



*'The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone'*



Confirmation Candidates from St Francis Parish

*We congratulate the young people of our parish who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
this Sunday at St. Peter's Church, Bearsted:*

Marion Talusan
Beatrice Tilley
Maxval Menezes
Philippa Knight
Mary Sonquit
Jose Sonquit
Heidi Coupland
Noel O'Brien



Niamh Griffiths
Jasmine Jones
Jade Gilbert-Finnigan
Dominika Maruszczak
Sarah Mauriange
Jermaine Okonkwo
Elizabeth Harvey

*May the Holy Spirit grant them the gifts they need to live out their Christian calling on this day and
always.*

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. **Please note there will be no 10.30am Mass on that day.**

CHURCH & PARISH HALL
DEVELOPMENT FUND

FUND Raised to date: £117,669.99
Total Cost of ROOF: £136,000.00
Debt to be paid: £18,300.01

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL Raised to date: £7,273.11
Approximate Cost: £9,000.00

Thanks for the contributions to this project; if you wish to make a donation please put it into a clearly marked envelope and drop it into the collection / Parish Office. Unfortunately our chosen builders & decorators have let us down and are not responding to our communication. We are therefore considering alternative workmen ... Hopefully more news soon.

PARISH CENTRE THINGS ARE HOTTING UP AND MOVING FORWARD. PLEASE KEEP UP THE PRAYERS THAT WORK MAY SOON BEGIN. Planning permission has been granted; the detailed spec is complete, and the final queries are being ironed out, thus enabling the various legal agreements / heads of terms to be completed. Although building costs will be paid by the developer we have to pay for fees, additional works and furnishing of the centre. **Costs paid to date: £3,120.00.** Meanwhile the break-ins continue despite our every effort to prevent these mindless acts of vandalism!

OTHER MAINTENANCE ISSUES:

Further work on the roof (due to an un-reparable internal down pipe): two additional gullies and down pipes to be added and work on the boiler house concrete roof and flashings. **This work is almost complete:** Cost: £4,770.00 + VAT

ROOF FUND COLLECTIONS are now called CHURCH & HALL DEVELOPMENT FUND to include all these projects.

THANK YOU FROM FR PETER

Fr Peter would like to thank all those who came to his Induction Mass last week and assure you of his continuous prayers for the clergy and parishioners of St Francis.

Homeless/Winter Shelter

As weather is getting significantly colder, items required urgently are coats, blankets, sleeping bags and tents. Thank you to all who very generously contributed to the recent appeal. We still need the weekly donations of milk, bread, cereals etc., please.

HARVEST

Our parish will be celebrating Harvest on **Sunday, 22nd October.** Please bring any donations of canned or fresh fruit and vegetables to mass on that date.

PARISH COLLECTIONS AND LOTTERY

Last Sunday - All Masses:

1st Collection: £1,602.45*

2nd Collection: £ 554.84 Church and Hall Development Fund

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



RCIA will meet **this Tuesday, 10th October**, from 7.30pm until 9.00pm in the Presbytery. This week we shall be looking at God and the Trinity.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS

There is a meeting for all FHC parents this Thursday 12th October 7.30pm in the Church. We shall be looking at the Sacrament of Reconciliation which all your children are currently preparing for. **It is essential that you all attend this meeting.**



Morning of Recollection Change of Venue

Due to a mix-up with bookings, the Morning of Recollection for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will now take place at Holy Family Parish, South Maidstone on Saturday 14th October, 10am - 1pm.

SERVICES & DEVOTIONS

Polish Mass: We are delighted to welcome Fr. Pawel 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. Pawel 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 19th November 4pm.

Lectio Divina: As the first Wednesday of November is 1st November, All Saints Day, there shall be no Lectio Divina for November as there will be Mass that evening.

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

Living Rosary: Please remember that the mysteries for October changed on Saturday.

Mass Count

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

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.

Many thanks for your generous support...

2ND COLLECTIONS This Sunday: CAFOD Fast Day

Next Sunday: Dew Association

Parish Lottery Winners Week 12: No. 188 - Mrs M. Adam - £70

Week 14: No. 195 - Mrs D. Horgan - £10

Retreat Weekend for Young Adults

A retreat for young adults (20s and 30s) will take place in London on 20-22nd October. Theme: Prayer and Discernment. It is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input, prayer, reflection and discussion with other young adults. You are welcome to attend for the day or to stay for the weekend. Cost £35. FFI, contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com.

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS

The Helpers of God's Precious Infants reach out in love and compassion to mothers who are in crisis pregnancies and to those who have suffered the effects of abortion. The reasons that parents find themselves in these circumstances are varied and many, but God is there holding out His Hand of Love and Mercy. Why not come and join us and help to hold out God's Hand of Love and Mercy?

The next Rosary Procession Vigil will be held on Saturday, 13th October at St Francis. We begin our Rosary Procession at 11am following an Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to Marie Stopes abortion centre, Brewer Street, ME14 1RV, where we pray 15 decades of the Rosary and sing hymns, returning at approx. 12.30pm to presbytery for refreshments. Full details on poster in church porch or contact tel. 01727 7638 32 or 077 477 46411 or e-mail marg@helpersuk.org

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
<http://rosarycrusadeofreparation.blogspot.com>

JPIC Autumn Assembly

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice (Isaiah 42:3). The Justice and Peace Group for the Archdiocese of Southwark will be holding their Autumn Assembly entitled: Prison Break of a Different Kind on Saturday 14th October at CAFOD's Romero House, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. All are welcome. Entrance is free. Please bring packed lunch. Refreshments provided. Booking not required.

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 this Saturday 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, **1st November** 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

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:

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Thomas Weeks, Frank Packer, Benjamin Paul, Elaine Paul, Lionel Baya, Paul Jayaraj, Horace Dracup, Patricia Bedford, Henry James, Cyril Cowderoy, John O'Hara, Daniel McCaskin, Lynda Godden, William McInty, Dawn Chiles, Andrew Celer, Catherine Sullivan, Leslie Giovanelli, Andrzej Kaminski, Anthony Cunningham, Albino Soares, Baby Garry Myles, Fiona Campbell, Maurice Puttock, Winifred Hynes and John Callison.

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

MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER

BL JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

- 10.30am Leonard Church RIP

TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER

ST PAULINUS OF YORK

- 10.30am Ittoop Valhappilly RIP

WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER

ST JOHN XXIII

- 10.30am Jo Jacobs RIP

THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER

- 10.30am Margaret Brooks RIP
- 4.30pm Mass HMP Maidstone:
In reparation for abortions in Brewer Street

WATERINGBURY, CHAPEL OF OUR LADY

- 10.30am Ordinariate Mass: Holy Souls

FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

- 10.30am Antonina's welfare
In honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 8.00pm Rose Radley RIP

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER

- 10.00am Leonard Church RIP
- 3.00pm Mass in the Syro-Malabar Rite

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (A)

ST FRANCIS

- 6.00pm(Sat) Eric Braconnier - Wellbeing
- 9.00am William Joseph RIP
- 10.45am People of the Parish
- 2.00pm *Baptism of Annabelle Da Silva*
- 3.00pm *Baptism of Oakley William Hughes*
- 4.00pm *October Devotions*
- 6.00pm Reg and Win Cox RIP

THE HEART OF KENT HOSPICE, PRESTON HALL

- 9.00am Stuart McLeod RIP

WATERINGBURY, CHAPEL OF OUR LADY

- 10.30am Ordinariate Mass: Holy Souls



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 Pawel 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