

**PRAY FOR THE  
SICK**



**Lately dead: James Ayles**  
*May he rest in peace*

**Anniversaries:**

Clare Jones, Lily Causley, Barbara Cox, Inge Prince, Letitia Featherstone, Mary Copping, Ernestine Grabowski, Mrs Taker, Angela Brincat, William Nolan, Henri Haydonsk, John (Sean) Dunne, Lena Tyson, Francis Keane, Maurice O'Sullivan, Martin Thomas, Eileen Christie, Ruth Comorford, Roger Higgins, Elizabeth Stoffel, Lucia Nie,

**Parish Council**

The Parish Council will next meet on 5th December 2022.

**Brentwood Diocesan Directory  
2023**

Are now available in the Parish Shop

**Mass Timetable**

*The masses on Saturday evening and Sunday at St Thomas' are live streamed*

**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

**CAMP WILD**

Kids festive day camp at St Aubyns school  
( Woodford green). Bookings are open!  
21st-23rd December [camp-wild.co.uk/  
book-now](http://camp-wild.co.uk/book-now)

**Parish Diaries**

Are available at the back of church.



**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



Served by the Franciscans

**First Sunday of Advent ( A )  
27th November 2022**

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

Advent invites us to open our hearts to the hope that the Lord gives us as we celebrate once again his birth and look forward to his coming at the end of time.

**First Reading** Isaiah 2:1-5

The prophet Isaiah speaks of the pilgrims climbing up to Jerusalem and finding peace. We are called to make our home in Christ and in his kingdom where there will be peace, justice and joy. The Church shows us the way.

**Second Reading** Romans 13:11-14

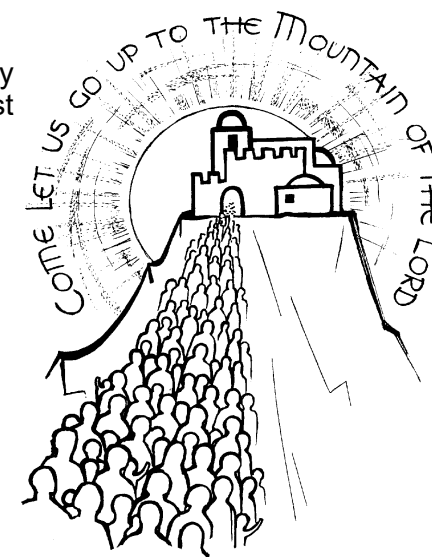
In a stark warning, St Paul calls us to amend our lives and return to the way of the Lord.

**Gospel** Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus warns against complacency and summons us to focus on Christ and his life.

**Responsorial Psalm**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
"Let us go to God's house"



## Advent

No one is happy with the political and economic situation in which we and the whole world find ourselves. Yet this year it can be seen as a helpful background to the season of Advent. Today it begins a new year of the church. While much in the secular world is stale, God is constantly at work making all things new. And that goes not just for the church and our spiritual lives, but for the whole of his creation. Advent is a chilly time. It is a time when we look back to the ages when there was no Christ in our human history. We feel the emptiness, the craving for something better, for love. We all know moments, times when we feel personal loneliness. God sends these and gives us the antidote of the virtue of hope. So advent is the season when we exercise this virtue. A well-spent Advent nurtures even more the experience of real love that comes with Christmas.

## The Christmas Fayre

This celebration has a very long history in St Thomas parish. For many years it happened in the Hawkey Hall followed by a Turkey Bingo in the evening. Times change the detail. I think none of the many past Fayres could compete with the lovely atmosphere of joy, sharing and generosity of last Saturday. I want to thank you all very sincerely. The preparations began weeks ago. No twisting of arms was needed to draw a considerable group of organisers. You gave much time, your talents and huge generosity to provide everything needed. The children enjoyed snow without the rest of us having to trudge through the mess of a real freeze. I know so many are wondering how on earth we shall meet all the bills, yet your generosity was phenomenal. To all who came my thanks. God is surely blessing you as you take care of and build our parish family.

## Ecumenical Advent Service, Sunday, December 4th at 4.30pm St Thomas of Canterbury church

The choirs of All Saints, St Mary's and Loyola school will be in attendance. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Becket Centre. Do join us as we celebrate the season of Advent with readings and music.



## Music Group

The Music Group needs more instrumentalists, especially guitar players. Please contact members direct or [Musicgroup.org.uk](http://Musicgroup.org.uk) if you can help.

## Parish Shop

The customer who bought a crib last weekend is missing an important figure and should call at the Repository to collect.

## Church heating

We are trying to provide an adequate temperature in our church, bearing in mind the exorbitant price of fuel and also the need to keep ventilation flowing to drive out covid. The system is good yet highly complicated and we are struggling to find best practice with the controls. Last weekend some found the church unacceptably cold: surprisingly there were complaints of overheating in the stewards area. One thing however is absolutely necessary. I have found that some one – or more – has often switched off the operation of radiators. That is not acceptable. If you find your chosen seat too hot then please move elsewhere.



## Mass Intentions

### Sunday 27th November

8.30 Ann Dawkins RIP  
10 John Affleck RIP  
11.30 James Dillon anniversary

### Monday 28th November

Keith McShea recovery  
Deceased children of Trinity school

### Tuesday 29th November

James Sullivan RIP  
Piero, Gina Reali & Antonella RIP  
Eileen Tedder & Eileen Hannaford RIP

### Wednesday 30th November

Dorothy Hetherington anniversary  
Eileen Kennedy ill

### Thursday 1st December

Maurice O'Sullivan anniversary  
Trinity intentions

### Friday 2nd December

Damien Monaghan RIP  
Tanie Mitchell

### Saturday 3rd December

10 Thanks for safe delivery of Stanley  
6 Michael O'Donoghue

### Sunday 4th December

8.30 Peggy Maunsell anniversary  
10 Patrick Jolly RIP  
11.30 John Joe Purcell RIP

## Christmas Masses 2022

**Details of the planned masses are on the website and Church Notice**

## Church Cleaning

### Friday 2nd December at 9am

Claire Hobbs, Christine Acons, Julia Bever, Susanna Barnoin, Liz Atkinson, Josie Kiernon, Agatha Emohare, Mary Clare Fawcett & Michelle Liddle

## Baptism Congratulations

Congratulations to the following children were recently baptised at St Thomas'

Tierna Monksfield  
Aine Monsfield  
Claire Rosario  
Kit Rowe  
Bodhi Rowe  
Alana Jina.



## SVP Annual Report - year ending March 31, 2022

2021/2022 was another difficult year for our members, having to work around COVID-19 restrictions. There were very few face to face visits to our beneficiaries, however contact was maintained by phone, etc.. Help was given to 60 families and 25 elderly beneficiaries in their own homes. In addition we helped 10 homeless individuals and as many with mental health issues. Furniture and electrical appliances were supplied in 6 cases.

### Funding

Incoming £6,300 - made up of individual parishioner donations plus St Thomas collections  
Outgoing £6,100 - made up of families/individuals in need £4,600 plus S.V.P. Disaster funding £1,500

Please support the S.V.P. Parish Christmas collection next weekend December 3 & 4 at all masses.