

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th October 2024 Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time (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 75455



COME HOLY SPIRIT: Bishop Paul Hendricks visited our parish this Saturday 19th October to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our parish and deanery. We offer prayers and Congratulations to the young people of our parish and Deanery who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend: **Jesus, Oscar, Sara, Blossom, Chiedozie, Kelechi, Anthony, Lottie, Deneisha, Leonidas, Leah, Joel, Victor, Dominik, Roshan, Oisin, Isabel, Zofia, Gabriel, Ethan, Ishaan, Ciro, Jessica, Kaya, Joshua, Luca, Joseph, Finley, Ellie, Joshua, Sophie, Aleena, Coby, Carlos, Alejandra, Oliver, Ryan, George, Daniella, Scarlett, Stirling, Elodie, Giovanna, Carmine.** Thank you also to the team who have given their time in helping our young people with their preparation.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL: During the past week our Parliament have been discussing a new Assisted Suicide Bill (they title it Assisted Dying). The possibility of individuals opting for a death to avoid long palliative care. The Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to write to our MP's expressing our strong concern of such a Bill being allowed to pass. In the Church porch there are two posters with a QR Code which you can scan as a link to the Right to Life UK website which provides a suggested wording of a message of concern to write to our local MP, who for many of us is Helen Grant. We are of course free to write our own letter.

On the website of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, www.cbcew.org.uk Cardinal Vincent Nichols provides an excellent You Tube message expressing the deep concern of such a Bill being passed. It is entitled 'Be careful what you wish for' and speaks of the slippery slope that such a

passing of an act will lead to. There is also a copy of his Pastoral Letter that was produced for the last weekend. A copy of this can also be found on the Church noticeboard.

HOLY SOULS: We are approaching the Month of Holy Souls in November, so you are invited to take an envelope from the Church porch labelled Holy Souls and place in the names of people whom you wish to remember who have died. Place the envelope through the letter box of the presbytery and they will be placed in the Holy Souls box on the altar every Mass in November. Please do not put in money or Mass intentions. They are a separate envelope.

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES: The Annual ceremony of the blessing of the graves shall take place on Saturday 2nd November, the day of All Souls, at 3.00pm at Maidstone Cemetery, Sutton Road.

AFTERNOON FOR READERS to introduce the new translation for the Lectionary.

To address questions such as: Why the change in translation? How is it different from the translation we're using now? What different sorts of translation are there? What does it mean in practice, for readers? How is the Lectionary arranged? Also, an opportunity to reflect on some broader questions: The Word of God in the life of the Church. How we understand the Old Testament in the light of our faith in Christ. Led by Bishop Paul Hendricks.

VENUE: Church hall of St Thomas of Canterbury, 59 Burgate, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2HJ. **DATE:** Saturday 2nd November 2024. **TIME:** 2pm to 4pm

NOTE: The hall will be open from 1pm, for anyone who may like to come early and bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee available.

AN INVITATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS 18 – 40: Our Archbishop John Wilson invites young adults (18-40) to join him at St George's Cathedral, London SE1 6HX for "An Evening with Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati" on **Thursday 31st October at 6.30pm**. The evening will include praise and worship led by One Hope Project, a talk by Archbishop John about Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, who is soon to be Canonised, the ceremony of becoming a Saint and is a wonderful example to all young adults. There will be a social afterwards. No ticket necessary, just turn up. For further details, visit www.tinyurl.com/frassatieve, or scan the QR code.



MISSIO: The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for World Mission this Sunday. This day of prayer, giving and solidarity unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God’s love. To donate, take an envelope from the back of the Church. There is also a prayer card for you to take home.

THE CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES: The CCRS is a knowledge-based, internationally recognised qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, and applicable. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop’s vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make an informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs for further information. Closing date for applicants this year is 4 November 2024.

REPOSITORY: 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.

COLLECTION:

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,304.21
Second Collection last Sunday	£228.26
Second Collection this Sunday: MISSIO (World Mission Sunday)	
Second Collection next Sunday: DEW Assoc. ‘Orphaned Children’s Centre’ Peru	

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
TOTAL	£6,854.18

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 20th October	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	Franciszek Lupa RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Amanda Tyler RIP
	10.00am	Kevin and Terry Ruaux RIP
	11.30am	Thanksgiving for recovery
	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 21st October	10.30am	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP
Tuesday 22nd October	10.30am	P.J. John RIP
Wednesday 23rd October	10.30am	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP
	2.00pm	Requiem Mass for Slawomir Wisny RIP
Thursday 24th October	10.30am	Private Intention
Friday 25th October	10.30am	James and Mary Hurson RIP
	1.15pm	Requiem Mass for Mary Wheat RIP
Saturday 26th October	10.00am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
Sunday 27th October	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Jenny Bailey RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Emily Mariner RIP
	10.00am	Maurice Bell RIP
	11.30am	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP
	6.00pm	Alison and Suzanne East RIP

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

Ken Dalamann, Bereneice Harvey, Elizabeth Smith, Bernard Clarke, Carol Luckhurst, Thelma Highland, David Conagnan, Reginald Ward, Jeffrey Mitchell, Anne Fuller, Sister Francioise, Gordan Richardson, Francine Robson, Stacy Montford, Diana Fullan, John Franey, Mary Kibble, Peter Davies, Molly Brophy, William Pointer, John Ryan, Ellen Wright, David West, Jean Sadlier, Daisy Tugwell, Sydney Clark, Paul McGiveron, William Franklyn, Edward Radcliffe, Alison East, Clifford Greenhill, Marie Vince, John Blackie, Mercy Vadakekunnel, Leo McBrien, Mary Butt, Stanslaw Witkavski, Mary Carlos, Laura Browne, Henry Pointer, Deborah Malfroy, Charles Roberts, Ellen Brennan.

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 Slawomir Wisny will be celebrated 2.00pm this Wednesday 23rd October.

The Requiem Mass for Mary Wheat shall be celebrated this Friday 25th October 1.15pm. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

MASS COUNT: The Mass Count for last weekend was 1,136. The average count for the past four weeks was 1,103. The average count for 2023 was 951.