

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

24th March 2024 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – (B)

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Website: 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

THIS IS HOLY WEEK



Hosanna in the Highest

Canon Liam, Fr. Simon Peter, Fr. Peter and Deacon Ian pray that our week ahead will be filled with holiness and peace, allowing the light of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ that we celebrate at Easter will shine through our lives forever.

We congratulate, especially, Simon, Jonathan, Toni, Julianna and Donald who will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church during the Easter Vigil this year.

SUNDAY 10.00am and 11.30am MASS: We begin this precious time of year of Holy Week this weekend on Palm Sunday. The Mass will begin as always on Palm Sunday with the blessing of the palms in the Car Park followed by a procession into the Church. This area shall be closed all Sunday morning and unavailable for parking.

WHAT'S THE TIME? Please remember that clocks go forward one hour next Saturday night 30th March.... Otherwise you will be one hour late for the Easter Sunday Mass.

CONFESSIONS: Tuesday 26th March 6.30pm – 7.30pm (With Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

Saturday 30th March 9.00am – 11.00am; 2.00pm - 3.00pm

PLEASE NOTE: The Clergy shall be attending the Chrism Mass at our Cathedral of St. George on Wednesday 27th March. Mass that day shall be at the slightly earlier time of 8.00am.

No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Good Friday morning

No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday 5th April

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Good Friday 7.30pm

CHILDREN'S STATIONS: The Fledgling group will be leading Stations of the Cross for children 10am on Good Friday morning. All are very welcome to join them, especially all children. This will be immediately followed by the Flame group leading us through 'seven last words'.

OFFERING: Please remember that the collection on Easter Sunday is your personal offering to the priests of the parish. There are some envelopes available for you to collect on the church pews.

GIFT AID: The new envelopes for the forthcoming Gift Aid year are now available for collection in the church porch. Our deepest gratitude to all who are part of our parish Gift Aid Scheme as it brings in a very useful revenue every year. Our thanks very much go to the people who run and organise our parish Gift Aid Scheme.

READERS AND CATECHISTS: We are planning a special day of recollection for our parish readers and catechists. The ministry you give is so important to the life of our parish so we wish to provide an opportunity to reflect prayerfully on the service you give so generously. It shall take place on Saturday 27th April and will be from the morning until late afternoon, so please save the date. Details will follow very soon.

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. 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.

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.

FEED THE HUNGRY AT EASTER: Although we feed the hungry throughout the year, we are looking to give needy families and elderly people an extra treat at Easter time. Donations of Easter eggs, cakes, biscuits and other treats would be very much appreciated. Please leave these either at the presbytery or bring them to Mass on the weekends of 16th/17th or 23rd/24th March. Many thanks for your continued generosity.

COLLECTION:

First collection last week (cash)	£1158.23
Second Collection last Sunday Poor Parishes	£221.47
Second Collection this Sunday DEW Association	
Collection Good Friday for Holy Places	
NO Second Collection next Sunday	

Direct Debits – February 2024

Standing Orders - Gift Aid	£3,095
Standing Orders - Non-Gift Aid	£911.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£2056.47
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£181.35
TOTAL	£6,244.78

PARISH LOTTERY:	Week Number 12	Number 204	Amount £70
	Week Number 13	Number 225	Amount £250

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

Kathleen Augood, Philomena Policelli, David Tyler, A James Walder, William Carmichael, Jerzy Lepik, Roy Watson, Subyla Mendes, Christina Jeyes, John Dillon, Karol Travik, Louis McSweeney, Patricia Skelton, John Maskall, Basil Curtis, Joanna Child, Thomas Smallbone, Antonio Martignetti, Teresa Sexton, Alfred Grigsby, Derek Vince, Concetta Smitti, Mrs Strickland, Iris Sullivan, Neil Linstead, Coral Akenzua, Margaret Byrne, Tony Sancto, Margaret Meads, Peter Nixon, Kevin Devlin, John Murphy, Rose Collins, Kevin Maher, Philomena Coatsworth.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Palm Sunday 24th March	6.00pm (Sat)	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	John Ballagher RIP
	10.00am	Kathleen & Bob Lenzie RIP
	11.30am	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
	6.00pm	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
Monday 25th March	10.30am	
Tuesday 26th March	10.30am	
Wednesday 27th March	8.00am	Reparation for Abortions
Maundy Thursday 28th March	8.00pm	Phyllis Coatsworth RIP
Good Friday 29th March	3.00pm	SOLEMN LITURGY
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday 30th March	8.00pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night	Patrick Gallagher RIP
Easter Sunday 31st March THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST	8.30am	
	9.00am (PH)	Catherine & Frederick Collier RIP
	10.00am	Private Intention
	11.30am	People of the Parish
	6.00pm	
Monday 1st April	10.30am	Reparation for Abortions
Tuesday 2nd April	10.30am	John Corfe & Rachel Taylor RIP
Wednesday 3rd April	10.30am	William & Maria Carmichael RIP
Thursday 4th April	10.30am	
Friday 5th April	10.30am	John Connaughton RIP
Saturday 6th April	10.00am	Bronwen Strinati RIP
Sunday 7th April	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Maciej Cisto RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Gerald Shepherd RIP
	10.00am	Ernest Winterhalter RIP
	11.30am	Len Watson RIP
	6.00pm	Franciszek & Stanislaw Lupa RIP