

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 Corpus Christi (B)**

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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



**THIS IS MY BODY; THIS IS MY BLOOD;  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** We Congratulate the children of our parish who celebrated their First Holy Communion last weekend:

Darcy, George, Jon, Leah, Lily, Oliwia, Stephanie, Thea, Yemin, Yshmael, Alex, Alexander, Beatrice, Caitlin, James, Frances, Lily, Leo, Natalia, Wiktoria, Xavier, Chisom, Chun, Dominic, Isabella, Joash, Jobith, Celia, Nate, Rene, Uzoma, Benita, Aaliya, Madaleine, Austin, Grace, Hanna, Kenneth, Madison, Poppy, Sofia, Adaeze, Adam, Alfred, Chimamanda, Chloe, Christina, Jayden, Josiah, Julia, Sophia, Zoe, Gabriela, Oliwier.

This Sunday all the First Communion children shall be gathered for the 11.30am Mass, which shall finish with the children leading us out to County Hall for our Corpus Christi procession.

**EUCCHARISTIC EXHIBITION:** St. Augustine's Catholic Church Tunbridge Wells are inviting everybody to see an Exhibition they are showing now until 30<sup>th</sup> June. The Church is open all day. It is part of the acclaimed Exhibition of Blessed Carlo Acutis, one of the more recent Canonised Saints of the Church. A young Italian man, who died 2016 aged 25 and whose objective in life is to strengthen the Faith in the Real Presence. There are leaflets at the back plus a poster on a noticeboard which speak of Eucharistic Miracles.

**PARISH LEADS:** An initiative that has come from the Diocese, mainly the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis, is to introduce a system for every parish of having Parish Leads. This would cover the three main areas of Catechesis, Evangelisation and Formation. It does not mean being a Leader and Commander but a resource of support for all in the parish who would provide these ministries. There is also an opening to be a Mentor for the whole Maidstone Deanery in these three areas. Full training and explanation will be provided by the Diocese. If this is something that you can commit yourself to then please let the parish office know, preferably by email.

**SILVER JUBILEE:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June, Canon Liam will be celebrating 25 years of priesthood. Mass at 6.30pm will be followed by reception with everybody of the parish invited. This will be held in the hall of the United Reformed Church, just opposite Burger King.

**MAIDSTONE DEANERY CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024:** Applications are invited from young people in **Year 9 or above**, to join our 2024 Deanery Confirmation programme,

The programme will run on mainly Sunday evenings at St Francis' Church, Maidstone, beginning in June, a break throughout the summer holiday, continuing through September - October, with the **Confirmation Mass scheduled for Saturday 19th October, 3pm.** (Venue TBC)

Applicants must: be Catholics, who have made their First Holy Communion; must come from the candidate themselves; will commit to attending all of the sessions. must also be willing to participate fully in all aspects of the programme.

To request an application form, which also gives details of dates and times of sessions, please email: **[confirmation@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:confirmation@stfrancisparish.org.uk)**

The closing date for applications is **Monday 3rd JUNE**

Any other questions can be raised either through this dedicated confirmation mailbox, or by contacting Deacon Ian

**COUNTRY WALK:** Sunday 2nd June - starting at 2:00pm. A 4 1/2 mile circular walk through the orchards, fields and woods of Linton, Boughton Monchelsea and Wierton. There are a few stiles and it is likely to be muddy along some of the route so please wear appropriate footwear. There will also be some walking on roads and therefore any children will need to be supervised. We meet at Linton public car park just behind St. Nicholas' Church. It is important to leave your contact details and confirm that you are coming so that we can inform you of any last minute changes or cancellation. Please let Liz & Mark know if you are coming via email: **[news@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisparish.org.uk)**

**CHURCH SHOP:** This is open on Sundays from 9.15am to 10.00am and 11.00am to 11.30am. Gifts and cards for First Holy Communion are now available.

**ANOTHER CHANCE:** If any married couples missed the recent **Building a Better Marriage day** you'll be delighted to learn that **another day** is being held on the **29<sup>th</sup> June** in the Carmel Hall at the Sacred Heart of Jesus church **Sittingbourne** from 9.30am to 4.30pm. (Please note that this is the last opportunity this year to attend the day in Kent)

The one-day course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives to **make their marriages better** and to improve their communication skills. **There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple. Booking is essential.** To apply please contact the parish office on the following email [sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk) or by phone on 01795 555708. Refreshments will be provided but please **bring a packed lunch**

**A MESSAGE FROM FR. TIM PEACOCK:** I am at Mwemba school, about half an hour from Tim's mission. This primary school had a zero exam success rate until a new headteacher, Mr. Dube Muleya took over last year. It was a 5% pass rate last term. They had no books so couldn't read. He has just had 1200 books donated by a charity, but the library is tiny, as you can see in the photo, with no shelves even. The head teacher wants to extend the building from existing 2 meters to 5 meters long, by 2 meters wide, and install Electricity for computers, also electricity for the admin block. Tim estimates £5000 for the project, including labour. God will provide if it can be done. Tim has recently paid for a roof to be repaired. The Second Collection next weekend will go towards Fr. Tim's project. Photos of this project can be found on our parish website.

#### **COLLECTION:**

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,692.09
Second Collection last Sunday Diocesan Levy	£134.12
Second Collection this Sunday Parish Development Fund	
Second Collection next Sunday Fr. Tim's School in Zimbabwe (see above)	

#### **Direct Debits – April 2024**

Standing Orders - Gift Aid & Non Gift Aid	£4,643.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£2,217.93
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£34.12
TOTAL	£6,896.01

<b>LOTTERY:</b> Week No. 22	Lottery No. 79	£15
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## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Private Intention
	9.00am (PH)	Maura McClean RIP
	10.00am	Francis Risch RIP
	11.30am	Luis and Rosriou D'Silva
	6.00pm	Wellbeing
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b> St. Charles Lwanga and Companions	10.30am	Michael Trevor Hikson RIP
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b> St. Boniface	10.30am	Ann Upton RIP
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	10.30am	Private Intention
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> The Immaculate Heart of Mary	10.00am	Thanksgiving
	12.00pm	Requiem Mass Peggy Wager
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	John McArdle RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Tom Smith RIP
	10.00am	Thanksgiving
	11.30am	Private Intention
	6.00pm	Wellbeing

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

Peter Craven, Catherine Murphy, Martin Price, Mary Coffey, William Murphy, Eleanor Geering, Ronald Fuller, William Sullivan, Josephine Jackson, Margaret Ritchie, Thomas Porter, Lily Carr, Delia Morgan, Edward Toome, Adelaide Capon, Jean Moyce, Robin Gorse, Catherine Skinner, Fred Highsted, Catherine Richardson, Mary Pantony, Joseph O'Hare, Michael Cannon, Doris Phipps, Jack Craggs, Pasqua Ranaldi, Kevin Carr, Reginald Green, John Meehan, Thomas Power, Katherine Boozer, Mary Snapp, Rita Cunningham, Wayne Plant, Elizabeth Crouch, Brigid Attwood.

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

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

**REST IN PEACE:** We pray for the souls of MICHAEL DEERY, PEGGY WAGER, VIVINE JOSEPH and ANNUNZIATA ZINA. The Requiem Masses shall be celebrated:

Peggy Wager: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 12.00pm

Vivine Joseph: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am

Annunziata Zita: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 10.30am

May they rest in peace and rise in glory