

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Truci Abrahams, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela Barrett, Miss Terry Bennett, Sandra Bourke, Arlene Bowman, Angela Bromfield, Geoff Brown, Irene de Freitas, Don Dourado, Lenny Finney, Trish Gardner, Betty Halliday, Doris Harriss, Jutta Menzies, Janet Morris, Dr. Douglas Murphy, Betty Norton, Kathleen Ogles, Maureen Pestell, Maureen Pollock, Yvonne Poulter, Lily Reding, Joan Reynolds, Heather Robertson, Jacky Rott, Trishna Santilal, Dermot Shean, Debbie Smythe, John Stokes, Frances Finnegan, Madelaine Sydic, Derek Timothy Astrid Turner, Beryl Vaughan, Rita Watkins, Gloria Wood, Teresa Wiener, Anne Winzer, Cian Wright.

Anniversaries: John Holland, Catherine Holland, Ron Murphy, Jack Tyson, Christopher Wright,

Lately Dead: Helen Logan O'Donovan
Helen O'Donovan's Requiem will take place on Wednesday, 17th May at 10am in St. Thomas'.

URSULINE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Open Morning 2-4 Coventry Rd. IG1 4QR on Thursday 18th May from 9am—12noon to see the school in action. Please call 0208 518 4050 for further details. No appointment necessary.

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 10.30am 19th May Rachel Varney, Lisqa McDonnell, Carole Burns, Sheila Charles, Janet Walker

PLEASE NOTE

NO JUMBLE PLEASE TO BE LEFT IN THE CHURCH PORCH.

Congolese Orphanage Garden Party Sun 28th May

The Oblates of the Assumption will hold their annual Garden Party at the Convent, 20 Higham Station Avenue, on the above date. Hot meals will be served between 12.30 - 2.30pm—ALL WELCOME

WELCOME

We welcome into the parish Oliver Henry Foo, Lois Ethel Christine Fish, Phoebe Lees and Chace Babayale who were baptised in St. Thomas' recently.

REPOSITORY

There is a special display of appropriate gifts for our First Holy Communion recipients, some really lovely, different items - do pop in to have a look.

PLANT WATERING

A parishioner has kindly donated plants for the pots outside St. Thomas'. If you would like to volunteer for the watering rota once a week, please contact Parish Office.



St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

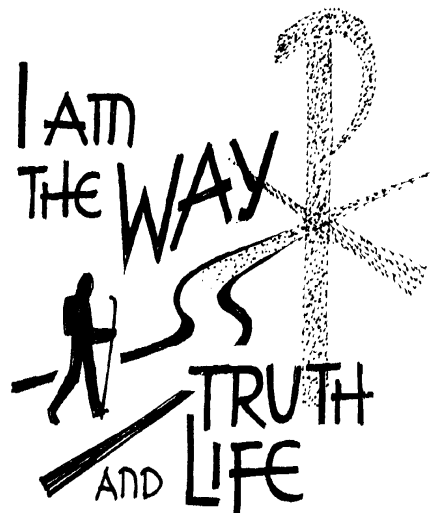
Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844



Email: parishoffice@friar.org Web: www.stthomaswoodford.org

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER CYCLE A

14TH MAY 2017



God builds the Church today with us as the living stones and with Jesus Christ as the keystone. In us and through us, God reaches out to our world with compassion and love.

First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

The ministry of deacons is established for the care of those who are poor in order to free the apostles for the ministry of the word.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

Close to Jesus, we are a holy priesthood, offering with Jesus the spiritual sacrifices he has made acceptable to God.

Gospel

John 14:1-12

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. He leads us to the Father's house, where there is a place for all of us.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
As we place all our hope in you.

JOURNEY OF FAITH

It was great to receive 3 new members to our family at the Easter Vigil. Now we need to start immediately with the next groups of fellow-journeymen. We will start on Wednesday 24 May. We start with a question: What is it to be a catholic? That is of interest to anyone who has not at present any attachment to religion or church, to anyone who knows even a little of Jesus and wants to know more, and to anyone who is searching for some meaning in life. At present we are searching for people to come and join us. Please encourage anyone you know who might be interested.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION

It was great also to be with the 20 young people who received Jesus for the first time last Saturday. Everyone found the Mass warming and uplifting. That was because so many people had given so much time and effort to take their respective parts. That is only the beginning. We hear Pope Francis talking about **Accompaniment**. Obviously these young people are only at the beginning of a long journey of gradually coming to understand what Communion means, and so to learn to love Jesus. We have to accompany them in their discovery, to remember that weekly Mass is an absolute essential as a start. But then by an occasional word, by our example by encouragement when the first thrill fades we are responsible for the continual growth.

RED CROSS BAKE SALE

Chantelle Bacchus will be selling cakes and bakes after all Masses on Sun. 21st May in an effort to raise funds for the British Red Cross in particular their Anti-Human Trafficking and Anti-Modern Slavery work in the U.K. Please buy generously.

SAFEGUARDING

The Diocese has recommended that all volunteers who have a CRB check have the check updated to a DBS. Please could all such volunteers contact Therese McLeary, Safeguarding Representative (therese.mcleary@btinternet.com) to arrange this update. Volunteers will also be advised about the online DBS updating service.

Would all volunteers who are undertaking their ministries with a CRB/DBS obtained via their employer please contact the Safeguarding Representative to ensure that the Church DBS process is followed.

A Safeguarding notice board is on display at the back of the Church near the Ushers' Table. Please do read the information and contact the Safeguarding Representative if you have any queries.

GENERAL ELECTION

For a brief few weeks the politicians will listen to us, just for their own purposes. It gives us a chance to tell them what we want them to do. Our church has a well-articulated programme known as Catholic Social Teaching. It is this we must bring to their notice. Telco has good strategies for getting this teaching across to prospective candidates and holding them to account. We must be active in our support.

THE JOY OF LOVE

A parish **accompanies** its various members in many different ways, through times good and bad. Everything in life moves gradually: towards healthy growth or into decline. When in Lent we met to share our deep faith and concerns we noticed the Pope's words. WE are putting them into effect in many ways. But there are gaps in our practice. At the back of the church there is a rough summary of how the reasoning went. Please read it and let me know your reactions – positive or the opposite.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets tomorrow Monday at 8 pm. Soon the AGM will be upon us, in early July. Then we will be looking for more eager people interested to make our parish, to step into the shoes of members retiring from the Council. Our parish is good. The prevailing climate does not encourage the commitment we get from you existing workers. There are many who come to enjoy the benefits, but put little or nothing into the work required. Into which category do you fit? Give it a thought.

PARISH AGM

The next Annual General Meeting of the parish will take place after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday, 16th July. Please keep this date free and your diary and attend if possible. We are looking for up to three individuals to volunteer for election to the Parish Council. Election is normally for three years, subject to personal commitments. Please hand your name into the parish office with contact details if you think you can help. We will contact you to explain further what is involved before you confirm your willingness to stand.

PARISH ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK FOR BCCS

Our sponsored walk for BCCS (Brentwood Catholic Children's Society) is taking place this year on Sat. 17th June. Our circular walk of approx 9 miles from the Becket Centre through Epping Forest is the best supported in the Diocese and is suited for all ages. It's a great family event. This year its an earlier start time of 10am. If you would like to take part or sponsor the walk, contact David Underwood on 07905 741033.

There will be a Diocesan Collection this weekend after all Masses for the Promotion of Vocations.

MIGRANTS MASS

Sat. 20th May 2017. The 12th Migrants Mass is being hosted this year by our Diocese for the first time in St. Anthony of Padua, Forest Gate. In honour of St. Joseph the Worker the Diocese of Westminster, Southwark & Brentwood come together to celebrate the international nature of our churches, the work migrants contribute to our society, our concern for their welfare, welcome and human dignity. Banners assemble at 10.30am on the Priory Lawn, Mass begins at 11am. Bishop Alan will be celebrating the Mass. Mass begins at 11am.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY



The Parish Summer Concert will be on Saturday 1st July - featuring the Rodrigo Guitar Concerto.

OPEN MORNING

St. Joseph's Convent School, Wanstead, 21st June 9.30am. Applications are invited for Nursery to start in Sept. 2017. girls born between 1.9.13—31.8.14 and Reception birthdays between 1.9.12—31.8.13. Please contact our Admissions Secretary to arrange a visit on the above Open Morning. Please 'phone 0208 989 4700 or email enquiries@stjosephsconventschoo.co.uk.

ST. THOMAS' YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

We are recruiting for players from Year 1—Year 10. Training is on Tuesdays 5.30pm—6.45pm years 1-6 and 6.45pm—8pm all others. Contact 07855170256. Matt Tallon

Mobile Phone found in church car park. Please collect from parish office.