

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th May 2024 The Most Holy Trinity (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 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

'Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations. Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

WELCOME: We were delighted to welcome in the family of the Church, MATILDA BRENNAN, LEWIN BRENNAN and ELIJAS KAZALA who celebrated the Baptism last weekend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: We Congratulate the children of our parish who shall be celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend. Next Sunday, The Feast of Corpus Christi, all 54 children will gather for the 11.30am Mass, lead us in the Corpus Christi procession that will take place and enjoy themselves with a well deserved party. We keep them in our prayers.

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 12th 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**

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**

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.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, then you are especially invited to attend St. George's Cathedral, by Waterloo, for a Mass celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday 13th July 2024. Please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to come, **and no later than May 31st 2024**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary

Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Email us at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Maidstone St Francis.

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 **29th 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 or by phone on 01795 555708. Refreshments will be provided but please **bring a packed lunch**

DAY FOR LIFE 16TH JUNE: The focus for this year's *Day for Life* will be opposition to assisted suicide (euphemistically called 'assisted dying').

With the intention of praying and advocating for the establishment of a culture of care at the end of life, the theme for the Day for Life is: *"The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life"* There will also be a *Day for Life Novena*, which will run from the 23 May to the Feast of the Visitation (31 May) and which will be available on the [Bishops' Conference website](#).

COLLECTION:

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,182.88
Second Collection last Sunday Orphanage in Zambia	£351.07
Second Collection this Sunday Parish Levy	
Second Collection next Sunday Parish Development Fund	

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

LOTTERY: Week No. 21 Lottery No. 156 £90

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 26th May	6.00pm (Sat)	Theresa Adebisi RIP
	8.30am	Stanislawa Lupa RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Mary Crimmins RIP
	10.00am	Maureen Fay RIP
	11.30am	People of the Parish
	6.00pm	Rita and Eric Emerson RIP
Monday 27th May St. Augustine of Canterbury	10.30am	Richard Smith RIP
Tuesday 28th May	10.30am	Richard Smith RIP
Wednesday 29th May	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
Thursday 30th May	10.30am	Richard Smith RIP
Friday 31st May The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.30am	William and Margaret Pointer RIP
Saturday 1st June	10.00am	Peggy Bettina Wager RIP
Sunday 2nd June	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

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

Joyce Broaders, Thomas de Freyne, Arthur Tupper, Kenneth McKay, Christopher Kelly, Peter McAuliffe, Colin Turner, Ian Kirby, Rita Emerson, Basil Smith, Johanna Gale, Arthur Stubbs, Ronald Taylor, Vincent Jayaraj, Antonio Minchella, Frank Mallon, Robert Wilcockson, Joan Palmby, Noreen Dent, Elsa Lawrence, James Lynch, Mary Gallagher, James McCloskey, Kathleen Mayes, Patrick Coffey, Richard Pigott, Eileen Wilson, Franciszek Manowski, Tony Flynn, Mary Stone, Evelyn Smart, Rita Simmonds, Amelia Cziezla, John Anderson, Frances Lorimer, June Perkin, Bishop Thomas Grant, Michael Gill, Edward Badham, Ray Evenden, Alice Cassidy.

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 7th June 12.00pm

Vivine Joseph: Friday 14th June 10.30am

Annunziata Zita: Friday 21st June 10.30am

May they rest in peace and rise in glory