

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

28<sup>th</sup> July 2024 Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (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

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## JESUS FEEDS THE FIVE THOUSAND



'Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks...he did the same with the fish giving out as much as was wanted.' (John 6:11)

**SUMMER SERVICE:** We welcome Fr. Lawrence Opio who has arrived and will be with us for two months to help over the Summer period. I know that we will make him very welcome.

**CALLED TO BE A PERMANENT DEACON:** Are you a man between 21 years to 58 years, prayerful, with the desire to love God and God's people within the Archdiocese as well as the wider church community? Are you involved in services within your parish and/or community? Do you feel called to be a Permanent Deacon? Do you have the gift to help members of the Church to discover and put into action their gifts and talents and the ministry of Christ? Have you tried many things and still feel drawn to a closer relationship with Christ and His Church?

If you have answered 'yes' to one or more of the questions above, and require further information about the Permanent Diaconate, then contact Deacon Ian who is the Director of Formation for our Diocese. [ianblack@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ianblack@rcaos.org.uk)

### **FEED THE HUNGRY**

Many thanks for your generous donations of food etc which are collected from Grove House and distributed to those in need of extra help. You might be aware that food banks generally receive much less during the summer months, and this is a difficult time for families with the children being home for the school holidays. Therefore, we would be most grateful for donations of tins, pasta, biscuits, soap, shower gel and UHT milk. Thank you very much for your ongoing support - it is much appreciated.

**PARISH WALK** All are invited and welcome next Sunday 28th July to come on a parish walk - starting at 2:00pm. A 4.5 mile circular walk through the vineyards, fields and woods around Boxley. We meet in front of the tennis courts at Penenden Heath, Maidstone, ME14 2DH. There is parking by the children's play area or in front of the tennis courts. 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 us know if you are coming via email: [news@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisparish.org.uk)

**ARE YOU WONDERING?** If you are not a Catholic but wish to find out more about the faith or thinking about becoming a Catholic then please let the clergy know when you come to Mass and they shall gladly help you in your enquiry. In September, we shall be beginning our weekly meetings known as Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) – a very friendly gathering for anybody who is looking to find out more about the Catholic Faith. Always remember that attending and wondering never means commitment – so anybody is free to attend without

making any definite decisions. Why not just come and see? We look forward to welcoming you.

**OVERFLOWING WITH JOY:** On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July, the annual Marriage Mass was celebrated at our Cathedral of St. George's, Southwark, where nearly 200 couples from our Diocese gathered including six from our own parish. Everybody is able to attend but couples who celebrate particular milestones in the marriage this year (1<sup>st</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and above) received a special invitation to attend from the Marriage and Family Life team of our Diocese. The couples with their families and guests amounted to nearly 700 people. As Episcopal Vicar for Marriage and Family Life, Canon Liam presided and preached at the Mass. The Marriage Mass can be found [here](#) on the homepage of our Diocesan website. As mentioned, anybody can attend but any couple who is celebrating a big anniversary in 2025, save the date for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July. God bless!

**EMAIL:** Our Parish Gift Aid team are obliged to send a message of thanks to all who contribute and support our Parish Gift Aid scheme. We wish to express our gratitude with a message sent by the email address that you have supplied. If you have any objections to this please let the Parish office know as soon as possible, our deepest appreciation for your support.

**COLLECTION:**

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,134.23
Second Collection last Sunday Young children in Kenya	£363.75
Second Collection this Sunday Peter's Pence	
Second Collection next Sunday Parish Development Fund	

**Direct Debits – June 2024**

Standing Orders - Gift Aid & Non Gift Aid	£3,940.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£2,023.53
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£885.27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,849.76</b>

**LOTTERY:** Week No.    Lottery No.    £

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	Bernard Atkinson RIP
	10.00am	Eileen Sinclair RIP
	11.30am	Luis and Rosario D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	Tom Kelly RIP
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July</b> Sts. Mary, Martha and Lazarus	10.30am	George Arianayagem RIP
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	10.30am	James and Mary Hurson RIP
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July</b> St. Ignatius of Loyola	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August</b> St. Alphonsus Ligouri	10.30am	Hilda Claire Mason RIP
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	10.00am	Teresa Jankowska RIP
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Theresa O'Connor RIP
	9.00am (PH)	
	10.00am	Barbara/George Salamonczyk 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	11.30am	Rosario and Luis D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	Private Intention

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

Joan Tozer, Yvonne Wickens, Marjorie Buckminster, Mary Reynolds, Theresa O'Donnell, Teresa Dee, Julie Wateside, Sarah Taylor, Mary O'Kelly, Jenny McGowan, Carrie Down, Lillian Corrigan, Noreen Greehalgh, Maurice Barabasz, Rachel Martin, Julian Clark, John Ludford, Lena Bergonzi, Micela Roberto, Francis Green, Catherine Bough, Giovanni Carlotti, Maria Richards, Trevor Adams, Victor Giovanelli, Edward McTight, Margaret Beglan, Francis Stone, Denis Scholefield, Theadora Vousden, Oladpupa Ony.

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

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

**REQUIEM:** The Requiem Mass for Vittorio Martignetti will be celebrated Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 12.30pm. We keep his family in our prayers. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.