

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

1st September 2024 Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

126 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RH

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Website: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Liam Gallagher

Assistant Priest: Fr Simon Peter Lubulwa

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



WASHING OURSELVES CLEAN BEFORE GOD



Why do your disciples eat their food with unclean hands? Jesus answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied: This people honours me only with lip service while their hearts are far from me. It is things that come out of a man that make him unclean' (Mark 7)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION:

The Holy Father has produced a message for the *Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2024*. This is celebrated today, the 1 September every year, and the *Season of Creation* itself extends from this date until 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. The Holy Father's message is entitled "Hope and Act with Creation" This is the link you tube clip with a message from the Holy Father.

[Pope Francis' Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2024 - Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development](#)

There is also a printed message on a noticeboard in the church porch.

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.

IN YOUR 20's OR 30'S?: We had a most enjoyable evening in July when we gathered for our Barbecue. As you can see we are a very happy and friendly bunch. Now we gather again for our Bible and Beverage - prayer and reflection time followed by our social in The Society Rooms. Please do join us for worship and enjoyment at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th September. An hour of praying with Scripture with a social chat with a drink or two. What more could you ask? We especially welcome newcomers.

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. 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.

MANY NATIONS AS ONE CHURCH: We wish to celebrate the large amount of nations that are represented here in our parish in the one church, sharing one faith. Our parish youth group, Flame, are inviting you all to the 6.00pm Mass on Saturday 5th October where Mass will be celebrated with prayers and readings offered up in various languages followed by a big feast. We ask that people be willing to prepare food that is traditional from their home nation for others to share. More about this later but we are most grateful to our Flame youth group for providing this opportunity for us to enjoy. Save the date.

COLLECTION:

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,008.47
No Second Collection last Sunday	
Second Collection this Sunday Parish Development Fund	
Second Collection next Sunday Catholic Education Sunday	

Direct Debits – July 2024

Standing Orders - Gift Aid & Non Gift Aid	£4,322.96
Collection CARD Offerings	£2,194.45
Collection ONLINE Offerings	£294.42
TOTAL	£6,811.83

LOTTERY: Week No. 8	Lottery No. 211	£60
Week No. 9	Lottery No. 244	£15

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 1st September	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	John Richards RIP
	10.00am	Private Intention
	11.30am	Luis and Rosario D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	Private Intention
Monday 2nd September	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 3rd September St. Gregory the Great	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 4th September	10.30am	Private Intention
Thursday 5th September	10.30am	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
Friday 6th September	10.30am	James and Jane Bowen RIP
Saturday 7th September	10.00am	John Whooley RIP
Sunday 8th September	6.00pm (Sat)	
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	John Richards RIP
	10.00am	Henry and Susan Simmons RIP
	11.30am	Luis and Rosario D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	Sandra Nourse RIP

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

Rose Larkin, Sheila Humphrey, Joseph Byrne, Glen Cooper, Ellen McDonnell, Patricia Gorse, Angela Angiolini, Adele Hardingham, Francis Doyle, Sarah Watson, June Wood, Francis Doyle, Timothy Buckley, Joseph Hoy, Denis Freeman, Mary Bothamley, William Gilliard, Tony Fosberry, Andrew Delaney, Michael Senatore, Alice Pound, Marjorie O'Leary, Shaun Hilliard, Isobel Hargreaves, Eileen O'Neill, Loftus Jackson, Rimantas Balciunas, William Grigsby, Violet Honey, Helen Thomas, Alice Harkin.

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

ADORATION: 9.30am – 10.15am every Friday morning.