

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

3rd November 2024 Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

126 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RH

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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

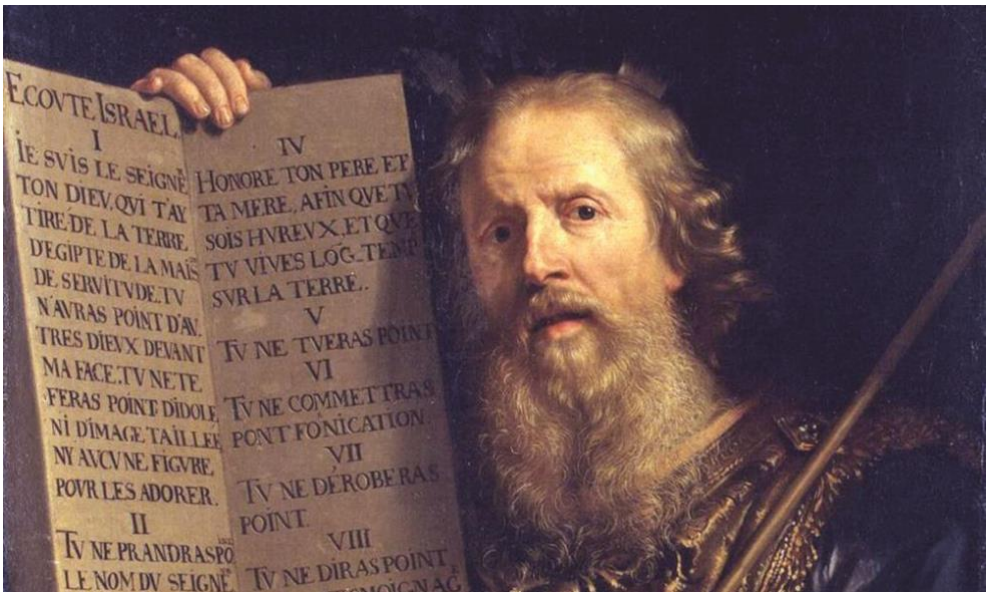
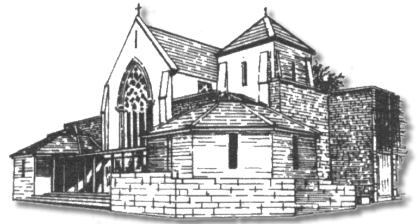
Parish Office hours: 10am – 12 noon Tuesday and

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



‘This is the first commandment. The Lord our God is the one Lord. You must love the Lord your God with all your soul, mind, heart and strength. The second is this. You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. (Mark 12:30,31)

LETTER: A copy of the letter that Canon Liam has written to our local MP Helen Grant can be found on our parish website. The Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to write to our MP's expressing our strong concern of a Bill being passed entitled 'Assisted Dying'. 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 to write to our local MP, who for many of us is Helen Grant. We are of course free to write our own letter.

HOLY HOUR: The Bishops of England and Wales shall be gathered for a Holy Hour on Wednesday 13th November 5.30pm – 6.30pm praying for the promotion of the dignity of every human person. All parishes and communities have been invited to offer up a holy hour at that same time to be strong in our unity of prayer. We shall, therefore, be offering up a holy hour at that time here at St. Francis. More on what that involve shall follow.

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.

DEANERY REQUIEM MASS: The Annual Mass for remembering deceased clergy who have served in the Maidstone Deanery shall be celebrated in the Choir Chapel of Aylesford Priory 12.00pm midday, Tuesday 12th November. All the clergy of the Deanery gather for the Mass but everybody is welcome and indeed encouraged to come too.

IN YOUR 20'S OR 30'S?: We had a most enjoyable evening in July when we gathered for our Barbecue. 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 14th November. An hour of praying with Scripture with a social chat with a drink or two. What more could you ask? We especially welcome newcomers

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.

ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL SECOND COLLECTION SAT 9TH/SUN 10TH NOVEMBER

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2024. Every Gift is welcome.

COLLECTION:

First Collection last week (cash)	£1,106.67
Second Collection last Sunday	£356.39
Second Collection this Sunday: Parish Development Fund	
Second Collection next Sunday: Archbishop's Appeal	

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

LOTTERY: Week Number 18 Lottery Number 145 Prize £15

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 3rd November	6.00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
	8.30am	Fr John Whebble RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Jean Gibson RIP
	10.00am	Geoffrey Marchant RIP
	11.30am	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP
	6.00pm	Private Intention
Monday 4th November St. Charles Borromeo	10.30am	In reparation for abortions from Brewer St
Tuesday 5th November	10.30am	Peter and Moira McCaffrey RIP
Wednesday 6th November	10.30am	Thanksgiving
Thursday 7th November Dedication of the Cathedral of St. George	10.30am	Kevin and Terry Ruaux RIP
Friday 8th November	10.30am	Marianne Esther Corfe RIP
Saturday 9th November Dedication of The Lateran Basilica	10.00am	Forgotten Souls
Sunday 10th November	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	Elizabeth Batty RIP
	9.00am (PH)	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Birthday Thanksgiving
	11.30am	Luis and Rolsario D'Silva RIP
	6.00pm	Terry and Kevin Ruaux RIP

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

Sheila Hemsley, Mary Mackell, Victor Ingrams, Carmine Cascioli, Letitia Edwards, Esther Baines, Francisca La-Torre, Pamela Holdsworth, Anna Galeotalanza, Baby Isaac Davies, Mary Snashall, Richard Jones, Patricia Garrett, Sheila Green, Anna Mullen, Andrew Cloughton, Richard Monroe, Joseph Fitzgerald, Bridget Egan, Kathleen O'Driscoll, James Atkinson, Moira McCaffrey, Emily O'Connor, Ann Cales, Francis Hugo, David Muller, Harry Sutcliffe, Ian Partlett, Andrew Akehurst, Patricia Connaghan.

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

ADORATION: 9.30am – 10.15am every Friday morning.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER: The 10.00am Mass that day will be celebrated in Remembrance of all who have lost their lives in war, especially The Two World Wars of the last century.

Week Street will be closed from approximately 9.45am until about 10.25am on the 10th November.