

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

**31st December 2023 The Holy Family (B)**

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

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**Parish Priest:** Fr. Liam Gallagher

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Simon Peter Lubuulwa

Also Resident: Fr Peter Norris (Retired)

**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

## THE HOLY FAMILY



Official family prayer for world meeting of families 2018

God our Father, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, one family, in the Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray. Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love, make us always grateful for the gift that we share. This we ask, through Christ our Lord, Amen

Mary, mother and guide, pray for us. Saint Joseph, father and protector, pray for us. Saint Joachim and Anne, pray for us. Saints Louis and Zelie Martin, pray for us.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The change of time for New Year's Day Mass is the slightly later time of 11.15 am. The Mass will be concluded around 12 pm noon with the Angelus

**CHRISTMAS GRATITUDE:** We wish to express our deepest thanks for so much help and generosity shown to the clergy and parish over Christmas. We received many cards and gifts for which we thankful. Thank you too for the personal offering for the priests of £6,000 - not including the Standing Order and Card machine. For all who prepared the Church to make it clean, safe and delightful - repairing, maintaining, cleaning, decorating, flowers, crib - tremendous thank you. For all who minister at the Masses, with welcoming, ushering, reading, altar serving and music. Much time and commitment is given at this time and throughout the year and we are very grateful.

**LETTER:** This weekend we shall be hearing a letter from Archbishop John Wilson.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday 3rd February 2024 9.30am - 4.00pm Building a Better Marriage. This day is a day in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to the married. There is no charge for this course. Booking is essential - details to follow in a future parish bulletin.

**LAY CHAPLAIN: Salary:** KR7 (£25,378 - £28,466 FTE) approximately £22,023 - £24,703 pro rata **Hours:** 37 hours per week, Term time plus five non pupil days (39 weeks) at St Gregory's Catholic School, Tunbridge Wells. More info found on <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=126521>

**STAMPS FOR THE BLIND:** As we are getting more post with Christmas Cards this time of year, we would like to ask you not to throw away your stamps on your envelopes but please carefully tear or cut them off, and bring them to the church porch and place them in the box, marked Stamps. Please do not donate damaged or torn stamps. These are taken and help raised money for the Kent Charity that help the Blind. Thank you.

**CHURCH SHOP:** This is open from 9.15am to 10.00am and 11.00am to 11.30am.

**MAY THE LORD GRANT YOU PEACE AND PROTECTION THROUGHOUT 2024  
HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

**COLLECTION:**

First collection last week (cash)	£1,253.00
Christmas Collection (cash):	£6,001.45
No Second Collection this Sunday	
Second Collection next Sunday Parish Development Fund	
Direct debits for November	
Standing Orders Gift Aid	£3,190
Standing Orders Non Gift Aid	£871.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£1,444.36
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£83.85
TOTAL	£5,590.17

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## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b> The Holy Family	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Deceased members of Saunders family
	9.00am	Holy Souls
	10.00am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
	11.30am	Joseph and Margaret Brooks RIP
	6.00pm	John Rice RIP
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b> Mary, Holy Mother of God	11.15am	Franciszek and Stanislaw Lupa RIP
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b> Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazienzen	10.30am	Tony Adam RIP
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b> The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.00am	Bill and Nancy Neil RIP
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b> The Epiphany of the Lord	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Carol Kinsella RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Holy Souls
	10.00am	Holy Souls
	11.30am	John Donovan RIP
	6.00pm	Christina Brennan RIP

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

Aleksander Tolkun, Alice Henderson-Bell, Mary Chittenden, Margaret Hugo, Rose Hook, Marion & Stephen Moon, David Emmett, Margaret Jamieson, Mark Potter, Maria Giovanelli, Tom Flynn, Caridad Johnson, Christopher Parker, Trevor Martin, Ian Wigston, Bernadette Alexander, Fr MacGillivray, Edward Murphy Ada Rogerson, Jeanne de-Lafonviel, David Friday, Mary O'Keefe, Tony Adam, Frank Barrett, Pat Hunt, Bernard Francis, Elizabeth Lanaghan, Laurence Byrne, Pilar Sayer, Wout van Wyngaarde, Franciszka Bartnicka, John Pearson, Jeanette Bailey, Hannah Chambers, Harold Neil, James Fury, Reta Shine, Patrick Tunbridge, Mary Temple, Leonard Childs, Andrew Maher, Anna Deeley, Kathleen Dominey, Joseph Kane.

**CONFESSIONS:** Friday 11.00am – 11.30am; Saturday 10.45am - 11.30am

**ADORATION:** 9.30am – 10.15am every Friday morning.