

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

**16<sup>th</sup> June 2024 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

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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 Kingdom of God.. is like a mustard seed which...is the smallest of all the seeds...yet..it grows into the biggest shrub of them all..so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.' ( Mark 4:28)**

**WELCOME:** We welcome Fr. Stephen Wymer, Parish Priest of Beckenham, and Fr. Barry Grant, Parish Priest of Cranbrook, who will be celebrating the 10.00am and 6.00pm Mass this Sunday respectively.

**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.

**A TALK:** by Gavin Ashenden, a Catholic layman, author and broadcaster will be speaking, 19th June 7.30pm, on Eucharistic Miracles. Details are on the poster in the noticeboard by the lavatories.

**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.

**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.

**BARBECUE:** We shall not be holding our usual gathering for Bible and Beverage this month because of The Anniversary. However, we would like to invite anybody and everybody in their 20' or 30's to come to a Barbecue on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July – welcome to arrive anytime after 6.00pm at the Priest House. Just a purely social gathering. Please do not worry that you have not been before. Newcomers will be especially welcome. We are blessed with so many people coming to Church every Sunday but not really having the opportunity to meet people who share your Faith and Joy in the Lord. This will be a perfect opportunity to allow us to make you more part of our parish family and even find out what you want from this group. Open for ideas, prompt anybody you know who you think would like to come. Don't be shy. We are very friendly. See you there!

**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**.

**Invitation to Catholic men: How did we get the Bible, and is it enough?**

How did we get the Bible? Who decided which books to include? Does the Bible say all we need is the Bible? What do Catholics believe about the Bible? These and other topics will be discussed at the Medway Catholic Men's Group evening on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Guest speaker Mark Lambert is a businessman, author, YouTube podcaster, and studied theology for five years, specialising in the Bible. This evening is open to Anglican, Baptist, Pentecostal, Methodist and Evangelical men, so please invite them among your family and friends - we want to share the Catholic understanding of the Bible with them. St Michael's parish, Chatham. 7.30pm prayer in church. 8pm talk and discussion in the church hall. Refreshments provided. No cost to attend. Bring your Bible. Chatham train station 30 seconds away. Car parking available. Contact: medwaycatholicmen@outlook.com

**SECOND COLLECTION. INDIA. CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.** The Second Collection on 23<sup>rd</sup> June is to help a children's education mission in India. This is run with great dedication by Lucy Guest. May we thank parishioners for your continued generosity during these challenging times. May God bless you. The Dew Association.

**COUNTRY WALK:** Sunday 30th June - starting at 2:00pm. A 3.5 mile circular walk starting in Golden Green near Hadlow. Come and enjoy the Kent countryside with us on an easy walk through fields and orchards and along the River Medway. We will meet in front of the Bell Inn, Three Elm Lane, Golden Green, TN11 0BD. As parking is quite limited in the village please car-share where possible. 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)

#### **COLLECTION:**

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,154.89
Second Collection last Sunday Fr Tim's School	£663.42
Second Collection this Sunday Day for Life	
Second Collection next Sunday Children's Education in India	

#### **Direct Debits – May 2024**

Standing Orders - Gift Aid & Non Gift Aid	£4,221.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£1,773.76
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£393.99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,389.71</b>

**LOTTERY:** Week No. 24                      Lottery No. 71                      £25

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Patrick and Mary Hahon RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Winifred Joan Ryan RIP
	10.00am	Len Watson RIP
	11.30am	Tom Egan RIP
	6.00pm	Valerian Dsouza RIP
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am	Stuart McLeod RIP
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am	Russell Coatsworth RIP
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June</b> St. John Rigby	10.30am	Tadeusz Gryszan RIP
	7pm	Canon Liam Anniversary
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June</b> St. Alban	10.30am	Ousephan Thomas RIP
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> St. Aloysius Gonzaga	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b> Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More	10.00am	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Franciszek Lupa RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Private Intention
	10.00am	Sarah RIP
	11.30am	Canon John Clark 50 years Priesthood
	6.00pm	Private Intention

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

**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, and ANNUNZIATA ZINA.

The Requiem Masses shall be celebrated:

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

Michael Deery: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 12.30pm

May they rest in peace and rise in glory