

# ST FRANCIS' NEWS

1st October 2017

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

FATHER LIAM WRITES It's a hard experience to feel let down by someone who has promised us they will help us with something but then they don't. Have we ever done that to anybody close to us? Why does that happen? It may be that a person has genuinely been called to something more urgent, they have been help up by something not of their doing. It could also be that they have started to think more about saying 'yes' at the time but they have started to regret it, it may take more time than they anticipated so they search for a feeble excuse. When we can't keep our word it can damage the trust people are willing to put in us in the future. Yet why would someone change



their mind the other way round – eventually deciding that they will help? Is it through feeling guilty at saying 'No' first of all then realising a person will be all alone or is it after discussing it with somebody else they have been persuaded to do something? It is not weakness to change one's mind to do the better thing but in fact it can take courage and humility.

So we need to take care in our promises and the words we give to others, especially 'Yes' and 'No'. We especially need to be aware of the promises we make to the Lord – to be His Servant all our life. God has always kept his promises to us, as they are fulfilled in His Son Jesus Christ.

INDUCTION MASS OF FATHER LIAM Fr. Liam's Induction Mass will take place on **Thursday 26th October at 7pm**. This is a formal ceremony in which Bishop Paul Mason will officially present Fr Liam to the Parish as our new Parish Priest by leading him to the Presidential Chair and presenting him with the Key to the Parish. Refreshments will follow in the URC Hall.

CHURCH & PARISH HALL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND

News and figures regarding our church and parish hall development shall be brought to you on a monthly basis. We thank you for your continual support and prayers in this matter.

SERVICES & DEVOTIONS

**Lectio Divina:** On Wednesday evenings there has been Lectio Divina; an opportunity provided at the church to spend some time in the presence of Jesus Christ with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and also to reflect on the readings for the forthcoming Sunday. This has traditionally been led by the Priests and Deacons of the Church. Wednesdays are not suitable for Fr. Liam or Fr. Samuel and other evenings of the week collide with meetings and groups. I also appreciate that this has been beneficial to the people who attend although the numbers may reach around twelve at the most so there needed to be a rethink about how to make this work best. Therefore, Lectio Divina shall be on the first Wednesday of every month, starting with 4<sup>th</sup> October.

**Lightfever:** The next **Lightfever** evening will take place on Friday 6th October following 8pm Mass. All parishioners are urged to support this evangelisation initiative, especially by praying before the Blessed Sacrament. The more people in the church, the easier it is to encourage others to take up the invitation to join in.

**Polish Mass:** We are delighted to welcome Fr. Paweł Sobol to the parish of St. Francis as our new Assistant Priest. Traditionally the Polish Mass has always been celebrated on the First Sunday of each month. However, Fr. Paweł is unable to be here on the first Sundays as he travels back to Poland each month to carry on with his studies. Therefore, in future the Polish Mass shall be on the third Sunday of each month, so the next Polish Mass to be celebrated at St. Francis will be on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 4pm. We are delighted to welcome Fr. Bartłomiej Dudek to celebrate our Polish Mass here this weekend.

**October Devotions:** The traditional October Devotions of Exposition, Rosary and Benediction shall take place on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October 4pm-5pm.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

**First Thursday of each month 7.00 - 8.30pm**  
**Next Date: THURSDAY, 5th October 2017**  
TO ATTEND, PLEASE APPLY THROUGH THE PARISH EMAIL  
OR SUBMIT A BAPTISMAL APPLICATION FORM

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



RCIA has now started, and meetings are held each **Tuesday**, from 7.30pm until 9.00pm in the Presbytery.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to learn more about the Catholic Church, please come along. For further information, contact the Parish office or Sheila Connolly on **01622**

HARVEST FAST DAY

All parishioners are urged to take an envelope from the back of church for your contributions towards the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day this Friday, 6th October. Please return your envelopes and contributions for the second collection next Sunday. All money raised is for the CAFOD 'Plant the Seeds' appeal for South American famine-struck countries.

Homeless/Winter Shelter

As weather is getting significantly colder, items required urgently are coats, blankets, sleeping bags and tents. Donations of milk and bread etc are still much needed and appreciated. Thank you.

FEED THE HUNGRY

Thank you to all who very generously contributed to the recent appeal. We still need the weekly donations of milk, bread, cereals etc., please.

Mass Count

This weekend is the first of four weekends where we count attendance numbers at Mass.

REQUIEM MASS

The Requiem Mass for **Brian Johnson** will take place **Monday 2nd October at 10.30am.**  
*May he rest in peace.*

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

OCTOBER 2017 - UNIVERSAL

That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.

PARISH COLLECTIONS AND LOTTERY

**Last Sunday - All Masses:**

1st Collection: £1,555.61\*

2nd Collection: £ 574.55 Dew Asstr: India, Children's Education

\* This figure does not include standing orders etc. which averages £250 a week.

Many thanks for your generous support...

**2ND COLLECTIONS**

This Sunday: Church and Hall Development Fund

Next Sunday: CAFOD Fast Day

**Parish Lottery Winner** Week 13: No. 243 — Mrs Marshall — £250

## PARISH NOTICEBOARD

### PRAYER & PRAISE

The next meeting is **Thursday, 5th October at 7.30pm** (Mass at 8.15pm followed by Prayer Ministry) in St Jude's Chapel, Aylesford Priory. It is a time to praise God, pray for others and to listen quietly to the Holy Spirit, sharing together as He leads. All most welcome.

### HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS

You are invited to join us at the next prayer vigil on Friday 13th October, following the 10.30am Mass at St Francis. Rosary and prayer outside the Marie Stopes abortion clinic, Brewer St. Return to church for refreshments at about 12.30pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 11.00 to 12noon. If you are unable to join the vigil please be an intercessor in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

### Vacancy: Deputy Headteacher

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School in Canterbury is looking to appoint a new Deputy Head Teacher from January 2018. For further information, please contact the school on 01227-462539. Advert available on [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com). Closing date: Monday 2nd October at 12noon.

### ROSARY CRUSADE OF REPARATION

The 33rd Annual National Rosary Crusade of Reparation, celebrating the Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima will take place on Saturday, 14th October. Assemble by 1.45pm outside Westminster Cathedral. End about 5.15pm. FFI: Francis Carey: 01494 729223, Mathias Menezes: 020 8764 0262 or by post: 27 First Avenue, Amersham, Bucks., HP7 9BL [rosarycrusade@duc-in-altum.co.uk](mailto:rosarycrusade@duc-in-altum.co.uk) <http://rosarycrusadeofreparation.blogspot.com>

### Divine Mercy Retreat

This is organised by Divine Mercy Apostolate run by Marian Fathers and will take place on Saturday, 28th October at St. John Fishers Church, 41/42 Langdale Gardens, Perivale, Greenford, Middx. UB6 8DQ. See leaflets for programme. FFI: Divine Mercy Apostolate - Marian Fathers, 1 Courtfield Gardens, London W13 0EY

Telephone: 020 8998 0925

Email: [info@divinemercury.org.uk](mailto:info@divinemercury.org.uk)

[www.divinemercuryapostolate.co.uk](http://www.divinemercuryapostolate.co.uk)

### The FRIENDSHIP GROUP

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**First Monday (11am) of every month:**

Tenpin Bowling at Lockmeadow

**Second Monday (11.00am) every month:**

Coffee morning in *Society Rooms*

**Every Monday (1.30pm - 3.30pm):**

Scrabble in *Leah's Bistro*, High St.

**Every Wednesday (10am - 12noon),**

Line Dancing in URC Dunning Hall (Fremlin Walk)

**Having coffee on your own?**

Why not join us on **Wednesdays (10 am – 12 noon)**

URC Hall, Week Street for coffee and a chat.

It's good to talk!

FFI Mary Adam 677448



### PARISH GROUPS

**FLEDGLINGS CHILDREN GROUP** will meet on Saturday **21st October**. 10am-3pm in St Francis School.

**FLAME YOUTH GROUP** The junior youth group will meet on **7th October**. 6pm - 8.15pm in Grove House.

**PHOENIX YOUTH CLUB** for 15+ will continue to meet with the Baptist Church Youth Club in Knight rider Street, Maidstone, this Friday, 8pm - 9.30pm.

**LIFE ASCENDING** Next meeting will be on Wednesday, **4th October** after the 10.30am Mass. FFI please contact Keith Hunter on 01622 746792.

### Donate 8

- 1) Volunteers are required to clean, prepare and paint the railings around the church car park. Saturday is preferred but weekdays will be considered. If you have a spare hour or two, let us know please.
- 2) Many thanks to the volunteers who came forward to help with flowers over the last few months.
- 3) Our church still needs cleaners to volunteer! Fridays at 4:30pm is not the only time cleaning happens! Please get in touch with us if you can help. Many thanks to all those who have given their time over the past year.

FFI contact:

[donate8@stfrancisparish.org.uk](mailto:donate8@stfrancisparish.org.uk)

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

**For the sick & housebound of our parish:** Rachel Allen, Cody Barker, Donald Batty, Sarah Boylan, Eric Braconnier, Pauline Brown, Kathleen Buckman, Pat Cassidy, Judy Collins, Luke Collins, Marcin Czubik, Jean Farrell, Joanna Frazer, Louise Gill, Judy Henstone, Mary Holliday, Kathleen Homewood, Aneta Jankowska, Teresa Jankowska, Bridget Kearney, Patrick McKee, Perry Kemp, Xavier Lazell, Patricia Maher, Antonina Makowicz, Dorothy Marne, Margarie Morgan, Michael Munikwa, Clare Myler, Violet Nadarajah, Marcus Nicklin, Mark Pearson, Deidre Pennell, John Penney, Claudia Quantrill, Margaret Riaux, Peter Ruddy, Nick Ryan, Coleen Sargeant, Rebecca Sharp, Chika Uzowulu, Mary Wallace, Claire Watts, Rosemary West and all in our local hospice, hospitals and nursing homes.

**For those who have recently died:** Eric Edmonds, Brian Johnson

**For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Peter Amigo, Mr Ward, Jack Wilson, Marya Pinto, Honora Pierce, Joan Namey, John Lobo, Robert Robson, Shirley Desombre, William Aylward, William Campbell, Rev Chris Cassidy, Frank Martin, John Flynn, Tom Seacombe, David Hughes, Pauline Taylor, John Finn, Ventlie Logan, Rosa Card, Ted Gale, Hilda de Silva, George Meeham, August Bogaert, Lucy Maine, Mary Davis, Phillip Jones, Florence Sullivan, Lily Freeman, John Moore, Vivian D'Silva, Joseph Prince, Herbert Ludgate, Winifred Quinn and Joycelyn Quinlivan

**SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER**

*TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (A)*

ST FRANCIS

- 6.00pm(Sat) Pablo and Lola Navarro RIP
- 9.00am People of the Parish
- 10.45am Deceased members of Dracup & Kelly families
- 12.30pm Mass in Latin (Extraordinary Form)
- 4.00pm Mass in Polish
- 6.00pm Maria Pinto RIP

THE HEART OF KENT HOSPICE, PRESTON HALL

- 9.00am Anne and Bill Murphy RIP

WATERINGBURY, CHAPEL OF OUR LADY

- 10.30am Ordinariate Mass: Holy Souls

**MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER** *THE HOLY GUARDIAN*

*ANGELS*

- 10.30am Funeral Mass of Brian Johnson

**TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER**

- 10.30am Rose Joanna Brook RIP

**WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER** *ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI*

- 10.30am Fummilayo Basseys's 40th Birthday
- 7.30pm Exposition, Lectio Divina & Benediction.

**THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER**

- 10.30am Vincent Pinolli RIP
- 4.30pm Mass HMP Maidstone: Terry Free RIP

WATERINGBURY, CHAPEL OF OUR LADY

- 10.30am Ordinariate Mass: Holy Souls

*BRUNO*

- 10.30am Encarnacion Bernardo RIP
- 8.00pm In reparation for abortions  
*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
- 9.00pm *Lightfever to 10.30pm Night Prayer & Benediction*

**SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER** *OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY*

- 10.00am Adeline Simmons RIP
- 1.00pm Baptism of Rosalea & Lucia Tanton Cooper
- 2.00pm Baptism of Herbie Charles Tolson

**SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER**

*TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (A)*

ST FRANCIS

- 6.00pm(Sat) Patricia MacDonald RIP
- 9.00am Luise Bockschtaller RIP
- 10.45am Nicky Beales — wellbeing
- 12.30pm Baptism of Isanah Thomas John Panamkuzha
- 6.00pm Bernard Burns RIP

THE HEART OF KENT HOSPICE, PRESTON HALL

- 9.00am People of the Parish

WATERINGBURY, CHAPEL OF OUR LADY

- 10.30am Ordinariate Mass: Holy Souls



**FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER**

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**SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION**

ST FRANCIS, MAIDSTONE

MONDAY - FRIDAY 10.00AM & FRIDAY 7.30PM (FOR 15MIN)

SATURDAY 10.30 - 11.15AM; 5.30 - 5.50PM

ST LUKE'S, PRESTON HALL

BY REQUEST UNTIL THE CHAPEL IS BACK IN USE

**MORNING PRAYER**

SATURDAY AT 9.30AM

**EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**

FRIDAY 11.00-12.00PM & FIRST FRIDAYS 8.30PM UNTIL 10.00PM

**HOLY ROSARY**

PRAYED AFTER THE 10.30AM WEEKDAY MASSES



**The Parish of Saint Francis**

Grove House, 126 Week Street,  
Maidstone, Kent ME14 1RH  
Telephone: (01622) 756217  
Email: stfrancis\_parish@yahoo.co.uk  
Web Site: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

PARISH DEACONS

Rev. Tom Coyle  
Rev. Ian Black

PARISH PRIEST  
Fr Liam Gallagher

ASSISTANT PRIESTS  
Fr Samuel Davey  
Fr Paweł Tadeusz Sobol

ORDINARIATE PRIEST  
Fr Paul Gibbons

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday only 9.00am-12noon

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**St Francis' Catholic Primary School:**

St Simon Stock Catholic School:

Queens Road, Maidstone, ME16 0LB

Oakwood Park, Maidstone ME16 OJP

Telephone: (01622) 771540

Telephone: (01622) 754551