

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

18th October 2020 – Twenty-Ninth Sunday (A)

126 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RH Tel. 01622 756217

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



**'GIVE TO CAESAR WHAT BELONGS TO CAESAR,
AND GIVE TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD'**

(Matthew 22:21)

CHRISTMAS IS COMING: It looks like that things are not going to change come Christmas regarding the need to distance and face cover when coming to Mass, This will have quite an impact on how we provide the opportunity to come to Mass at such a popular time. What we are contemplating is to provide a number of Masses for Christmas with the following being the times we are considering.

CHRISTMAS EVE: 6.00pm; 8.00pm; 10.00pm; 12am Midnight;

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8.30am; 10.00am; 11.30am.

It would be helpful, therefore, if you would respond by letting us know what time Mass you would be likely to choose and come to. Just send an email to the parish office or drop something through the door. Please note that you are not booking a place - we are not adopting a booking system. It will still be first come first served, so when giving your preference you don't even need to give your (actual) name - but maybe how many people you are speaking for. It may be also worth everybody knowing that just like now there will be no congregational singing - so we cannot participate in the Classic Carols together. There will also be no Polish Christmas Mass. We thank you for your help.

NHS COVID-19 APP: You can now download this particular App onto your phone and use it to scan the QR Code that is on the Church doors or table as you enter. This will mean you do not have to fill in the Track and Trace forms anymore.

MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY. During the month of October, Catholics are encouraged to use the Rosary in prayer, even just one Decade. Here is a link that gives a little teaching of the Rosary which may be useful but there are plenty of things to find online that would be of help. If you haven't done this before, give it a try! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zATQjuyk4Qg>

ADORATION: We will be having Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 9am - 10.15am every Friday morning.

CONFESSIONS: Confessions are now available in the Children's Chapel on Saturdays 10.45am-11.30am

RETRouvaille: FOR COUPLES STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGES:

Retrouvaille is for couples with marriages that are struggling, who may not be communicating well, and for those who are considering marriage separation or divorce. It is also for those who have already separated or divorced who want marriage help. The programme organisers are aware that many couples are in serious difficulties because of Covid-19 and the additional pressures it has

brought. Consequently they will be holding a Virtual Weekend between 12 -15 November 2020. Couples that wish to find out more about Retrouvaille or register for the Virtual Weekend are welcome to call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443, or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com All enquiries will be treated as confidential. Retrouvaille also welcomes priests to experience the programme as part of their ministry. Visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk for more detail

ST SIMON STOCK CATHOLIC SCHOOL: The School has created a 'Virtual Open Event' to replace their customary open events which are usually held in the autumn term, together with welcome messages from the Academy Principal and Executive Principal and other useful information for you to look at. Please visit: <https://stsimonstock.theschooltour.co.uk/> For more information, please telephone Cathy on: (01622) 754551

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 an Standing Order (regular payments automatically from your bank account to the Church account) then please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

St John Paul II Thursday 22nd October

This is one Saint that most people will remember or maybe even whose hand you have shaken. Born in Poland and became Pope in 1978 until his death in April 2005 during the weekend of Divine Mercy which is a devotion he personally promoted and has become popular to many individuals and parishes. He was a global travelling Pope - you may have been to see him when he visited your own nation - and worked tirelessly to bring his the message of peace to a world troubled by conflict, especially the Cold War at the time.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 18th October	6.00pm (Sat)	<i>Phylis and Lawrence Waters RIP</i>
	8.30am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.00am	<i>Elizabeth Frost RIP</i>
	11.30am	<i>Patrick and Christina Ryan RIP</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Mac Budaly RIP</i>
Monday 19th October	10.30am	<i>In reparation for abortions in Brewer St</i>
Tuesday 20th October	10.30am	<i>Rev Fr Michael and Ambrose Ryan RIP</i>
Wednesday 21st October	10.30am	<i>Frank, Gladys & Terrence Hatherill RIP</i>
Thursday 22nd October St John Paul II	10.30am	<i>Mario Dorres RIP</i>
Friday 23rd October	10.30am	<i>Elizabeth Frost RIP</i>
Saturday 24th October	10.00am	<i>For conversion of lapsed Catholics</i>
Sunday 25th October	6.00pm (Sat)	<i>Yvonne Hume & Donald Hume RIP</i>
	8.30am	<i>Molly Dignan RIP</i>
	10.00am	<i>James and Mary Hurson RIP</i>
	11.30am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Alison and Suzanne East RIP</i>

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

Winifred Smith, Edith Lavender, Eric Calcott, Florence Munks, Joyce Curtis, Daniel Leahy, Josephone Bell, John Scannell, Claudia Booth, Ellen Manuel, Dennis O'Keefe, Molly Dignan, William Joseph, Anne Tosolini, Ken Dalmann, Bereneice Harvey, Elizabeth Smith, Bernard Clarke, Carol Luckhurst, Thelma Highland, David Conagnan, Reginald Ward, Sr Francoise, Gordon Richardson, Francine Robson, Stacy Mountford, Diana Fallon, John Franey, Peter Davies, Molly Brophy, William Pointer, John Ryan, Ellen Wright, David West, Jean Sadler, Daisy Tugwell, Sydney Clark, Paul McGiveron, William Franklin, Edward Radcliffe, Alison East, Clifford Greenhill and Marie Vince.

COLLECTION: from last Sunday: £819.04

Standing Orders around £740 Thank you always for your generosity

Collection for HOME MISSION : £273.01

Second Collection this weekend: WORLD MISSION

Second Collection Next weekend: DEW Association

PARISH LOTTERY: Week 16 – Number 39 - Amount £25

DEW ASSOCIATION 2nd COLLECTION: On 25th October, the money you help to raise is for orphan children in Zambia. This is run by the Kiltegan Missions who have looked after orphan children for many years. May we thank parishioners for your continued generosity towards Dew Association projects during these challenging times of COVID-19. May God bless you.