing is on the agenda for the afternoon.

Don't forget that we will be Blessing your Pets in the afternoon. This was specifically requested by our Confirmation candidates, so we look forward to seeing many of you there.