

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Second Sunday of Lent (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:** Canon 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

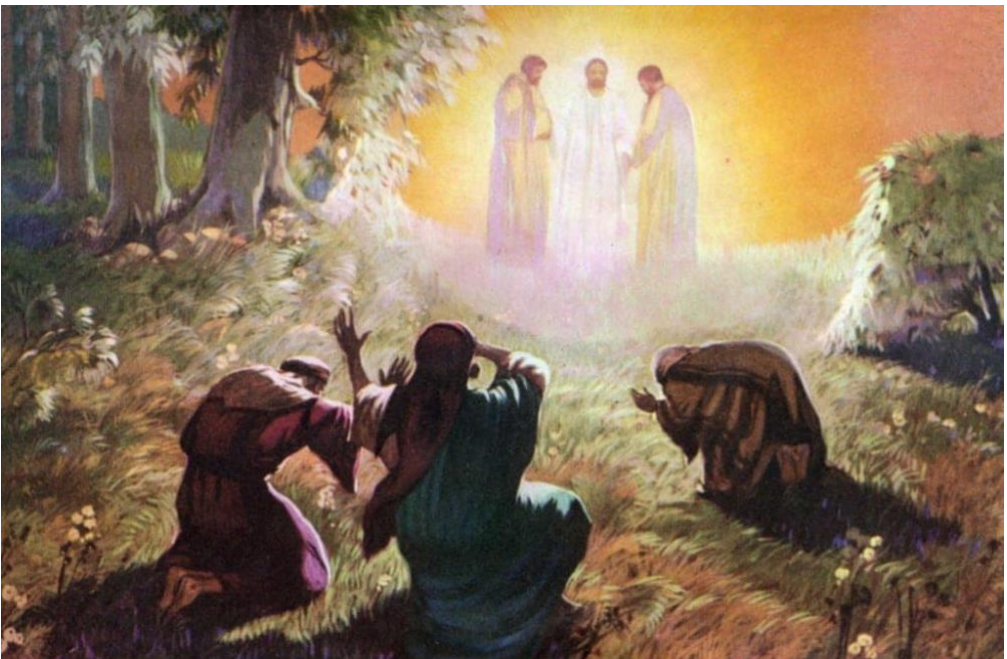
01622 771540

St Simon Stock Secondary School: Oakwood Park, Maidstone, ME16 0JP

01622 754551

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## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS



**'There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white....Elijah appeared to them and Moses. (Mark 9:3,4)**

**REST IN PEACE:** The Requiem Mass for Thomas Corkery and Susan Corkery will be celebrated on Thursday 29th February 11.00am. The Parish Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am that day.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

**COUNTING ON YOU:** Our parish is blessed to have a committed team of people who count our collection every week. It is a simple but important ministry they carry out and we invite more people to be part of this team. If you are able to spare just two hours a month on a Monday morning and could help us with the counting then we would be most grateful. Please let us know by contacting the parish office. Thank you.

**HOSPITAL PRAYER PACKS:** We have been very grateful for your generosity in the past when we have made an appeal to put together hospital prayer packs. Your donations have enabled us to put together a pack including a prayer book and rosary for patients in our hospital who have wished to have one. It has given them a lot of spiritual comfort during their time of illness and recovery. They are very popular and we have started to run low again. If you are able to offer £5 to help us more of these hospital prayers packs then we (and they) would appreciate it very much. Please give your £5 donation to the Church Shop. Thank you.

**WHICH SCHOOL?:** We would like to invite any parent who has a child in primary school, especially if you are considering Secondary Schools, to see the notice on the board and the prospectus in the porch for St. Simon Stock Catholic School in Maidstone.

**ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY:** 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.

**CHURCH SHOP:** This is open on Sundays from 9.15am to 10.00am and 11.00am to 11.30am. Lent resources for adults and children now available in the church shop, including "Day by Day" and "Walk with Me" booklets.

**VISIT THE SICK:** If you are entering hospital or know somebody who is in hospital then please do let the parish clergy know. It is our privilege to be able to minister and serve the sick of our parish but we do need your help to let us know.

**GRIEF IN LOSS, HOPE IN CHRIST:** If you are mourning after the death of a loved one, this weekend may be for you. **Aylesford Priory. 22-24 March 2024** Please tel: 01622 717272 or email: [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

**RETRouvaille:** A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages.

**Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024**, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND:** Beginning Experience is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. This next programme will be held on **12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> April**; contact: Mary: 0208 647 4760, or Maura: 07795 498445, email [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com)

**CARITAS:** This March, we celebrate the first anniversary of Caritas Southwark. To mark the occasion, Archbishop John will celebrate Mass at St George's Cathedral on **Saturday 16 March at 12.30pm**. Kindly save this date in your diaries and invites will be sent out shortly. There will also be an **event in Amigo Hall afterwards**, where you can hear about some of the **wonderful projects happening in our parishes**.

**THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE LONDON** is holding a Divine Mercy Afternoon of Reflection on Saturday 24 February 2024 from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm at St. Lawrence Church, 1 Hamilton Road, Sidcup DA15 7HB.

The Reflection will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Way of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

#### **COLLECTION:**

First collection last week (cash) £916.30

Second Collection last Sunday Clergy Support Fund £258.33

Second Collection this Sunday CAFOD FAST DAY

Second Collection next Sunday

#### **Direct Debits – January 2024**

Standing Orders - Gift Aid £3,359

Standing Orders - Non-Gift Aid £1,119.96

Collection CARD Offerings £2,325,17

Collection ONLINE Offerings £59.47

TOTAL £6,863.60

**PARISH LOTTERY:** Week Number 8 Number 280 Amount £60

From last week: Week Number 7 Number 47 Amount £25

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	Chris Ross RIP
	10.00am	Alan Cheeseman RIP
	11.30am	Patricia Frost RIP
	6.00pm	
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	10.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	10.30am	Len Watson RIP
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	10.30am	James and Mary Hurson RIP
	11,00am	Requiem Mass
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b>	10.00am	Holy Souls
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b> St. David	10.30am	Peter Ruddy RIP
	8.00pm	
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	10,00am	
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Maria Engracia RIP
	8.30am	
	9.00am (PH)	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Sarah and Archie Grant RIP
	11.30am	God's healing from cancer
	6.00pm	

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

Myrtle Sancto, Ellen Byrne, Winifred Feakins, Peter Heeley, Alessandro Piano, Bob Heard, Ann Cruickshank, Margaret Leonard, Albert Youd, Moira Porter, Jean Dayson, Norah Dolden, Richard Clancy, Nancy Walsh, Kathleen Chapman, Met Haynes, Clifford Boyce, Barry O'Halloran, John Woods, Barbara Sheridan, Isabella Duffett, John Considine, Len Watson, Dorothy Peatty, Muriel Cluff, Sarah Stickles, Susan Egan, Ellen Braconnier, Francesca Morgan, Margaret Naylor, Dick Hyland, Mary Walliwell, Veronica Cook, Fr.Joe Whooley, Anthony Smith, Audrey Mendes, Mary McElroy, Una Jenkins, Patricia Deasy.

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

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

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday throughout Lent 7.15pm

**WELCOME:** We were delighted to welcome into the family of the Church JOSEPH FRANCIS RODGERS with the celebration of Baptism last weekend.