

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th September 2020 – 24th Sunday of the Year (A)

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Email: maidstone@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Liam Gallagher

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

Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

Parish Office hours: 10.00am – 12.00pm Monday 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

Greetings from Walderslade :-)

“And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace that has power to build you up and to give you your inheritance among all the sanctified.” (Ac 20:32) St. Paul used the above words when he was saying goodbye to the Elders of the Church in Ephesus, after three years of work among Ephesians. As St. Luke wrote in Acts: *“When he had finished speaking he knelt down with them all and prayed. By now they were all in tears; they put their arms round Paul's neck and kissed him”* (Ac 20: 36-37). Such a beautiful farewell, I think we would have a similar celebration if not the Covid-19 circumstances. However, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to everyone who gave and sent me cards, contacted me and send messages on the occasion of my departure from St Francis Parish. I am very grateful for your prayers, kindness and constant support. I am also grateful for the farewell gift that I have received from Parish. Thank you for your generosity. By sending you greetings from Walderslade, I would like to say ‘Thank you’ for all your goodness to me and promise to pray for you as the parish community and individuals and especially for Fr. Liam, Fr Damian, Fr Simon Peter and Rev Ian that God might bless their pastoral ministry amongst you.

Fr Pawel Sobol

OUR NEW PARISH WEBSITE: We are excited this week to launch our new Parish Website. Please have a look and do not forget to continually visit our website as it always gives us up to date information of what is happening in the Parish of St Francis. Our deepest thanks to those who give their time so generously enabling us to have a Parish Website.

BAPTISMS: If you wish to have your child Baptised then please look on our website, under the title of Sacraments, where you will be able fill in a space to register for a Baptism. We will reply with all the details with an application form and a course for you to complete. 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.

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 weekday. 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 or 07817 599610

Feasts of the Week

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Monday 14th September.

A feast that celebrates the Triumph that the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ brought to all humanity by conquering death itself.

Our Lady of Sorrows: Tuesday 15th September.

Remembering that as well as the joy of being called to be the Mother of our Saviour, Mary also journeyed and shared in her Son's passion and death.

St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian: Wednesday 16th September.

St Cornelius was a Pope and St. Cyprian was Bishop of Carthage (in Tunisia) both of the 3rd Century and both suffered martyrdom due to the strong Christian persecution at the time.

EVANGELISATION ADVISOR: The new diocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis is looking to appoint an Evangelisation and Outreach Advisor to join its team. Together with the advisors for Catechesis and adult Formation, they will support the parishes of the Archdiocese through the development of resources and the recruitment and training a broad team of volunteers.

The post holder will have had significant experience in evangelisation and an informed understanding of Church teaching. They will need to be proficient in putting such teaching across in an intelligible and accessible manner and guiding people in practical terms.

The post holder will be required to travel throughout the diocese and occasionally work evenings and weekends. A DBS check will be required for this post.

This is a full-time, home-based role, 35 hours per week including evenings and weekends, though job share is a possibility. Salary £34,000-38,000 depending on experience

For more information and the full job descriptions please email marknash@rcaos.org.uk or to apply please send your CV and covering letter to sarahwood@rcaos.org.uk.

Closing date for applications to both posts: Wednesday 23rd September 2020

COLLECTION: from last Sunday: £1,265.09

Standing Orders around £740 Thank you always for your generosity

PARISH LOTTERY: Week 11 – Number 94 - Amount £25

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 13th September	6.00pm (Sat)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	8.30am	
	10.00am	<i>Jan Salamonczyk RIP</i>
	11.30am	<i>Private Intention</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Mary Francis Okeessee RIP</i>
Monday 14th September	10.30am	<i>Pauline Gilman RIP</i>
Tuesday 15th September	10.30am	<i>Tina and Vivian D'Silva RIP</i>
Wednesday 16th September	10.30am	<i>In reparation for abortions in Brewer St</i>
Thursday 17th September	10.30am	<i>Marianne Esther Corfe RIP</i>
Friday 18th September	10.30am	
Saturday 19th September	10.00am	<i>Stuart McLeod RIP</i>
Sunday 20th September	6.00pm (Sat)	
	8.30am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.00am	<i>Mary Francis Okeessee RIP</i>
	11.30am	<i>Dennis Coatsworth RIP</i>
	6.00pm	

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

Mark Howard, Robert Wells, Lycia King, Jackie Sexton, John Johnson, William Paterson, Francis Brennan, Maria Carpenter, Seamus Sheridan, Michael McGuire, Vivian D'Silva, Pauline Gilman, Louisa Chiles, P. Grandon, Christine Wheeler, Alan Porter, Cynthia Capon, Agnes Hammond, Peter Di Marco, Evelyn Mitchell, John Bromwich, Anne Coghlan, Anna Greanleaf, Anne Flynn, Margaret Callaghan, Mary Rainer, Jill Mescall, James Cooney and Gordon Johnson.

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

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW OPENING TIMES FOR THE PARISH OFFICE:

Monday and Friday 10am to 12 noon.