

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY (A) SUNDAY 12th APRIL 2026

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Website: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

Parish Priest: Canon John Diver [johndiver@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: johndiver@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priest: Fr Stephen Trafford stephentrafford@rcaos.org.uk

Also Resident: Fr Peter Norris (Retired)

Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

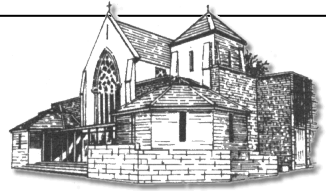
Parish Office hours: 9am-1pm (Mon, Tues, Fri) and 12pm-4pm (Wednesdays only).

Church Shop: Open Sundays 9am – 11.30am and 30 mins before and after Sunday 6pm Mass.

Catholic Schools

St Francis Primary School: Queen's Road ME16 0LB 01622 771540

St Simon Stock Secondary School: Oakwood Park ME16 0JP 01622 754551



“PEACE BE WITH YOU”



'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' (John 20:29)

First reading: A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Response to the Psalm: Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Second reading: A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Peter.

Gospel: John 20:19-31 'Eight days later, Jesus came.'

KNIGHT OF ST COLUMBA MASS: You are warmly invited to attend the Ceremony for the Establishment of a New Order of Knights of St Columba Council here at St Francis. The service will be led by Fr. Stephen Trafford and assisted by Br David Harvard (Provincial Grand Knight), Br Michael Akinrele (Supreme Knight) and Br Stephen Ferris (Director of Development & Deputy Supreme Knight) this Sunday at the 11.45am Mass. All Knights, together with their families, friends and the whole Parish community, are cordially invited to share in this special and memorable celebration.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: If you are a minister of Holy Communion and would like to continue with this ministry, we are trying to update the Parish records. Could you please contact either the clergy or Parish office and fill in the volunteer forms. Thank you. *Canon John.*

SECOND COLLECTION 19th April. MOZAMBIQUE. CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.

Over 80% of the population of Mozambique is living on less than \$3.00-\$3.65 a day, and given this backdrop, the Second Collection on 19th April is to help a children's education mission in Mozambique. The Mission was founded by Carmelite Sisters from Aylesford Priory, and is now led with great dedication by Sr Vicki Mwithi Kimeu. May we thank you for your continued generosity during these particularly challenging times. May God bless you. *The Dew Association.*

GIFT AID UPDATE: If you are using the new card machines in the porch and are already a gift aider, then please on first use fill in the gift aid details, even if you did so on the previous machines. If you are a cash gift aider and have yet to collect your envelopes for the next financial year, please contact the parish office or the Gift Aid Coordinator (maidstonegac@rcaos.org.uk) and they will be made available. Thank you to all those who are part of the parish gift aid scheme. It costs you nothing and for every pound donated 25 pence can be claimed back from HMRC by the parish. Forms and leaflets are available in the church porch and on the parish website. *Margaret Emerson, Parish Gift Aid Coordinator.*

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE: On Sunday 19th April, the Catholic Bishops' of England and Wales will hold a Holy Hour for the Dignity of Human Life during their conference in Rome. This will start at 5.30pm Italian time (4.30pm British time). All parishes, communities, and chaplaincies across the country have been encouraged to also have a holy hour at that same hour, so as to be united with the Bishops in prayer for the dignity of every human life. *Therefore, there will be a Holy Hour for the Dignity of Human Life between 4:30pm and 5:30pm on Sunday 19th April, here at St Francis.* All are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Masses will be celebrated Saturday 30th May at 12pm, and Sunday 31st May at 3pm. On Sunday 7th June, there will be a Corpus Christi Mass for family and children of the programme.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Mass in Celebration Being held on July 11th at St George's Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Tenterden, Gillingham.

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

ADORATION: Every Friday 9.15am – 10.15am and 11.00am – 7.00pm

COLLECTION:

First Collection last week (cash)	£ 5,938.86
Second Collection last Sunday	Easter Offerings
Second Collection this Sunday	No Second Collection
Second collection next Sunday	Mozambique. Children's Education.

March Direct Debits	£4,014
Collection Card	£2,828.85
On Line	£215.17
TOTAL	£7,058.02

Parish Lottery Winner Week: 15 Number: 86 Prize: £25+ 275

On behalf of the clergy, may we express a word of thanks to all who helped and volunteered to assist in Holy Week. The attendance throughout the week at the services was humbling. Thank you for all the kind gifts and donations.
With every good wish, St Francis Parish clergy.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 12th April <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	6.00pm (Sat)	P.J. Job RIP (4 th death anniversary)
	8.30am	Franciszek & Stanislaw Lupa RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Eric Bailey RIP
	10.00am	Kevin Ruaux RIP
	11.45am	Welfare of the Knights of St Columba
	3.00pm	<i>Divine Mercy Service</i>
	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 13th April	10.30am	Wellbeing and Return to the Church
Tuesday 14th April	10.30am	In Reparation for Abortions in Brewer Street
	12.00pm	<i>Requiem Mass of Hania Simons</i>
Wednesday 15th April	10.30am	Kevin Ruaux RIP
Thursday 16th April	10.30am	Lola & Pablo Navarro RIP
Friday 17th April	10.30am	Holy Souls
Saturday 18th April	10.00am	Pauline Gilman RIP
Sunday 19th April <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	6.00pm (Sat)	Private Intention
	8.30am	Sidney West RIP
	9.00am (PH)	Henry Tugwell RIP
	10.00am	Terry & Kevin Ruaux RIP
	11.45am	Johnny McCann RIP
	6.00pm	People of the Parish

We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and for those who have died recently:

Shanti de Zoysa, Hania Simons, John Turner

*Horace Primavesi, Mary Woods, Lily Ocock, Ellen Carter, Joseph Saegar,
John Fenn, Thomas O'Connor, Patrick O'Neill, Fred Brennan, Agnes Urmson,
Thomas Fitzgerald, Genevieve 'Eugenia' Collins, William McKee, Norman Bell,
Richard Freeman, Margaret Pryjemski, Michael Deery, Syd Powell, Ted Shannon,
Cissie Glew, Elsie Fitzgerald, Raymond Decker, Basil Hinds, John Edgeworth,
Gregory Sherpherd, Yvonne Scott, Krzysztof Wrona, Michael Moran,
William Larkin, Nelson Bowles, Leda Carter, Thomas Duffy, Sybil Collie,
Thelma Burke, Maria Martignetti, John Janur, Terence Baldock, Bernard Onater*