

*Austin, ofm*

For *non-believers* we are celebrating simply what was - what used-to be but isn't any more: and so we celebrate anniversaries, because those gone before us live on as precious memories.

For *believers* there is no "was". Death has nothing whatever to do with God - God "is"! Becoming *as we are* God can be born, can grow-up, suffer and die. Now, because of what happened at Easter, *we can be as God is*, now our experience of living, suffering and dying can offer itself as the raw material for the living that knows nothing of suffering and dying.

Because of what happened on Easter Day all our family and friends, all who have gone before us already share in this total living. Our grieving, our missing, our being separated, our being out of touch - will come to an end; this is Easter Faith – this is what *Alleluia* means.

### **MEMORABLE TREE**

On Tuesday, the anniversary of the First Rule of the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans), we planted what can only be described as a "memorable tree". It is a Yew that was in the original English Franciscan Novitiate at Killarney. When Killarney was ceded to the Irish Friars, a cutting was planted in the new Novitiate in Chilworth. When we vacated Chilworth we brought a cutting to Woodford. It was solemnly planted in front of the Church (directly opposite the front door of the Friary) with prayers and blessing. We were fortunate to have a representative of the Irish Province there to witness this historic occasion.

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Friday, 25th April, Rachel Varney, Lisa McDonnell, Carole Burns, Sheila Charles, Janet Walker.

*We wish all parishioners a very Happy and Holy Easter*

### **IN TOUCH**

The parish magazine is on sale at the back of the church. Price £2.

### **LENTEN LUNCHES**

Lenten lunches have raised £845.51 for Mary's Meals, feeding schoolchildren in Haiti. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way: the soup makers, the soup eaters, the washers-up and the furniture movers.

### **PAX CHRISTI**

Wish to thank parishioners for £363.98 which has been donated to the peace work of Pax Christi.

### **TELCO EVENTS**

There are two forthcoming TELCO events which you are invited to:-

The Annual Mass in Honour of Migrants; Monday Bank Holiday, 5th May 10.30am to 12noon Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street.

Redbridge Local Election Assembly To be held at The Salvation Army in Clements Road on May 6th at 7pm. More details to follow next week.

### **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

Join our new Bishop on his first Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. As Director of a Marian Shrine, we could ask for no better spiritual guide than Bishop-elect Alan Williams in this 25th Anniversary Year of the Brentwood Diocesan Pilgrimage. Leave on Sat. 26th July returning Thursday 31st. Full details at [www.brentwoodlourdes.org](http://www.brentwoodlourdes.org) or call Cathy O'Connor about booking 01206 501146.

### **BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

The Woodford Bereavement Support Group is having a Service of Remembrance at St. Thomas of Canterbury for those who have died young. We invite you to join us on Sunday, 27th April at 4pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and afterwards in the Becket Centre for refreshments. Any enquiries please contact Kathie on 07778 216212. This service is for parents and family or friends who have experienced the loss of a child, irrespective of age.

### **FLORISTRY SKILLS?**

We are looking for people with floristry or flower arranging skills to join a rota for church flowers. If you would like to become involved in this ministry please contact the parish office.

### **SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS**

We would be grateful to receive sandwiches, fruit, cakes, sweets, unwanted Easter eggs and warm men's clothing. Items can be left in the parish office on Wed. morning or in the Becket Centre between 6.30pm and 8pm on Wed. evening. With more and more people struggling to live on their current income we find they are turning to soup runs to help them with food.

*Due to lack of storage space please only bring items for the soup run on the day requested. Grateful thanks.*

### **WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE** 24th May 2014

Come and meet our new Bishop, Fr. Alan Williams, on this pilgrimage by booking a place on the coach a.s.a.p. Place limited. £15 pr person. For further details visit [info@abbotswick.org](mailto:info@abbotswick.org) or call the Diocesan House of Prayer 01277 373959.

### **NEW BISHOP OF BRENTWOOD**

Father Alan Williams SM has been named the new Bishop of Brentwood. The appointment, made by Pope Francis, was announced at a press conference this morning.

Fr Williams will be the seventh Bishop of Brentwood. He is currently director of The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and previously studied at the University of Durham and London University while earning his doctorate in Psychology.

According to Vatican Radio, he also studied theology at Allen Hall in Westminster, and received his License in Theology at Cambridge University and a Masters in Religious Education at Hull University.

Fr Williams became a member of the Society of Mary in in 1976, and was ordained on April 30, 1983. He served as Regional Superior of the Marist Fathers from 2000-2008, when he became director of the National Sanctuary of Our Lady of Walsingham, a position he previously held from 1992-2000. He was born in Blackburn on March 15, 1951.

### **JOHN BRADBURN**

There are free booklets about the life of John Bradburne available from the back of the church.

It is the intention of the booklet to reach as many people as possible in order to introduce them to this "saint in the making" who devoted the last 10 years of his life to helping and nursing lepers at Mutemwa.

*Collections from all Masses this weekend are the parishioners' contribution to the Franciscan Community.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Sick:-** Phil Archer, Ellen Armstrong, Mary Barnes, Moira Bisset, Teresa Bonaventure, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Janet Canty, Donald Dourado, Bernie Doyle, Mary Duffy, Michael Durcan, Harold Elston, Alan Farmer, Ray Finney, Fr. Jim Fitzpatrick, Philomena Freeman, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Nora Gaiger, Martin Garnar, Ollie Gaynor, Judy & John Gilmartin, Kathleen Gissane, Michael Glynn, Joan Green, Pat Greene, Lyndsy Greck, Doris Harriss, Christine Hewstone, Maureen Howlin, Desmond Kavanagh, Sophie Jordan, Phyllis & Geraldine Kelly, Fr. Austin Kinsella O.F.M., Claire Lauren, Nora Lucey, Patrick McGurk, Mary McKay, Gloria McQueen, Roger Machin, Hannah Martin, Paul Mason, Sadie Meade, Jutta Menzies, Kay Meyler, Jean Morgan. Trisha Morgan-Smith, Maureen Moss, Miriam Mullally, Maureen Noden, Betty Norton, Anthony O'Boyle, Mary O'Boyle, Joanne O'Boyle, Fr. Con O'Connell, Mick O'Hara, Una O'Mally, Janet Pinfold, Anneli Prowse, Ram Ramsey, Jacky Rott, Debbie Smythe, Karen Spencer, Carmel Sweeney, Mary Sullivan, Lan Anh Ta, Christine Thurston, Teresa Warnock, Terry Wauer, Monica Worsefold.

**And for all the sick and housebound of the parish**

**Lately Dead.** Mrs Casey,

### 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

*Kathleen Stokes & family would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers and for joining her at her husband Ray's Requiem.*

*Fr. Graham Stokes will offer Mass for your intentions.*

### FIRE HAZARD

Please do not put candles anywhere else other than the candle holders. If St. Anthony's candle holder is full there is a box for you to put the candles in. They will be lit for you when there is room. Only use the candles provided for sale. Grateful thanks.

### NO JUMBLE PLEASE

We ask parishioners not to leave jumble on the Friary doorstep or church porch. We do not have storage for these things. It will be advertised in the newsletter when we need jumble to be left—**PLEASE PLEASE** do not leave sacks at any other time. We would be grateful for your co-operation with this matter.

### RENTED SHELTERED ACCOMMODATION FOR 60+

Only £167 per week. Single 1 bedroom first floor flat completely refurbished with wetroom available now at St. Anne's in Grays. Call on 01375 377924 or 01702 510523 for more information and application pack. [www.cwlhousing.co.uk](http://www.cwlhousing.co.uk).

# St Thomas of Canterbury

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Served by the Franciscans



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## EASTER SUNDAY THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

20TH APRIL 2014



*The Lord is truly risen! Let us welcome him into the empty tomb of our lives to bring us back to life with him, to renew our faith and send us out once more to bring his love and compassion to the world around us.*

### First Reading

Acts 10:34. 37-43

Peter and the other apostles give witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

### Second Reading

(Colossians 3:1-4)

Now we must focus on the things of heaven, rather than the things of earth,

### Gospel

(John 20:1-9)

Peter and the disciple Jesus loved race to the tomb. Finding it empty, they begin to believe the teaching of scripture that he must rise from the dead.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

This day was made by the Lord;

We rejoice and are glad.