

**Mass Intentions:** When people would like a particular intention offered at Mass they contact our parish office and book a Mass. These are the names and intentions you see beside the times of Masses on the list below. When doing so they will also give an offering for the priest who is celebrating the Mass. The usual is £10 per Mass but people must feel free to offer what they can or wish to give. **If you wish to make a request for a Mass Intention then please take a green envelope from the back of the church, fill it in and then return to the parish office stating clearly if you wish a particular date or time or no preference.**

### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

|   |              |  |
|---|--------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>              | 6.00pm (Sat) | <i>Alfred Houghton RIP</i>   |
|   | 9.00am       | <i>Christina Sweeney RIP</i>   |
|   | 10.45am      | <i>Stanislaw Siodlarz</i>  |
| <i>Mass of the Extraordinary Rite</i>         | 12.30pm      |  |
| <i>Polish First Holy Communion Mass</i>       | 4.00pm       |  |
|   | 6.00pm       | <i>Eric &amp; Rita Emerson RIP</i>   |
| (Preston Hall)                                | 9.00am       | <i>People of the Parish</i>  |
| (Watlingbury)                                 | 11.00am      | <i>Isobel Sherlock RIP</i>   |
| <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>              | 10.30am      | <i>Doreen Avison RIP</i>   |
| <b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>             | 10.30am      | <i>Gemma Vokes RIP</i>   |
| <b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>           | 10.30am      | <i>Oonagh Helen Porter RIP</i>   |
| <b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>           | 6.00pm (Wed) | <i>Intentions of the Donate8 Team</i>  |
| <b>The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b> | 10.30am      | <i>In reparation for abortions in Brewer St</i>                                  |
|   | 8.00pm       | <i>Offiong Bassey's friends success in exam</i>                                  |
| (HMP)   | 4.30pm       | <i>Holy Souls</i>  |
| <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>             | 10.30am      | <i>For the sick and in pain</i>  |
|   | 8.00pm       | <i>Sonia De Avendano RIP</i>   |
| <b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>           |              |  |
| First Holy Communion Mass                     | 10.00am      | <i>Private – Marie Claire Calvet</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>             | 6.00pm (Sat) | <i>People of the Parish</i>  |
|   | 9.00am       | <i>William Joseph RIP</i>  |
|   | 10.45am      | <i>Antonina's Welfare</i><br><i>In honour of the Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>    |
|   | 6.00pm       | <i>Kevin Ruaux's Birthday</i>  |
| (Preston Hall)                                | 9.00am       | <i>Stuart, Michael, Graham &amp; Judith McLeod &amp; Jane Chittelborough RIP</i> |
| (Watlingbury)                                 | 11.00am      | <i>Holy Souls</i>  |

**BAPTISMS:** ROCH GUSTAW BIEGANSKI 5<sup>th</sup> May 12.30pm

**Confessions:** Monday – Friday 10am – 10.15am  
Saturday 10.30am – 11.15am; 5.30pm – 5.45pm

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament:** Friday 11am followed by 12pm Benediction

**Rosary:** Monday – Saturday after morning Mass

**Morning Prayer:** Every Saturday 9.30am

## ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

6<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Sixth Sunday of Easter

126 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RH Tel. 01622 756217

email: [stfrancis\\_parish@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stfrancis_parish@yahoo.co.uk) Website [www.stfrancisparish.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisparish.org.uk)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Liam Gallagher

**Assistant Priests:** Fr. Samuel Davey; Fr. Pawel Sobol

**Ordinariate Priest:** Fr. Paul Gibbons (Watlingbury)

**Deacon:** Rev. Ian Black

**Parish Office hours:** 9.00am – 12.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

### Catholic Schools

St Francis Primary School: Queens Road, Maidstone, ME16 0LB 01622 771540

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

### **This Is My Commandment; Love One Another As I Have Loved You** **(John 15:12)**

These are the words Jesus instructs to his Apostles on their final night together. He was to demonstrate the next day how perfect his love was by his own sacrifice on the cross – yet that night he had also shown them the depth of his humility and love by washing their feet. This was the lowliest of all the tasks that a servant had to do for their Master in their return home. If Jesus himself has done this, then who are we to deny this act of love and service? But do we? Have we always offered to go the lowest place and to the humblest of tasks for everyone – or has there ever been someone whose feet we have refused to wash?



**CONGRATULATIONS:** To our children who will be celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend: ALEKSANDRA MASLANKA, SUZANNA JANOWICZ, OSKAR PIETRZAK, AMELIA KOZLOWICZ, STANISLA KOZLOWICZ, KAROL KIJOWSKI, AMELIA SZCZENSA, JULIA MELERSKA, BLANKA BIALEK, KORNELIA FIGARSKA, AMELIA JALOWICKA.

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**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS:** As we enter the month of May we will be celebrating our First Holy Communion Masses.  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 4.00pm (Polish)  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am  
Please keep all our children in your prayers.

*Please Note that there is no Morning Prayer on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May or 19<sup>th</sup> May*

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** On the feast of Corpus Christi Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, the 10.45am Mass shall be a special celebration for all our First Communion Children followed by a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to outside County Hall which all are of course very much encouraged to come and be part of.

**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:** This Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May we celebrate 40 days after the Resurrection when Jesus Ascended into heaven. This is a Holyday of Obligation so it is important we make every effort to attend Mass that day. Please see the Mass schedule for times.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** All young people in Year 9 or above are invited to join this year's Confirmation programme which will begin with the 6pm Mass on Sunday 10 June 2018. Application forms (which include the programme timetable) are available from the Parish Office or please speak to one of the clergy. The completed application form should be returned to the Parish Office by no later than the 31 May 2018.

**FEED THE HUNGRY:** Please continue to send in your very generous donations of milk, bread and cereal. In addition, families in the parish are supported and the current particular need is for tinned meat, tuna, soup and crisps for pack-ups. Please do not leave any parcels or bags in the church porch, even if they contain food for the homeless - any donations may be given to a member of the clergy or taken to Grove House, to the right of the church.  
**If anyone sees a bag or package left in the porch, or on the church steps etc, please DO NOT TOUCH, but instead report it to the clergy or staff at Grove House. If nobody answers the door, put a note through the letterbox.**  
**Thanks for your kind co-operation.**

**REPOSITORY:** New stock of cards, books and gifts for First Holy Communion.

**REGINA CAELI:** Hymn No. 616.  
*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia; Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia; Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia; Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia*  
Translated it means, 'Queen of Heaven rejoice alleluia; for he whom you were worthy to bear alleluia; has risen as he said alleluia; pray for us to the Lord alleluia'

**PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH OF SOUTHWARK:** There are prayer cards for the Diocese of Southwark available from the back of the church Please take a prayer card home with you.

**PASSING ON THE FAITH:** A course for grandparents who wish to transmit the faith to their children and grandchildren. 4 sessions will take place at St Teresa's Church hall, Maidstone Road, Ashford TN24 8TX on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th of May (11am – 1pm). Please book through

Southwark Diocese Office for Marriage & Family Life, Kent. Email: carolemflkent@gmail.com. Please state the age of your oldest grandchild, and the parish you attend.

**GIFT AID BOXES:** The new set of Gift Aid boxes will be available soon. Thank you to all who are already part of our scheme. It is a huge help to the parish funds.

**DO YOU PAY TAX?** Then please do join our Parish Gift Aid scheme where we can claim back the tax on what you have put into the parish collection. All you need to do is fill in a form from the back of the church. It does not cost a thing. May we use this opportunity to thank the whole Finance Committee of our parish who deal with the whole financial and structural aspects of parish life (Accounts, Gift Aid, Maintenance etc.). They are very generous with their time and willing to share their skills for our benefit and we are truly grateful for all they do.

**SAFE AND SECURE:** Thank you ever so much to all who have responded to our request to let us know if you have any personal data of parishioners at home either with hardcopy or on IT. For those who have let us know you should have received a letter by now giving instructions of what needs to be done. If you know you have received information of parishioners in the past due to carrying out parish ministries then please let the parish know so you can receive a letter. We continue to assure you that this is not an expression of distrust or even just a Diocesan Policy but it is a new law that shall be enforced from 25<sup>th</sup> May onto all organisations to ensure security of people's details.

#### **St John's Seminary – Can you help our future priests?**

The Seminary, near Guildford, Surrey, where Canon Luke Smith is now Spiritual Director, has been involved in the formation of priests for over 125 years. It is now looking for some help with the cost of redecoration and refurbishment of 30 of its bedrooms, which have received little or no upgrading for nearly 50 years. Many rooms have threadbare or no carpets, and curtains which are close to disintegration. Some of the beds and other furniture started their life in the Junior Seminary at Mark Cross, Sussex – which closed in 1970. The Seminary operates on a very tight budget, and there are no funds available for this much needed work, which would cost in the region of £2,000 per room. If you can help in any way, please send a cheque payable to St John's Seminary to: Mgr Gerry Ewing (Vice Rector), St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0QX. We very much appreciate your support.

**ST JUDE'S, FAVERSHAM:** On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May at the National Shrine of St Jude, Faversham, all are invited to join in their Summer celebrations. This will include: 11.00am Devotions with Anointing; 12.00pm Picnic in the grounds (bring your own food); 1.00pm Open Mass followed by St Jude processions. The Shrine is at 34 Tanners Street, Faversham, ME13 7JW

**LOSE ANYTHING?** About three weeks ago we found something in the church that may be of strong sentimental value yet nobody has yet put a claim forward. Please check that all your possessions are present and correct. If you notice a gap in what you own then please come to see Fr. Liam.

**We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Patrick Groarke, Blodwin Wilson, Mary Walsh, Oliver Egan, Elizabeth Hales, Antoine Salerno, Vicente Abaco, Eddie Paul, Mary Gorman, Christopher Maurice, Peter McBennett, Chris Willson, Margaret West, Shaun Ellesmere, Margaret Colyer, Gary Ratcliffe, Constance Good, John Collins and Dermot Barrett.

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| <b>Last weekend:</b><br><b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection:</b> £1,996.07<br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:</b> £716.15<br><i>plus an average of £275 Standing Orders</i> | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection today:</b> Church and Hall Development<br><b>Next Week:</b> Communications Sunday |
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*Thank you for your generosity  
Congratulations to our Lottery Winner: Week 18 Mrs. East – £15*