

# ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

6<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Twenty Seventh Sunday of 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)

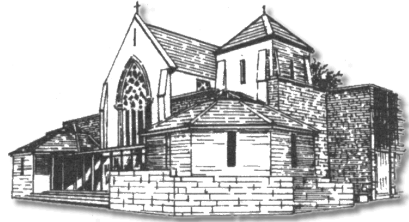
Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

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 75455



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## DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PEACE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the Lord give you peace!

The month of October is approaching, and with it the realisation that for the past year the Holy Land, and not only, has been plunged into a vortex of violence and hatred never seen or experienced before. The intensity and impact of the tragedies we have witnessed in the past twelve months have deeply lacerated our conscience and our sense of humanity. In recent months we have already spoken out clearly about what is happening and have repeatedly reiterated our condemnation of this senseless war. We can only call once again on those in authority and those who bear the grave responsibility of making decisions in this context, to a commitment to justice and respect for every person's right to freedom, dignity and peace. We too have a duty to commit ourselves to peace, first by preserving our hearts from all feelings of hatred, and instead cherishing the desire for good for everyone. Yet, we also need to pray, to bring our pain and our desire for peace to God. We need to convert, to do penance, and to implore forgiveness. Therefore, I invite you to a day of prayer, fasting and penance on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October. The month of October is also the Marian month and on 7<sup>th</sup> October we celebrate the memory of Mary Queen of the Rosary. May each of us, with the rosary, personally, but better again in community, find a moment to pause and pray, and bring to the "merciful Father and God of all consolation" (2 Cor. 1:3), our desire for peace and reconciliation. We invoke the intercession of Mary Queen of the Rosary for this beloved Land and its inhabitants.

Sincerely in Christ,

†Pierbattista Card. Pizzaballa Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem

## **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

Lord our God, Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and Father of all mankind, Who in the cross of Your Son and through the gift of His own life, at great cost You wished to destroy the wall of enmity and hostility that separates peoples and makes us enemies: Send into our hearts the gift of the Holy Spirit, that He may purify us from every feeling of violence, hatred and revenge, enlighten us to understand the irrepressible dignity of every human person, and inflame us to the point of consumption for a peaceful and reconciled world in truth and justice, in love and freedom.

Almighty and eternal God, in Your hands, are the hopes of men and the rights of every people: Assist with Your wisdom those who govern us so that, with Your help, they will become sensitive to the sufferings of the poor and of those who suffer the consequences of violence and war;

may they promote the common good and lasting peace in the region and throughout the earth. Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, obtain the gift of peace for the Holy Land that gave birth to you and for the whole world. Amen

**HOLY HOUR:** As we have been asked to observe Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October as a day of fasting and prayer, including the Rosary of the Feast of Mary Queen of the Rosary, there shall be traditional October Devotions on that day 7pm-8pm. This will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary and Benediction.

**REFERENCES:** Around this time of year many parents of our parish will be applying for their child to attend St. Simon Stock School from September 2025. They also ask the Parish Priest, Canon Liam for a reference. Rather than asking Canon Liam from all directions and at all sorts of times for a reference, he will provide an open surgery for this opportunity on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 6pm - 9pm in the Church. Please do your best to attend this window of opportunity. Canon Liam will not sign reference forms before this date.

**REPOSITORY:** Confirmation cards and gifts now in stock...

The new Lectionary, which includes the scripture readings for Mass will come into use from Advent 2024. If you would like to pre order a new Sunday or Weekday Missal, please enquire in the church shop.

**FAREWELL:** Bishop Philip Moger, who has been an assistant bishop of our Diocese since February 2023 serving the South London area, has been appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Plymouth. Bishop Philip's farewell Mass will be at 6pm on Friday 1 November at St George's Cathedral, which will also be a Solemn Mass of All Saints.

## **IS YOUR CHILD DUE TO START PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025?**

### **ST. SIMON STOCK SCHOOL:** Open Events for entry in September 2025

Open Morning Friday 18 October 9am – 10.30am. Please arrive 9.30am to provide time for the tour.

Open evening Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 5pm – 7.30pm. Headteacher talks at 5.15pm. 6pm & 6.45pm

Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 5.45pm – 8pm. Talk commences 6pm. Please visit [www.ssscs.co.uk/open-events-2024](http://www.ssscs.co.uk/open-events-2024)

**ST FRANCIS SCHOOL:** If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 they are due to start school on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

At St Francis we offer a nurturing, active and enriching Catholic education, facilitated by dedicated and caring teachers to help all children reach their full potential. Please call the school office on 01622 771540 to view the school and meet the team. Applications for September 2025 must be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **COLLECTION:**

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,196.08
Second Collection last Sunday	£319.57
Second Collection this Sunday: CAFOD Fast Day	
Second Collection next Sunday:	

### **Direct Debits – September 2024**

Standing Order Gift Aid	£3,302
Standing Order Non-Gift Aid	£1,181.96
Collection Card	£2,205.01
Collection On-Line	£147.21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,854.18</b>

<b>LOTTERY:</b>	Week 13	Number 283	Prize £250
	Week 14	Number 159	Prize £15

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	9.00am (PH)	Jennifer Bailey RIP
	10.00am	Rev. Joseph Bennett RIP
	11.30am	Ellen Coram RIP
	6.00pm	Private Intention
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b> Our Lady of the Rosary	10.30am	Adeline Simmons RIP
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10.30am	Dorothy and Bill Walker RIP
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b> St. John Henry Newman	10.30am	Tina and Vivian D'Silva RIP
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10.30am	Kevin Paul Ruaux RIP
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10.30am	Funeral Mass Paulo Rodrigues RIP
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10.00am	Private Intention
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	Private Intention
	9.00am (PH)	Anthony Mariner RIP
	10.00am	Mary Madeline Fernanco RIP
	11.30am	Rosario and Luis D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	People of the Parish

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

August Bogaert, Lucy Maine, Mary Davis, Phillip Jones, Florence Sullivan, Liley Freeman, John Moore, Vivian D'Silva, Joseph Prince, Allen Crowe, Herbert Ludgate, Winifred Quinn, Joycelyn Quinlivan, Clair Watts, Thomas Weeks, Frank Packer, Benjamin Paul, Elain Paul, Lionel Bayer, Dr Paul Javarri, Horace Dracup, Clara Solomon, Patricia Bedford, Henry James, Bishop Cyril Cowderoy, John O'Hara, Lynda Godden, John Nicklin, William McInty, Dawn Chiles, Andrew Celer, Catherine Sullivan, Leslie Giovanelli.

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

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

**REQUIEM MASS:** The Requiem Mass for Paulo Rodrigues shall be celebrated Friday 11th October 10.30am.

The Requiem Mass for Zena Hales shall be celebrated Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

**COUNT:** This weekend is the third weekend of four where we shall be counting the Mass attendance. Our attendance last week was 1073

**BAPTISMS:** Congratulations to Rose, Michelle, Mateo, Clara, Nicole Jenifer, Laetitia and Noah who were Baptised during the month of September.

**WEDDINGS:** Congratulations also to George Rawlings and Margaret Ryan who celebrated their wedding during the month of September. Blessings and Joy upon every day of their married life together.