

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

3rd March 2024 Third Sunday of Lent (B)

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

Email: maidstone@rcaos.org.uk

Website: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Liam Gallagher

Assistant Priest: Fr Simon Peter Lubulwa

Also Resident: Fr Peter Norris (Retired)

Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

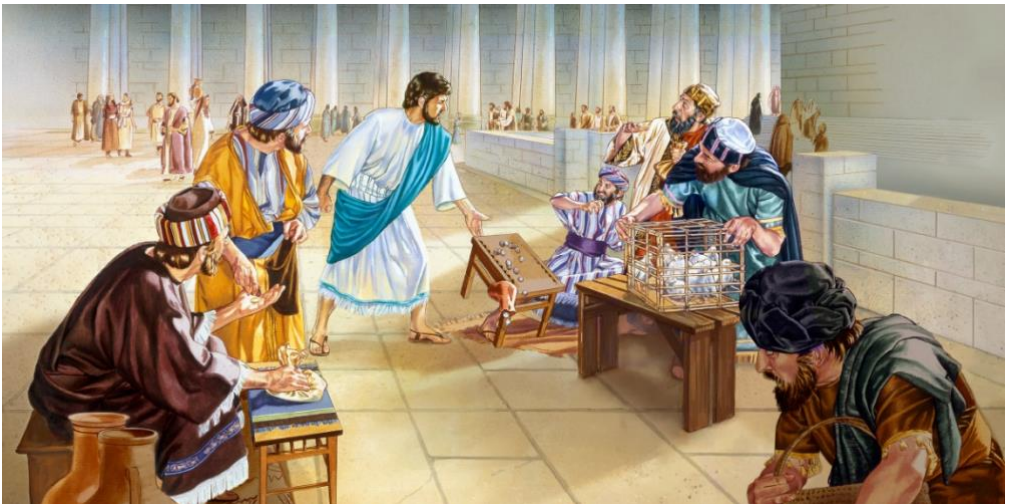
Parish Office hours: 10am – 12 noon Tuesday and Friday (email or telephone only)

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

JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE



‘making a whip out of some chord, he drove them all out of the Temple’ (John 2:15)

SUNDAY 10.00am MASS: This weekend at the 10.00am Mass, our six people who are preparing for reception into the Catholic Church will receive a copy of the Apostle's Creed which we shall proclaim at that Mass. It is found on page 7 of the hymn books. Also, our children preparing for their First Holy Communion will receive their own prayer book. We keep them in our prayers.

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.

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.

JUST A MINUTE: Is there anybody who is willing to help with minute taking of a regular meeting. It should be three hours a month. Please let Canon Liam know if you can help with this. 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.

TALK: Please see on the Church door a list of talks that are taking place at Aylesford Priory every Saturday morning during the Season of Lent.

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

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 - or visit 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 **12th -14th April**; contact: Mary: 0208 647 4760, or Maura: 07795 498445, email 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**.

COLLECTION:

First collection last week (cash)	£1,410.09
Second Collection last Sunday CAFOD	£349.64
Second Collection this Sunday Parish Development Fund	
Second Collection next Sunday Easter Flowers	

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 9 Number 27 Amount £15

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 3rd March	6.00pm (Sat)	Maria Engracia RIP
	8.30am	
	9.00am (PH)	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Sarah and Archie Grant
	11.30am	God's Healing from Cancer
	6.00pm	Private Intetnion
Monday 4th March	10.30am	Else Williams RIP
Tuesday 5th March	10.30am	In Reparation of Abortions in Brewer Street
Wednesday 6th March	10.30am	Holy Souls
Thursday 7th March	10.30am	Sera Maria George RIP
Friday 8th March	10.30am	Len Watson RIP
	8.00pm	
Saturday 9th March	10.00am	
Sunday 10th March	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	
	9.00am (PH)	June Wood RIP
	10.00am	Maria Hunter RIP
	11.30am	Sera Maria George RIP
	6.00pm	

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

Josephine Evans, Mary Capeling, Ned Sullivan, Marion Forster, John Dooley, Frank Weston, Jack Helm Joanna Patterson, Stephen Flaherty, Jack Powis, Anneliese Down. Iris Baker, Rita Haggerty, Daisy Raemers, Hilde Fenner, John Donlon, Mary Boniface, St Anglie Eric Lubren, Mary Docker, David Godding, Doris Thompson, Anna Bingham, David Evenden, Ernest Morgan, Mary Whooley, Kathleen Mooney, Margaret Baker, James Dignan, Raymond Bennett, Mary Arrow, Josephine Baldock, Nina Driver, Bridget Banham.

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