

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th September 2021 Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

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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 Lubulwa

Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

Parish Office hours: 10am – 12 noon Tuesday and Friday (email or telephone only)

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



When you come to the celebration of Mass this weekend at St. Francis, you will notice that there are candles lit at various places on the Church walls, twelve in all. They are on wooden plaques which you may have wondered what they are for. The candles are lit today because this Sunday 26th September we are celebrating the Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church. On this day in 1982, the Bishop came to officially consecrate the church. During this

Ceremony he anointed twelve places on the wall with the oil of Chrism. Some of you may even have been present when that happened. Twelve represents the Apostles, who were the first ever Church community starting on the day of Pentecost - and as a Church throughout the whole world we believe, as our Creed proclaims, in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. So appropriately we light the candles at the places where the Bishop anointed the Church on this day of the anniversary. You will find these marked on the wall in any Catholic Church you enter. The 10am Mass this Sunday will be designated for the celebration of the Anniversary with the readings changed from the Ordinary Time, which will be read to us from members of our parish Fledglings group. It will be so good to see them back again.

We shall also light the candles on Monday 4th October, the feast day of St. Francis, the patron of our parish.

