

REFLEXOLOGY

Ewa Jamitzky (MAR)
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www.healandtoe.co.uk
Ewa@healandtoe.co.uk



Lovely experience.
First time I've had this treatment and would definitely have it again. J.



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Can you volunteer your time to source & produce this page of ads every quarter? Contact Ingrid in the Parish Office

parish.office@sevrccparish.org.uk
01732 454177

Advertise your business here and be seen by more than 500 local families every week.

email: advertising@sevrccparish.org.uk



THE PARENTS' GATHERING

How can I best nurture faith in my child?
Is there more to church than a weekly hour-long struggle?
Is God really present and active in my life as a parent?

Meet other parents for an evening of fellowship, discussion, film and prayer.

Monday 27 November, 8pm-9.45pm
Corpus Christi Church Hall, Tonbridge, TN9 1EY




Archdiocese of Southwark

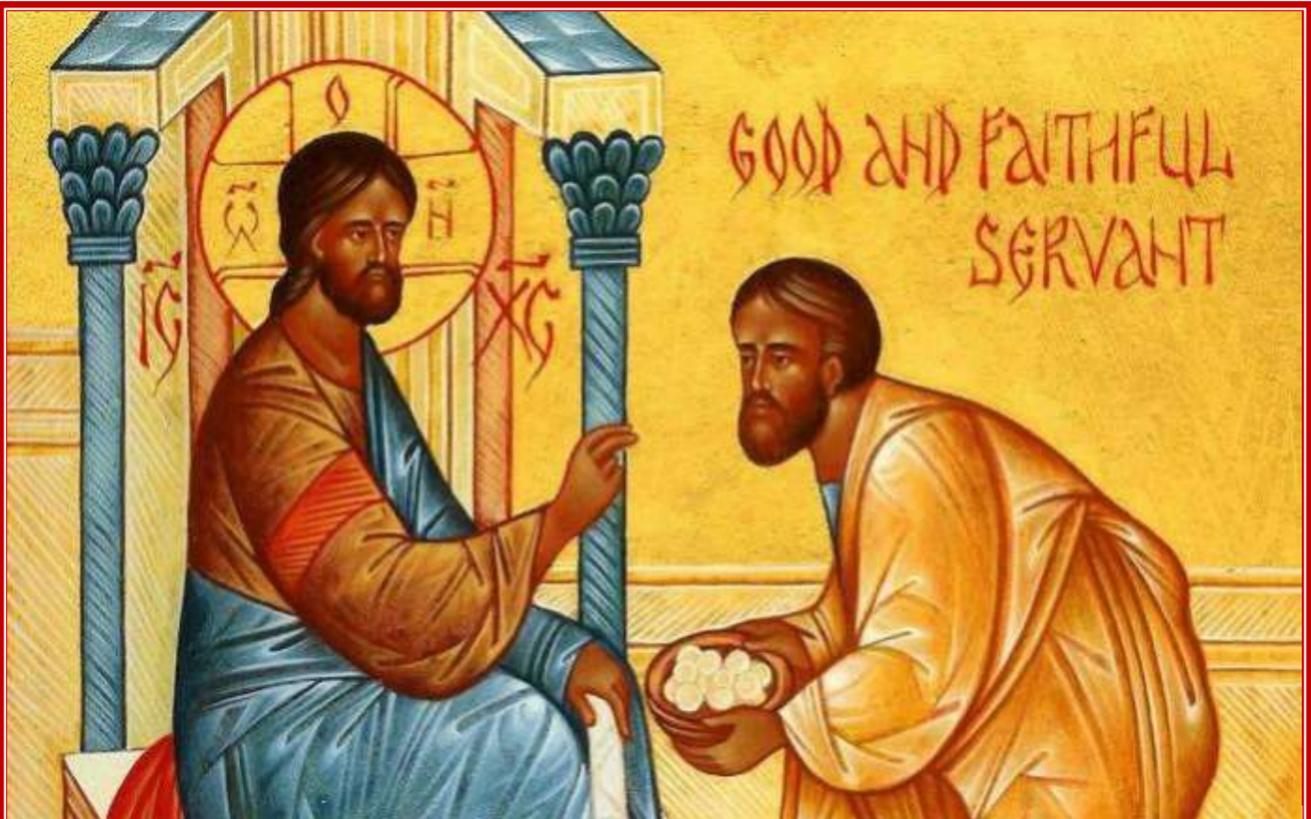
PARISH OF
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
SEVENOAKS



Churches in Sevenoaks, Otford, Borough Green and West Kingsdown

Parish Newsletter

19th November 2017



Today's Mass: Thirty-Third Sunday (Year A)

First Reading: at first sight, this passage describes the perfect wife (such as a future bridegroom will be looking for), and it does. But it also describes the ideals of wisdom. So feminists need not fear that it belittles women; on the contrary, the virtues women display are the ones all wise people should have.

Psalm: this 'wisdom psalm' continues the theme, that the truly blessed are those who "fear the Lord".

Second Reading: fittingly as we approach the end of the Church's year, St Paul focuses on the Day of Judgement to come. But as we are 'children of the light and of the day' we need not fear it if we stay awake and sober in our spiritual lives.

Gospel: in the Parable of the Talents, the problem with the third servant is that he had no concern for, no love for the master. We, to whom many gifts have been entrusted, must demonstrate our love for Christ by using those gifts in service of God and of neighbour.

Fr David

St Thomas of Canterbury Sevenoaks



Sunday Mass times:

Saturday
6:00pm

Sunday

8:00am (Latin)
9:15am (Children's Liturgy of Word)
11:15am
6:00pm

Weekday Mass times:

Monday 8:00am
Tuesday 9:30am
Wednesday 8:00am
Thursday 12:00noon
Friday 8:00am
Saturday 9:30am

Adoration:

Monday 8:00am - 12noon
8:00pm - 9:00pm
Tuesday 10:00am - 12noon
Thursday 11:00am - 3:00pm
Saturday 8:30am - 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday
10:00am - 10:30am,
5:15pm - 5:45pm

Granville Road,
Sevenoaks TN13 1ER

Parish Office: Mrs Ingrid La Trobe
Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri
9:00am - 12noon
Tel: 01732 454177
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk
www.sevrparish.org.uk

Contacts & organisations

Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks

www.sevrparish.org.uk Parish Tel: 01732 454177

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons, KHS
frdavid@sevrparish.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Okora
frpaul@sevrparish.org.uk

Retired Priest: Canon John Bailey, KHS
Tel: 01474 852223

Parish Secretary: Mrs Ingrid La Trobe parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk

Presbytery and Parish Office: 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER

Parish Office hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9:00am - 12noon

Parish Safeguarding

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is Isabelle Parsons 07873 953423.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator can be contacted on 02072 611606. In an Emergency dial 999.



MOST HOLY TRINITY OTFORD

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am
Wed 10:00am

Adoration: Friday 11:00am - 1:00pm

High Street, Otford
TN14 5PH

Church contacts:

Rosemary Curtis 01959 522624
(Sacristan)
Anne Knight 01959 524488
(Acting Secretary)
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk



St Joseph's BOROUGH GREEN

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am

Western Rd, Borough Green
TN15 8AG

Church contact:

Antoni Offert
Tel: 07513 041075
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk



St Bernadette's West Kingsdown

Mass times: Sunday 11:00am
Thurs, Fri & Sat 9:15am

Holy Days of Obligation 11:00am

Rosary: 1st Wed every month at 7:00pm

Adoration: Wed 7:30pm - 8:30pm
Thurs 10:00 - 11:00am

Fawkham Rd, West Kingsdown
TN15 6JP

Church contact:

Jill & John Gobel
Tel: 01474 853676
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk

St Thomas' catholic primary school



South Park,
Sevenoaks, TN13 1EH

Headteacher: Mrs Claudia Aquilina
Tel: 01732 453921
www.saintthomas.co.uk

St Thomas' Pre School

Head: Mrs Debbie Whitehead
Tel: 01732 779517
info@stthomaspreschoolsevenoaks.org.uk

Adoration: Barry & Marie Authers
adoration@sevrparish.org.uk

Altar Servers: David Brunning Tel: 01732 465518
davidabunning@btinternet.com

Catenians: The Catenians are a social club for Catholic men aged 18 to 108. We also help the parish with social events. We always welcome visitors to our meetings at Knole Park Golf Club on Seal Hollow Road. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm followed by dinner at 8.30pm. For further information, please contact: aidan.omahony@btinternet.com or on 07834 259 229.

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

Sevenoaks, 9.15am Mass: Anne Murphy
annemurphy2000@yahoo.com
Otford, 9.30am Mass: Alex Wilson-Beales
Tel: 07789 776602

Finance Committee:

Chair: Bill Farren 07787 537350
Minutes Secretary: Terry D'Avrincourt 07812 054364

Gift Aid: Sean Corrigan

sean.corrigan@sevrparish.org.uk

Lectio Divina: Kathie Gonzalez

Tel: 01732 761253

Mothers' Prayers: Mondays, 11.00am at Star House, Star Hill Road, Sevenoaks. Tel: 01959 532500

Readers, Ministers & Welcomers Rota, St Thomas's
Tony Cappozzi: st.thomas.rota@gmail.com

Parents & Toddlers: Anna Kidd 07816 277765; Kelly Sammuller 07521 428112; Paola Webb 07429 160394. Tuesdays 9.30am - 11.30am, Parish Centre

RACET (Rural Africa Children's Education Trust)
MaryAnn Perasso 01959 522337, www.racet.org

The Pilgrims: Teas or lunches, four times a year, held at St. Thomas's in the Parish Centre. All older parishioners are welcome and lifts are available. Contact: Jackie Pembroke 01732 450197 ac.jbpembroke@gmail.com or Pat Harman 01732 453902 bobandpat.harman@gmail.com.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP): Kathie Gonzalez - ugonzalez@btinternet.com (01732 761253)
Frances Smith - francesrsmith@hotmail.com
Joan Perkins - perkins_aj@hotmail.com

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM)

Borough Green UCM: June Dinmore (President)
Tel: 01732 672602

West Kingsdown UCM: Monica Biggs (President)
per_ardua_ad_astra@hotmail.com

Young Disciples: Two groups of informal catechesis for school years 4-6 and 7-9, Sundays after 9.15am Mass in the TV room upstairs. Term time only. Contact: Enia Adeleye at youngdisciples@sevrparish.org.uk

Further details of organisations are available in our Parish Handbook and on our website

Visit us at www.sevrparish.org.uk

ber eavement



November is traditionally a time when our thoughts turn often and especially to memories of our dearly departed, family or friends, who have “gone before us, marked with the sign of peace.”

To lose someone we have loved can be one of the greatest challenges we face. Bereavement can be a period of our lives like no other. It can leave us feeling numb, lost, angry, jealous, helpless, confused or bewildered. It may bring with it physical symptoms such as nausea, breathlessness and a lack of energy. It can cause sleep disturbance, absent-mindedness or hyperactivity. Every bereavement is different. Every person’s experience is unique.

We all react to grief differently. Some people don’t want to be alone. Others don’t want to be in company. Some don’t want to talk about the person they have lost, others want to talk about them all the time. There is no right or wrong way to grieve.

One of the wonderful things about our faith, is that we have a firm belief that death is not the end; that for the deceased, “life is changed, not ended.” Our funeral rites and traditions reassure and confirm to us that there is more to life than what we experience on this earth. Our faith contains a sure expectation of life after death, thanks to the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Even so, losing someone dear to us, especially when that death is unexpected or sudden, is often extremely distressing. Grief is painful. But pain is the agent of change, and through the pain we begin to adjust our lives to a world without our loved-one. This does not mean that we forget them. It does not mean that we “get over” the death and loss. But it does mean that we may adapt a little, and find a new way to live in the world without their presence. We might even find a way to remember them and smile, and feel blessed that they were part of our lives.

If you have experienced loss and grief, either recently or years ago, and would like to come along to the Bereavement Support Group in the Parish Centre, do look out for details in the newsletter each month, and on the notice boards in all the Mass centres. You would be most welcome.

Bereavement Support Group

This is a new informal group set up by Ronnie Campbell and Isabelle Parsons (both of whom have some training in bereavement support.) With Fr David’s support and encouragement, we are hoping to offer a monthly meeting for all those who have been bereaved, whether recently or a long time ago. You will find a warm welcome. We plan to offer a time to reflect and remember; to meet others; to exchange stories and to enjoy company and share refreshments.

We will meet on the third Monday of each month from 10.30 am – 12 noon, in the Parish Centre. Please do come along to join us on Monday 20 November for the first get together. For more details, please ring either Ronnie Campbell 01732 452988 or Isabelle Parsons 01732 462504 or 07873 953423.

Parish NOTICES

Contents this Week

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Today

Visiting Priests

We welcome Fr Mark Odion, to celebrate the 9:15am Mass, and Monsignor Matthew Dickens, to celebrate the 11:15am Mass.

SVP sausage roll sale

To mark the Pope's "World Day of the Poor" today, the parish **SVP group** is holding a sausage roll sale in St Thomas’s porch after all Masses (except the 6:00pm Sunday Mass), to raise money for the SVP's baby feeding centres, vocational training centres, homes for street children and medical aid clinics in Sudan and S. Sudan. There is also the usual collection of non-perishable food and toiletries for the LoavesNfishes food bank. Many thanks for your continuing support and generosity.

This Week

Bereavement Support Group

On Monday, 10:30am – 12:00 noon in the Parish Centre. See page 10 for more information.

RCIA Course

This course is for all those who wish to become Catholics, by Baptism if not already Baptized or by Reception into Full Communion for those who are Baptized. It meets on Mondays at 8:00pm in the Upper Room in the Parish Centre.

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic, please come to this meeting. If you know someone who might

be interested in becoming a Catholic, please give them a personal invitation and bring them to this meeting.

SVP

Our parish SVP also meets on Monday, at 7:30pm in the Parish Room. If you are interested in joining the SVP group please do come along to this meeting.

St Thomas’ School

Year 6 will attend the 9:30am Mass on Tuesday. All parents and family members are especially welcome to come.

Maureen Way RIP

Funeral Mass at 12:00 noon on Tuesday in St Thomas’s, followed by Interment at the Greatness Cemetery. Maureen ran the Repository for many years and was well known in the parish, so it would be appreciated if parishioners who knew her are able to attend her Funeral.

Catenian Mass

Mass for deceased Brothers will be offered at 8:00pm on Tuesday in St Thomas’s, followed by refreshments.

Scripture Fellowship

Meets on Wednesday, 8:00pm - 9:00pm in the Upper Room in the Parish Centre. Please bring a copy of Mark’s Gosepl.

Ordinarie Mass

On Thursday at Holy Trinity, 7:30pm.

Confirmation programme

The Confirmandi are reminded of the rehearsal on Thursday evening.

The Confirmation Mass is on Saturday at 12:00 noon in St Thomas’s. We welcome this year to confer the Sacrament His Grace the Archbishop.

Next weekend

Christ the King

Next Sunday is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It is also Youth Day, and the second collection will be for Catholic Youth Work, especially the work of the Southwark Catholic Youth Service (SCYS).

St Joseph’s, Borough Green

There will be a short congregational meeting after the 9:30am Mass next Sunday, with Fr David. Do stay for it if you don’t have to rush off.

Parish NOTICES

WE SAY 'THANK YOU'

Fr Gregory's collection

Next Sunday there will be a reception at 5:00pm in the Parish Centre, at which we shall give Fr Gregory the collection taken for him and thank him for his 6 years or so as Assistant Priest in the Parish.

Notices

St Thomas' School News

Germaine Campbell has stepped down as Chair of Governors, and we thank her for her sterling work for the school in recent years. She has been replaced by Christopher Preston as Chair, with Michelle McQueen as Vice Chair. Sarah Lowndes has become the Safeguarding Governor. This is a good opportunity to thank the school's Governors for all their hard work and support for the school.

Primary School Admission - September 2018

Parents of children who were born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 should be aware that the procedure for Primary Admissions has commenced. An Information Booklet and Reception Common Application Forms (RCAF) are available from the Local Authority www.kent.gov.uk/ola. Closing date for applications is 15th January 2018. Families wishing to apply to St Thomas' Catholic Primary School will also need to complete and return a Supplementary Form. An information pack is available to collect from the school office or please visit www.saintthomas.co.uk (follow the link to the Parents section).

Procedura naboru do szkół podstawowych dla dzieci urodzonych między 1 września 2013 i 31 sierpnia 2014 już się rozpoczęła. Informacje na ten temat znajdują się na stronie internetowej szkoły St Thomas'a: <http://www.saintthomas.co.uk> (link do "Parents").

Parish Post-Christmas Party - Sunday 21 Jan 2018

Held in St Thomas' School Hall, 12:30pm – 4:00pm. We are planning a large inclusive parish social event, involving young and old and parishioners from Sevenoaks, Otford, Borough Green, and West Kingsdown. There will NOT be an entry charge. Held at lunch time with a variety of food and entertainment - live music, DJ, raffle, prizes etc. Can you help with:

- ◆ Food and soft drinks: to donate/make and bring food (various types: hot food, soup, salads, cakes, biscuits etc), make and serve soft drinks/tea/coffee. Please contact Sandie: sndpet@aol.com;
- ◆ Alcohol: To donate and make mulled wine/glühwein

and help in running the bar. Please contact Bill: bill.farren@btinternet.com;

◆ Entertainment: we want to provide some live music and other forms of entertainment. Please contact Caroline: caroline.stockmann@gmail.com.

◆ Raffle prizes: If you have a prize to donate please contact Ann O'Sullivan or drop prizes at the Presbytery - annosullivan7oaks@gmail.com

Please try and help to make this a great parish event, and put the date in your 2018 diary NOW! If you have other ideas to make this a fantastic parish event please contact Ben (ben.andradi@gmail.com or 07720 271681). Ben Andradi

The Pilgrims' Advent Tea - Thurs 14th Dec, 2pm

Do join us at St Thomas's for music, poetry, carols and favourite songs, a festive tea plus our usual raffle. ALL are welcome whether you are a 'regular' pilgrim or not. Please sign up; the list is in the porch at St Thomas's or phone. Lifts will be available, just make sure to let us know in good time.

Enquiries: Jackie 01732 450197 or Pat 01732 453902.

Catenian Events

Christmas Dinner & Carol Singing - Tues 12 December
Please join us for a traditional Christmas Dinner and Christmas Carols at Knole Park Golf Club @ £20/head.

Hop & Curry Tasting - Friday 15 December

Please join us at 7:30pm at Oaks Spice on Tubs Hill. £20/head include a large beer & curry. To book either event please contact Tony Capozzi: tcapozzi@tesco.net. ALL WELCOME.

Repository

Advent prayer cards, daily Advent reflection booklets, and Advent Calendars are now on sale in the porch, as are Christmas prayer cards, nativity scenes, Christmas cards and diaries and calendars for 2018.

Parish Finances

What return can I make to the Lord for his generosity to me? Psalm 116

Offertory - 11/12th November

St Thomas	1,700.80
Otford	155.46
B Green	240.80
W Kingsdown	92.16
TOTAL	£2,189.22

Archbp. Admin Fund £425.73

The totals for Standing Orders are not included and are notified monthly.

Thank you for your generosity and support.



From the Desk of the Parish Priest

What happens at Confirmation?



Adult converts are usually Confirmed at the Easter Vigil, as per the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). However, for clarity's sake, in this article I shall look at the Confirmation of young people, which in most parishes takes place once a year.

The ordinary (that is, the usual) minister of Confirmation is the Bishop. This makes a clear link with the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2). Confirmation should normally take place within Mass. This is to make clear the link between Confirmation and Eucharist as Sacraments of Initiation. The sacred Chrism used is that consecrated by the diocesan Bishop on the Thursday of Holy Week.

There are really only three parts to the Confirmation rite. First, and this comes after the Homily, is the Renewal of Baptismal Promises. This establishes the connection to Baptism, and in some parishes the candidates hold lighted Baptismal candles at this point. It is to be hoped that the candidates say "I do" vigorously and confidently when asked if they renounce Satan and believe in God.

Then comes the two-fold action which is the essential part of the sacrament. The first of these is the Laying on of Hands. The Bishop says a prayer, followed by a short silence. Then the Bishop and the priests present extend their hands over the candidates and the Bishop recites the prayer asking God to send the Holy Spirit upon them and give them the seven-fold gifts of the Spirit. The seven gifts listed in the prayer are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They are based on Isaiah 11: 1-2. The Laying on of Hands is

a Biblical gesture (eg see Hebrews 6:2) to invoke the gift of the Holy Spirit upon the candidates.

The Anointing with Chrism follows. Each candidate in turn comes before the Bishop. Their sponsor stands immediately behind, with their right hand on the candidate's right shoulder. The Bishop dips his right thumb in the oil of Chrism, makes the sign of the cross with it on the candidate's forehead, and says "Name, be Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit". The candidate says "Amen". The Bishop says "Peace be with you" and the newly confirmed replies "And with your spirit".

The sacred Chrism is consecrated by the diocesan Bishop on the Thursday of Holy Week, and is olive oil and perfume.

Mass continues with the Universal Prayer (or the Bidding Prayers as we often call them), and the only other difference is that there are special inserts for Eucharistic Prayers I, II, and III.

The rite has 3 parts

- renewal of baptismal promises -

- laying on of hands -

&

- anointing with chrism -

There is a tradition of taking a Confirmation name, usually a saint or a virtue (eg Patience). This, however, is only a custom and is not a necessary part of the rite; candidates can opt for their Baptismal name.

The requirements for the sponsor are the same as those for the godparents at Baptism, but they must have themselves been Confirmed and they must be "spiritually fit" for the responsibility. The sponsor is there to present the candidate to receive the Sacrament, and afterwards to help them to fulfil their Baptismal promises faithfully in accordance with the Holy Spirit whom they have received.

God loves his children

Trace the lines to find out how much each servant was given

Gifts from God

A man was going on a long journey. He gave some money to each of his servants

Step by Step THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A) Matthew 25:14-30

Two of the servants used their money to make more! How much do they have?

Now I have

Now I have

The third servant hid his money away because he was afraid to lose it. How much does he have?

I still have

Mat 25: 16-18

God gives us gifts to use and make them grow!

Everyone is good at something! What are you good at? Draw a picture of yourself using your gift from God

IDEAS

Mass intentions

All masses are at st Thomas's CHURCH unless otherwise stated

Sunday 19th November THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

6:00pm (Sat)	Helen Sedgebeer RIP (Anniv)
8:00am	Olivia Schofield RIP
9:15am	People of the Parish
11:15am	Barry & Angela Griffith - in thanksgiving for their service
6:00pm	Marie Mercer RIP (Anniv)
9:30am Otford	Sister Maeve O'Sullivan RIP (who dedicated her life to helping the poor in Africa & Ireland)
9:30am Borough Green	Fr David
11:00am West Kingsdown	Good health of Bob Foster

Monday 20th Feria

8:00am	Douglas Booth RIP
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Tuesday 21st The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:30am	Sarah Boyle
12:00noon	Funeral - Maureen Way RIP
8:00pm	Catenian Mass for Deceased Brothers

Wednesday 22nd S Cecilia, V M

8:00am	Miss H.M. McNabb RIP
10:00am Otford	David Fowdrey RIP

Thursday 23rd Feria

9:15am West Kingsdown	Mary Tyler - Recovery
12:00noon	Pamela Carney (unwell)
7:30pm Otford	Ordinarie Mass

Friday 24th SS Andrew Dūng-Lac, Pr & Companions, MM

8:00am	Holy Souls
9:15am West Kingsdown	Tara O'Brien

Saturday 25th of Our Lady

9:15am West Kingsdown	Derek Martin RIP
9:30am	Intentions of the Rodrigues family
12:00noon	Confirmation Mass

Sunday 26th November CHRIST THE KING (A)

6:00pm (Sat)	People of the Parish
8:00am	Pam & Stan Allen RIP
9:15am	Wilson Mercado - in thanksgiving
11:15am	Jósef Bernard Czarnowski RIP
6:00pm	Robert O'Leary RIP
9:30am Otford	Fr Paul
9:30am Borough Green	Fr Paul
11:00am West Kingsdown	The deceased members of the Creasy family

Please remember the sick who have been commended to our prayers, especially:

Sue Chamberlain, John Cooney, Suzanne Elliott, Maureen Hanton, Bob Harman, Thomas Healy, Fr Pat O'Leary, John O'Neill, Rosemary Remnant, Hazel Pilorz, Ana Pilar Santos, Mary Tyler

Anniversaries

Baby Marie Mercer, Susan Hatfield, Catherine Moran, Fr John Jeffries, Daniel Hennessy, Johanna Smith, Patrick O'Driscoll, Wilhelmina Jaques, Anne Hennessy, Bishop John Jukes, Monique Brittan, George Detrick, Frank Farrell, Kathleen Howard, John Meredith Snr, Sharon Hardy, Rosamund Montagu, Lawrence Fairman, Leo Cadley, Richard Latter, Richard Morel, Paddy Murphy, Gladys Cross, Msg John Moran, Joe Grochala

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.



Sunday 8:00am Mass Antiphons

Entrance Antiphon:

Dicit Dominus: Ego cogito cogitationes pacis, et non afflictionis; invocabitis me, et ego exaudiam vos, et reducam captivitatem vestram de cunctis locis.

Communion Antiphon:

Amen dico vobis, quicquid orantes petitis, credite quia accipietis, et fiet vobis, dicit Dominus.