

**PRAY
FOR THE
SICK**



Lately dead:
Antonio Sam Santini

May he rest in peace

Anniversaries:

Sister Mary Heenan, Mr Mears, Michael Carroll, James Cunningham, Florence Mulroue, Maria de Fatima Menses Regresado, Joan Reynolds, Catherine King, Moby Lalani, Jutta Menzies, Suzanna Wright, David Archer, Felicitas DeCosta, Craig Lobo, Wynnifrid Musselwhite, Hilda Kavanagh, Sister Mary McKowan, Frederick Watts, Maria Graves, Sr. John Lynch, Ralph Steele, Christine Harris, Mary Wynne

Christmas offering for the Friars

As you know it is the practice that the loose plate offerings made at the Christmas masses are your personal offerings for the Friars. For those of you who pay by standing order we will have envelopes available in which you can place your donation and this will enable that donation to be gift aided. Thank you.

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

Parish Shop

**There is now available in the shop
the following items**

- ◇ Brentwood Diocesan Directory
- ◇ Christmas cards
- ◇ New Sunday missal

And much more

Pop along after mass



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



**Second Sunday of Advent (C)
8th December 2024**

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

The theme running through today's readings is that of joy, the joy we find in God's redeeming love, the joy we are called to share in the community of his Church. Let us open our hearts to this great gift.

First reading Baruch 5:1-9

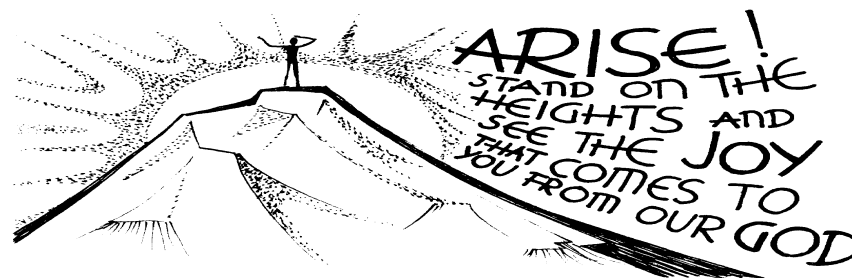
God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory.

Second reading Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

St Paul's prayer is that our love for each other may increase.

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

The word of God comes to John the Baptist in the wilderness.



Responsorial Psalm

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad

JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CALL TO REPENTANCE

To prepare the way of the Lord's coming, it is necessary to take note of the requirements of conversion to which the Baptist invites us. What are these requirements for conversion? First of all, we are called to fill the 'valleys' caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention which takes on the needs of our neighbours. To fill the valleys caused by coldness. One cannot have a relationship of love, charity and fraternity with one's neighbours if there are 'gaps' just as one cannot travel a road with many potholes. This requires a change of attitude. And all this should also be done with special attention to the neediest. Then there is the need to curtail the indifference caused by pride and arrogance. How many people, perhaps without realizing it, are proud, are indifferent, lack that kindly relationship. It is necessary to overcome this by making concrete gestures of reconciliation with our brothers and sisters, asking for forgiveness for our faults. It is not easy to reconcile with another. One always thinks: "who will take the first step?". The Lord helps us in this if we are of good will. Indeed, conversion is complete if it leads us to humbly recognize our errors, our infidelity and failings.

The believer is someone who, by being close to his brothers and sisters, like John the Baptist, opens pathways in the desert, that is, he indicates perspectives of hope, even in those existential contexts that are arduous, marked by failure and defeat. We cannot give up in the face of negative situations of closure and rejection: we must not allow ourselves to succumb to the mentality of the world, because the centre of our life is Jesus and his word of light, love and solace. It is He!

The Baptist invited the people of his time to conversion, with force, with vigour and with firmness. Nevertheless, he knew how to listen, he knew how to perform gestures of tenderness, gestures of forgiveness toward the multitude of men and women who went to him to confess their sins and to be baptized with the baptism of repentance.



Christmas Masses at St Thomas'

Calling all Readers, Ministers of Communion, Ushers & Sacristans
If you will be attending Mass at St Thomas' on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, please indicate your availability by adding your name to the lists located at the back of the church. We are also looking for young Readers (Year 4 and above) to help with the Readings at the 3pm mass on Christmas Eve and the 10am mass on Christmas Day, if you would like to be considered for this mass, please add your name to the separate list.

Our Fabric Team

Are looking for assistance with small maintenance jobs and general admin. Can you help, If so, please email the parish office in the first instance.

Trinity vacancies

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



Mass Intentions

Sunday 8th December

8.30 Teresa McGilloway RIP
10 Shirley Spanjar ill
11.30 Deceased of Lopez family
Chigwell Michael Kilkenny well-being

Monday 9th December

Mary Prendergast anniversary
Allen & Constance Edwards RIP

Tuesday 10th December

Jutta Menzies Racionzer anniversary
Hugh Gaughan anniversary
Felicitas De Costa anniversary

Funeral 11.30am Margaret Wright

Wednesday 11th December

Sonia Valentine Malone RIP
Monaghan family deceased members
Larry & Judy Murphy RIP

Thursday 12th December

Brendan McLoone RIP
Johanna, Vincent & Noel Gilroy RIP
The Meyler family

Friday 13th December

Francis De Costa anniversary
Sean Higgins RIP
Bergin family

Saturday 14th December

10 Johnny Curley RIP
6 Rob Taylor anniversary

Sunday 15th December

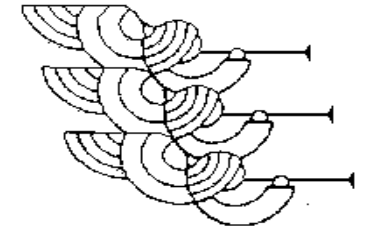
8.30 Mrs Maureen Porter RIP
10 Sally & Norman Picton
wedding anniversary
11.30 Anniversaries of Lopez family
Chigwell Nellie McCarthy RIP

Church Cleaning
Friday 13th December at 9am
Claire Hobbs, Julia Bever, Susanna
Barnoin, Susan Juffs, Agatha
Emohare & Michelle Liddle

Ecumenical Advent Service December 8th at 4.30 pm at St Thomas' s

Please come and join the Christians of Woodford for this service of music and readings in preparation for Christmas. The choirs of All Saints, St Mary's and St. Thomas' s will be taking part. Light refreshments will be available afterwards in the Becket Centre. Now, more than ever, it is important to celebrate what we have in common with other denominations.

Please do come along.



Rotary Club of Barkingside and Redbridge

Invite people who may not have any other opportunity to go to a Christmas Celebration to a Community Christmas Lunch for the elderly but the disabled. Carers and drivers are also welcome. This includes a three course Christmas meal with wine and soft drinks and live entertainment. St Barnabas Church, Snakes Lane East, Woodford, IG8 7HX
Sunday 22 December 2024 1.00-4.00.
Please contact the parish office if you would like to attend.