

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

**14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Second Sunday Ordinary Time (B)**

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

Email: [maidstone@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:maidstone@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.stfrancisparish.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk)

**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

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**Jesus passed and John stared hard at him and said,  
'Look! there is the Lamb of God' (John 1:35)**

**ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY:** Recently we asked everybody to please fill in a form to help the parish update their records and information - we would very much like to know who is part of our parish community. We are very grateful for the people who have done this and our parish database is getting well and truly updated. However, out of an average 950 people who attend Mass here at St. Francis every week, only 430 names have been received. We would be very grateful if everybody else could give us their details. So if you have not filled in one of our parish survey registration forms within the past two years then we would be very grateful if you could soon. These can be found on our parish website titled "[New to the Parish](#)". Even though you may have been part of the parish and given your details a number of years ago. this is a request for absolutely everybody. Thank you for your help.

**CALLING ALL MARRIED COUPLES:** Save the date Saturday 3 FEBRUARY 2024 9.30am – 4.00pm Building a Better Marriage. This day, held at Holy Family Maidstone South parish hall, Bicknor Road, Park Wood ME15 9PS starting at 9.30am until 4pm, 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 - please contact Carole on [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) or by phone: 07983 524 727 Refreshments will be provided but please bring a packed lunch.

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY:** Saturday 27th January 2024. There will be Adoration/Exposition with periods of guided prayer and music from 3pm until 4pm in the church. All are welcome to come and pray for all those affected by holocaust and indeed by any kind of war and conflict. Please come and join in for all or part of the hour.

**THANK YOU:** A massive thank you to the many parishioners who donated gifts and food for the Christmas appeal. It doesn't solve problems but it helps people feel loved and valued and takes some of the weight off. Very much appreciated - thank you to you all.

**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:** Thank you for all the stamps that have been donated throughout the year. The amount collected last year was £828.00 this goes towards the charity for the blind. We ask that you continue to donate these

stamps for such a good cause. Please do not donate damaged or torn stamps. Thank you.

**RACIAL JUSTICE:** With the festivities around Christmas and the New Year now celebrated, I would like to point to our reoccurring celebration of **Racial Justice Sunday coming up on 28 January 2024**. On that day, **Archbishop John Wilson will be celebrating the event at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY at the 10am Mass.**

**HEADTEACHERS:** At three Catholic Schools, St Gregory's Secondary in Tunbridge Wells; St Joseph's Primary in Broadstairs; St Edward's Primary in Sheerness; they are recruiting new Headteachers. Here is a link for more information:  
<https://www.kcsp.org.uk/work-with-us/>

**DEW ASSOCIATION:** The Second Collection on 14<sup>th</sup> January is to help destitute children and families in Chile. The Mission is run by Fr Hoban from the Columban Missionaries. May we thank parishioners for your continued generosity towards Dew Association projects during these challenging times. May God bless you.

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

**BE A WINNER:** An opportunity to be part of our parish lottery will be available at the end of Mass. Application forms and QR code cards are now available from the back of the Church. Collections will start from 6th January to 14th January for Saturday evening and Sunday after the 8.30am Mass until the beginning of the 11:30 Mass. You can also join online at [www.stfrancisparish.org.uk/parish-lottery](http://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk/parish-lottery) Good luck everyone.

#### **COLLECTION:**

First collection last week (cash)	£1,179.34
Second Collection this Sunday DEW Association	£222.59
Second Collection next Sunday Catholic Children's Society	

Direct Debits – December 2023

Standing Orders - Gift Aid

Standing Orders - Non-Gift Aid

Collection CARD Offerings	£834.77
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Collection ONLINE Offerings	£277.87
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TOTAL	£5,003.60
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## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Andrew Busuttil RIP
	8.30am	Holy Souls
	9.00am (PH)	Leslie Wood RIP
	10.00am	Private Intention
	11.30am	Private Intention
	6.00pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Nanette's Sister RIP
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b> St Anthony	10.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Wanda Lapham RIP
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.00am	Michael and Frances Corbett RIP
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Alice Joseph RIP
	8.30am	Holy Souls
	9.00am (PH)	John Ballagher RIP
	10.00am	Christina Brennan RIP
	11.30am	Wanda Lapham RIP
	6.00pm	People of the Parish

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

Patricia Walsh, Tony Moran, Michael Ashdown, John Fabien, Leslie Wood, Robert Jackson, Mehrandoush McNeilly, Haley Martin, Eileen Bream, Margaret Moore, Emily Parrett, Mary Borbowe, John Woodger, 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, Msg Joseph Callanan, John Mantle, Celsa Soarles, Jack Jones, Ernest Willey, Reginald Oliver, Frank Deely, Maureen Keane, Mary Rogers, Harold West, John Gallagher, Brenda Giovanelli, Anna Doherty, Edward Sweeney, Vincenza Beasley, Rosalind Bearcroft.

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

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