

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – 23rd Sunday of the Year (A)

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**Parish Priest:** Fr. Liam Gallagher

**Assistant Priests:** Fr. Damian Esene, Fr. Simon Peter Lubuulwa

**Deacon:** Rev. Ian Black

**Parish Office hours:** 9.00am – 12.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

## Catholic Schools

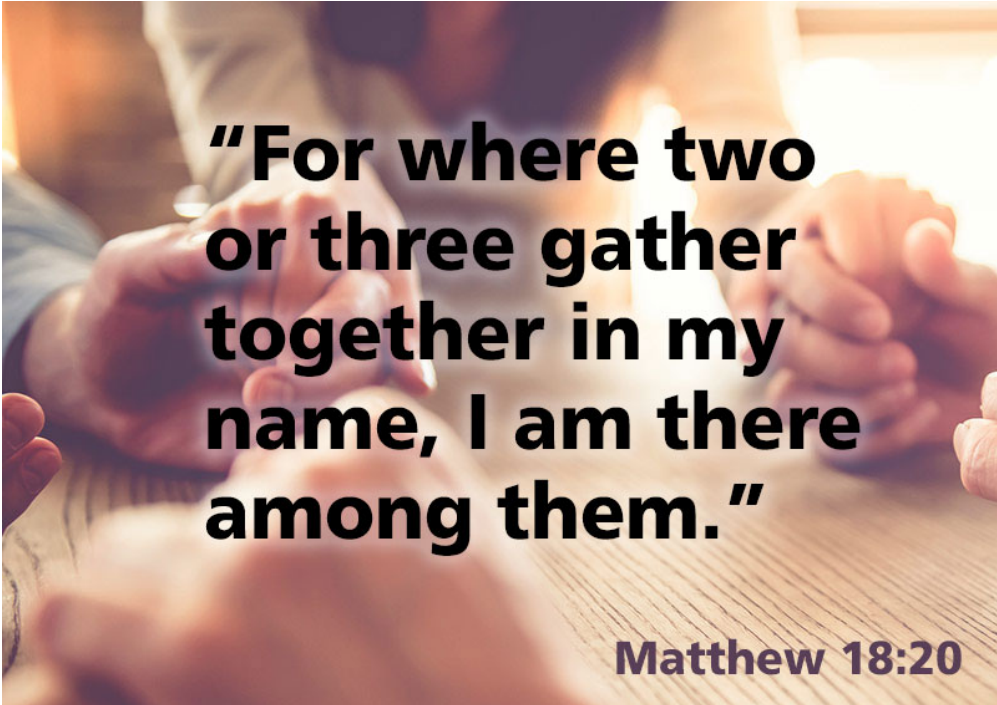
St Francis Primary School: Queen's Road, Maidstone, ME16 0LB

01622 771540

St Simon Stock Secondary School: Oakwood Park, Maidstone, ME16 0JP

01622 754551

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**“For where two  
or three gather  
together in my  
name, I am there  
among them.”**

**Matthew 18:20**

**WELCOME:** We are delighted to welcome Fr. Simon Peter Lubuulwa who is our new Assistant Priest here at St. Francis.

**BAPTISMS:** If you would like to have your child Baptised then please contact the email address [baptism@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:baptism@stfrancisparish.org.uk). We shall respond by sending you an Application Form. You shall also receive an attachment that looks at the Sacrament of Baptism - why you wish to have your child Baptised? What does the Church teach about Baptism? There shall be exercises and questions that we ask you to reflect upon and a You Tube link with a teaching on Baptism that you need to watch. Once you have done this, then you can enquire about a Baptism date by contacting the same email address. We thank you for requesting the Sacrament of Baptism for your child as we always delight in welcoming new members into the Church community and we are sure you will find the material we send you both helpful and encouraging.

**THANK YOU:** Our deepest gratitude to all who have volunteered as stewards to allow our public Mass to take place. There are still gaps that need to be filled on various days, so please let us know if you can give some time to help steward, guide and sanitise then we would be most thankful. Please email the parish office with information of the Mass time you can help at. Please remember, if there are no stewards then we cannot have Mass as this is an important requirement.

**5 MINUTES MORE?:** If you are not able to help with the Stewarding/Ushering before Mass begins then can you ask yourselves if you are able to help after Mass with the sanitising of the pews. this is an important job that must be done in between every Mass and as more people come it becomes a longer job - but it would be a lot quicker if we had more help. Please consider if this is something you could do - if people respond generously then it would take just five minutes.

**READERS:** Please can we have volunteers to be readers at every Mass so we can draw up a rota for the weekends and weekdays? We ask for people to contact us by email if you are willing to read at Mass and let us know which day and time, Thank you.

**STANDING ORDER:** The ideal form of giving to the church, especially during these times, is by Standing Order. So many parishioners have placed themselves on this system and it has proved to be very helpful. If you wish to make a Standing Order (regular payments automatically from your bank account to the Church account), then please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

**GIFT AID:** We have entered the time of year when new Gift Aid envelopes are usually available for people to collect, but of course arranging them has not been possible - and many people would not be able to collect them from the church. You can, however, place your church offering in any envelope you have at home and write your Gift Aid

number down on the envelope. As long as we have a record of your number and the amount you offered then we can still claim it back.

**NOW'S THE TIME TO GET YOUR OWN SUNDAY MISSAL:** We rejoice that public Mass is now being celebrated here at St. Francis church. **If you have attended Mass in the last few weeks you would have noticed that there are no Mass sheets available due to cross-contamination risks. Are you participating in the live streamed Mass at 10.00am? If you would like to follow along with all the responses, readings and prayers then have you thought about having your own Sunday missal?** The repository can supply a selection of these to you at a discount, compared to buying one from a retailer. We have three options to suit all budgets. They all have everything you need for Sundays and Solemnities, including the 3-year cycle of readings.

Number 1 is the CBC missal, available in blue, black, green or brown hardback covers. The size is 10.5 x 17 x 3cm. **£12**

Number 2 is the Collins missal, available in red or blue hardback covers. The size is 12 x 18 x 3cm. There is also a selection of everyday prayers and evening prayer of the Church for Sundays. **£16**

Number 3 is the CTS (Catholic Truth Society) missal, available only in a red hardback cover. The size is 13 x 18 x 3.2cm. This missal also includes parallel Latin texts, introductions to major feasts and seasons, and an index of prayers and devotions. **£19**

If you would like to know more or wish to order a missal then please contact Liz from the Repository team via email or call the number below, leave a message and we'll get back to you. [news@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisparish.org.uk) or 07817 599610

**COLLECTION:** from last Sunday: £1,554.89

Standing Orders around £740 Thank you always for your generosity

<b>PARISH LOTTERY:</b> Week 8	21.08.2020	No. 156	£60.00.
Week 9	28.08.2020	No. 10	£15.00.
Week 10	04.09.2020	No. 127	£20.00.

### **FEASTS OF THE WEEK**

**The Nativity of Our Blessed Mother:** Tuesday 8th September.

There is no Biblical account of Mary's birth but some early Christian traditional writings tell of the parents of Joachim and Anne as being saddened for being childless for so long. Mary's birth was seen as a real answer to their prayers. Saint Augustine described the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance, and an appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley." He then went on to say, "through her birth, the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."

**The Most Holy Name of Mary:** Saturday 12th September.

This Optional Memorial was introduced in honour of the Battle of Vienna in 1683 when the Polish King asked for the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary's on his army. The feast was removed from the Roman Calendar during the 1960s but reintroduced by Pope John Paul II.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	<i>Bernard Burns RIP</i>
	8.30am	<i>Donald and Elizabeth RIP</i>
	10.00am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	11.30am	<i>James and Jane Bowen RIP</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Rev. Frank Rice RIP</i>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10.30am	<i>John Whooley RIP</i>
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b> The Nativity of our Blessed Mother	10.30am	<i>Henry and Susan Simmons RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10.30am	<i>In reparation for Abortions</i>
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10.30am	<i>Agnes Houghton RIP</i>
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10.30am	<i>Joseph and Anne Swinhoe RIP</i>
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b> The Holy Name of Mary	10.00am	
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	8.30am	
	10.00am	
	11.30am	<i>Private Intention</i>
	6.00pm	

**We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Alice Pound, Marjorie O'Leary, Shaun Hilliard, Isobel Hargreaves, Eileen O'Neill, Loftus Jackson, Rimantas Balciunas, William Grigsby, Violet Honey, Helen Thomas, Alice Harkin, Mary Sancto, Antoni Jankowski, Lydia Stone, Tom Horsom, Tony King, Filippo Difranco, Frances Blackeby Philomena O'Hare, Harry Taylor, Albert Driver, William Donovan, John Simmonds, Bernard Willis, Thomas Forbes-Amer, Margaret Maguire, Freda Packer, Douglas Smith, Wilfred Duarte, Jane Haydon, John Moran, Seamus Kearney, Joseph Quinn, Paul Butcher, Patricia Price, Anthony Moran, Frederick Wakeford, Joseph Babalola, Sheila Priestley, Mary Lester and Arthur O'Dea.

**The people of our parish who died during the past few months whose funerals were celebrated with strict restrictions:**

Coral Akenzua, Margaret Browne, Angela woods, Kathleen Homewood, Elaine Mary Conaghan, Erminia Hoare, Roland King, Elizabeth Gilbert, Carole Chandler, Sylvia White, Patricia Older, Tracey Holland, Gary Monkton

**And all who have died recently:** Francis Knight, Teresa de Wit, Maryse Kooseelyn, Tony Helman, Mary Bothamley.

**CONFESSIONS:** Confessions are now available in the Children's Chapel on Saturdays 10.45am-11.30am. As the priest has to sanitise the area before anybody enters you are asked to please wait until the priest opens the door before you can enter