

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Anniv. Betty Hunter, James & Elizabeth Loughran

Lately Dead : Adolf Dourado, Michael McPartlamb, Maurice O'Connell, Kathleen O'Donovan.

We extend the sympathy of the parish to Adolf Dourado's family.

His Requiem will take place on 8th February at 11am.

May he rest in peace.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING



Friday 10.30am 3rd
February Rachel Varney,
Lisa McDonnell, Carole
Burns, Sheila Charles,
Janet Walker.

TENNIS/SPORTS CAMP



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February half-term 13th—
17th Feb 10am—3pm daily
at Woodford County High
School, Woodford Green.
Age 4-11years. £100 for the
week or £25 per day.
Tennis rackets and
equipment provided. Bring your child in
sportswear with a packed lunch. To book
or if you need further information email
tashaxargent@hotmail.com or
0794022966.

TINY TOTS MINI TENNIS CLASSES

For children 2—4 yrs at The Woodford
Wells LTC Monkams Lane, Woodford
Green held indoors every Monday morning
at 9.15am—10.15am. Contact Natasha
07904022966 for more information.

HARPIST

Weddings, family functions and special
celebrations. Competitive rates. Please
contact bibiana a-sa@hotmail.com

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

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

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE A

29TH JANUARY 2017



News often needs some explaining. Our task is not only to hear the Good News proclaimed by Jesus but to make clear its meaning to others.

First Reading (Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13)

Like many prophets, Zephaniah stresses the need for people to seek out the Lord, to heed his word and to become a humble people.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 1:26-31)

God chose those who are deemed weak in the eyes of the world to be God's own.

Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12)

Jesus outlines those to whom the kingdom of God belongs, including those who are poor in spirit, the merciful, those who mourn and those who hunger and thirst for what is right.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *How happy are the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

There will be an SVP collection after all Masses this weekend.

CENTENARY OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

February 11th marks the day when the Diocese of Brentwood was carved out of the archdiocese of Westminster in 1917. The bishop has asked that every church will have exposition on that day in celebration and thanks. So the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from after the 10.00am mass till 6.00pm. I hope many will come to spend some time during the day.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUPS

Pope Francis is inviting us to think differently about the power of love in all its expressions. In the past issues around the expression of love have divided our church, brought guilts and harshness. The Pope's letter *Joy of Love* offers us an invitation to explore these issues afresh. We are planning a series of discussions during Lent using his letter. We want to be open, provocative –opening up e.g. issues of homosexuality, marriage and erotic love and how a true catholic should deal with these.

We hope to welcome old, young and all between, gay, married, single cohabiting. Only in this way will we move forward in a fresh and healthy way.

Do come for we need you.

THE COLD CHURCH

We now have both functioning boilers working, but evidently other factors are preventing a sufficient flow of hot water to reach the church radiators. We have experts who are urgently looking to find a solution. Unfortunately there is no quick one in prospect. So perhaps we must continue to double our warm clothing. We will certainly find a solution to give a permanent and reliable degree of warmth. Meantime thank you for your Dunkirk spirit and patience.



WELCOME

We welcome into the parish community Dylan Etienne Leighton, Olivia Belle Tan, Noah Jose Cooper-Franco, Amani Wangari Garcia, Rosie and James Crawford who were baptised in St. Thomas' last weekend.

BAPTISMS

If you need to attend a baptism course for your first child, please contact the parish office for details.

Baptisms take place on the first and third Sunday of each month.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

The children preparing for First Communion will be making their confession shortly: some on 4th February and the second group on the 25th. The parallel occasion last year was not a happy one. Most children take it in their stride, but some few are timid. Hence the presence of Mum or Dad is helpful. It does take time when we are fortunate to have large numbers.

Last year the volume of conversation grew and grew to the point that priest and child could not hear each other. So please this year: think, and be helpful. If you wish to talk while you are waiting it will be good to do it in the Becket Centre rather than the church.

SACRED HEART COMPANIONS

Next meeting will be on Monday, 6th February at 2pm at Chigwell Convent. New members are welcome.

ST. ANTONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY APPLICATIONS

Children whose date of birth is between 1.9.2013 and 31.8.2014 can now apply for the school year 2016/17. Those children born between 1.9.2014 and 31.12.2014 may also apply to start in January 2018 if there are vacancies. Application forms are available on the school website www.stantonyscatholicps.co.uk.

Please note, any enquiries will only be dealt with in the afternoons after 1.30pm. Closing date for receipt of forms is Midday on Monday, 27th March 2017.

We will be holding drop in sessions for any parents/carers wanting to look around our Nursery on Friday 3.2.2017 (10am—11am & 2—3pm) & Monday 4.2.2017 (10am—11am & 2-3PM)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Following Fr Quentin's recent sermon about the laity's contribution to parish affairs, this is an appeal to you all.

The Parish Council, of which I am the current Chair, has a number of subcommittees (below) which need more members if they are to achieve what they should. If you have an interest and might like to be actively involved, please contact me for an informal discussion (kit.tranmer@btopenworld.com)

Liturgy – anything and everything pertaining to our regular and special services
Maintenance – especially if you have DIY or professional skills

Becket Centre – it does not manage itself, and is an invaluable asset which we need to look after and use fully

Caring – many of our charitable activities, within and outside the community

Communication – it is crucial that we communicate effectively, with all sections of the Parish not just those who collect a Newsletter –that too needs effort.

VACANCY

Sixth Form Administrator required a.s.a.p. Successful applicant must be organised, flexible and computer literate.

Please note that due to high volumes of applications only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. We can only accept our standard application form and not CV's. Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Sunday, 5th February 2017.

Contact Samantha Gillary 020 8504 3419 ext 170 or sam.gillary@fc.tchs.uk.net.

NEW TO THE PARISH

If you are new to the parish or have moved within the parish, please let the parish office know so that we can keep our records up to date. Grateful thanks.

HOLY FAMILY

The Holy Family Lay Associates Meeting will be at the Convent on 6th February at 7.30pm.

CWL

1st February meeting in the Assisi Room at 8pm upstairs in the Becket Centre. New members welcome.

IN TOUCH

Please submit any articles for In Touch magazine by February 20th. Easter articles especially welcome.

WHIPPS CROSS



If you, a family member or a friend would like to see a Catholic Chaplain or receive Holy Communion whilst receiving treatment at

Whipps Cross please contact 020 8520 5877 or 020 8535 6988.