

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th January 2022 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

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: 10am – 12 noon Tuesday 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

THE WEDDING AT CANA

Everyone serves the good wine first....but you have kept the good wine until now. (John 2:10)



MASS AT ST. LUKES: We shall be restarting celebrating Mass at St. Luke's Chapel, Preston Hall at 9am on Sunday 22nd January. If there is anybody who is prepared to provide a lift for Fr. Damian or Fr. Simon Peter, please can you let us know at the parish office.

AVE MARIA: Good news everyone. We are glad to let you know that the Legion of Mary Society will be starting here in our Parish of St Francis. Members who are interested to join this group should keep these dates in their diary:

First Inauguration meeting is on Sunday 30th January at 12.45pm.

Our weekly meeting starts on Saturday 5th February at 10.45am

Note: Some members of the Curia will be coming from the Diocese to come and join us as we hold the first meeting on Sunday 30th January. All who are interested can see any of the Priests for more information.

Glory to Jesus!

Honour to Mary!

REGULAR CHECKS: Fr. Liam was asked many times by various people if I was feeling better after hearing that I had tested positive for COVID. He appreciates your concern very much. The truth is that he never was feeling unwell with it. No symptoms whatsoever. The only reason he discovered that he was positive was that he takes regular Lateral Flow tests - and one just happened to turn out positive. This was confirmed by a PCR test. If Fr. Liam had just waited to get symptoms before testing himself, he would never have been tested and walked around doing his business as a carrier. This demonstrated the value of doing regular lateral flow tests, so please, if you are not already doing so (and we know getting kits from pharmacies has been difficult this past month), help protect as many as we can by taking regular tests.

REPOSITORY: Don't forget that our well stocked Repository is open after Sunday 10am Mass.

CONFIRMATION: We welcome back our Confirmation Candidates this Sunday at the 6pm Mass. We remember them in our prayers as they continue their journey of preparation.

INVITATION: An open invitation to all parishioners who would like to develop their faith in these challenging times! **The Growing in Faith Together group (GIFT)** are continuing their weekly zoom **discussion and prayer meetings** commencing on Wednesday 19th January from 8pm to 9pm and are inviting anybody to join. Each week we will explore different aspects of faith using films or power points.

For further details please email Carole & Pete on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk and you will be sent a Zoom link to the meetings. We look forward to seeing you.

DEAR HUSBAND AND WIFE: A morning in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into their communication and the call of the Church to the married. Saturday, 5th FEB 2022 ONLINE 9.00am till 1pm BOOKING ESSENTIAL Contact:- Mrs Carole Batty mflkent@rcaos.org.uk 07983 524 727

PARISH LOTTERY: The new Series No. 45 started on 1st January 2022. If you have not elected to pay by Bankers Order, please make your payment with the correct amount of cash by leaving your payment in an envelope marked with your name and/or lottery number at the Presbytery. Cheques should be made payable to St Francis Parish. We continue to express our thanks to everybody who supports the parish by being part of our parish lottery. We also invite anybody who wishes to be part of our parish lottery to do so now.

SAFEGUARDING IN ST. FRANCIS PARISH: Thank you to all those who minister to children or vulnerable adults in Saint Francis Parish for collecting the DBS (disclosure and barring service) packs and for returning them to the parish office before Christmas. Completed forms and associated documents can be brought to the parish office on Wednesday, 19th January between 12pm and 1pm or Thursday, 20th January between 6pm and 7pm. (Documents will be returned immediately and should **not** be left in the office in advance). If you cannot attend at these times, please contact me.

If you have any concerns about a child or adult at risk, or if you have any further queries, please contact Mary Ryan, Parish Safeguarding Representative – tel : 07495 624384,
Email : maidstonesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

STAMPS: This time of year we receive a lot of mail and therefore a lot of postage stamps. Please can we ask that you tear off the stamps from the envelopes and place them in the box provided in the church porch. These go towards Kent Charity for the Blind. Thank you for your help.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 16th January	6.00pm/Sat	Holy Souls
	8.30am	Holy Souls
	10.00am	Lizzie Knight RIP
	11.30am	Holy Souls
	6.00pm	In reparation for abortions from Brewer Street
Monday 17th January	10.30am	Domingo Garcia Myriam de Rivera RIP
Tuesday 18th January	10.30am	Wanda Lapham RIP
Wednesday 19th January	10.30am	Private Intention
Thursday 20th January	10.30am	Private Intention
Friday 21st January	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 22nd January	10.00	Nancy and Bill Neil RIP
Sunday 23rd January	6.00pm/Sat	Private Intention
	8.30am	Stuart McLeod RIP
	10.00am	Holy Souls
	11.30am	Cyrille Kimpiabe RIP
	6.00pm	Holy Souls

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

Edgar Harber, Patrick Holmes, Bede Mullen, Maureen Smart, John Skinner, Alfons Szwarc, Christina Keane, John Cox, Gladys Hamlyn, Nancy Gubbins, Terence Hegarty, John O'Leary, Kathleen Simmonds, Canon Joseph Callanan, John Nantle, Celsa Soares, Jack Jones, Ernest Willey. Reginald Olver, Frank Deely, Maureen Keane, Mary Rogers, Harold West, John Gallagher, Brenda Giovanelli, Anna Doherty, Edward Sweeney, Vincenza Beasley, Rosalind Beacroft, John Hurd, Sarah Ingram, Margaret Jones, Teresa Kerr, David Chapman, Anthony Edmead.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 10.45am to 11.30am

COLLECTION

First Collection last Sunday £1047.47

Second Collection last Sunday, DEW Association £ 169.59

Second collection this Sunday: Catholic Children's Society

Second Collection next Sunday: Area Bishop's Fund

Standing Order for December £4319.06