

Solefield School  
Solefields Road  
Sevenoaks, TN13 1PH  
01732 452 142  
www.solefieldschool.org



Visit us  
You are welcome to have a personal tour with our Headmaster  
Please contact Mrs Barbara Volpato  
t: 01732 452 142 e: admissions@solefieldschool.org

\*Limited places available for Reception 2018 & certain other year groups\*

Recent Highlights

- Record 11+ results
- 100% pass rate at Common Entrance (13+)
- Scholarships gained to Tonbridge School (Music & Sport), Sevenoaks School (Academic & Art) & Caterham (Academic)
- National Finalists in Judo, Basketball & Chess
- National Fencing Champions

A day preparatory school for boys aged 4-13, with average class size of 15 and wrap around care 7.30am - 6.00pm. We focus unashamedly on the individual boy. Our boys achieve entry to an excellent range of leading Senior Schools at 11+ and 13+.

Academic Success - Small Class Sizes - Happy Boys



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Sevenoaks  
TN13 1UX  
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£25 donation to Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury Sevenoaks. Quote CHURCH!

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\*77% of new home clients saved money, with an average saving of £137 between August 2017 and January 2018. This offer is only available through the Sevenoaks branch and applies to new A-Plan clients on personal car and home policies. Please mention 'CHURCH' when calling for a quote. A-Plan Holdings is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered office: Das Roches Square, Witney, OX28 4LE. Registration number 750484.



Archdiocese of Southwark

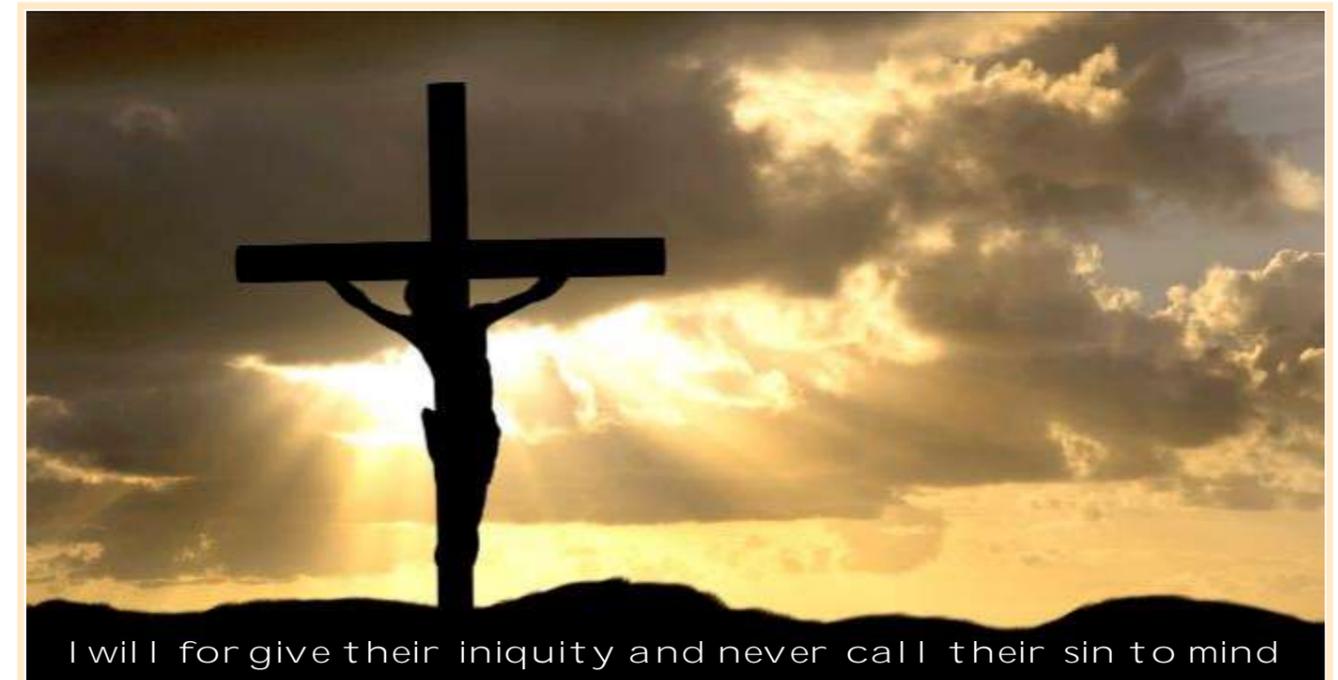
PARISH OF  
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY  
SEVENOAKS



Churches in Sevenoaks, Otford, Borough Green and West Kingsdown

Parish Newsletter

18th March 2018



**Today's Mass: The FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT (Year B)**

**First Reading:** the prophet Jeremiah speaks of a new covenant which God will make with his people. Christ is of course the new covenant or new testament.

**Psalm:** a psalm with a profound insight into sin and forgiveness.

**Second Reading:** Christ's humble suffering and obedience to the Father's will are what bring about the believer's salvation.

**Gospel:** in this dramatic Gospel we hear Jesus' parable of the seed that dies, his words on loving and hating life and on following Him, as well as a clap of thunder and the Father's voice. Above all, Jesus tells us that His hour has now come, and that laying down His life is actually the hour of His glorification.

**11:15am Mass only**

At this Mass the Third Scrutiny – for those on the RCIA Course - takes place. The prayers are from the ritual Mass for the Scrutinies rather than the Fifth Sunday of Lent, and the readings are from Year A. The **Gospel** is the story of the raising of Lazarus. This is the last and greatest of Jesus' 'signs' in the Fourth Gospel. Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life". Jesus continues to give us this eternal life, if we have faith like Martha.

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

### Adoration:

**Monday** 8:30am - 12noon  
7:00pm - 8:00pm

**Tuesday** 10:00am - 11:00am

**Thursday** 11:00am - 1:00pm  
2:00pm - 3:00pm

**Saturday** 8:30am - 10:30am

### Weekday Mass times:

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

### 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



### MOST HOLY TRINITY OTFORD

**Mass times: Sunday 9:30am**  
(with Children's Liturgy of the Word)  
**Wed 10:00am**  
**Holy Days of Obligation 10:00am**  
**Adoration: Friday 11:00am - 12:00noon**

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**  
(with Children's Liturgy of the Word)  
**Holy Days of Obligation 6:00pm**

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 10:00am - 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



## PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

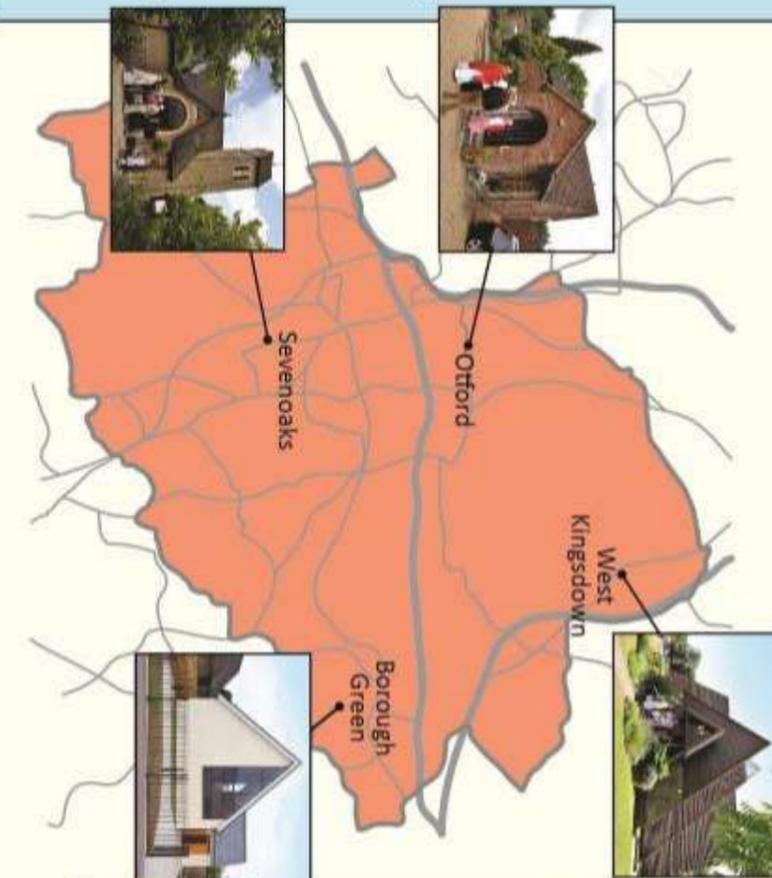
CHURCHES IN SEVENOAKS, OTFORD,  
BOROUGH GREEN AND WEST KINGSDOWN



### Our Parish needs our help.

- 4 Churches serving a significant swathe of West Kent.
- More than 2,500 parishioners, with 800+ people (including around 200 families) attending Mass each week across the 4 Churches.
- It costs around £3,500 per week for running the office, heating, lighting and ongoing upkeep, including funding a regular programme of property maintenance.
- This expenditure supports our Parish work - up to 20 Masses said weekly, catechesis programmes, pastoral support, visiting priests etc.
- Income available to meet the above expenditure amounts to about £3,000 per week (inc Gift Aid)

..which means we are  
£500 short every week!



### What can you do to support our Parish?

- As little as £1 extra per person (or say £2.50 per family) per week would enable us to break even.
- Please fill in Gift Aid forms for all giving - it really helps!
- One-off donations, to the extent you can, will enable us to meet building maintenance expenses or improvements.

## Meet the Parish finance committee

**Bill  
Farren**  
Chairman



- ◆ Chartered Accountant (FCA) and partner in a large practice
- ◆ BSc in Mathematics (Imperial College, London)
- ◆ former member of Finance/ Development Committees in two other parishes; independent financial examiner for a fellow Southwark parish

**Terry  
d'Avrincourt**  
Secretary



- ◆ Project Manager in the insurance sector
- ◆ qualified accountant
- ◆ just completed a 4.5 year term as PTA treasurer at daughter's primary school and fancied another rewarding role!

**Ben  
Andradi**



- ◆ Works in a technology fund in the City
- ◆ Married with four children and has lived in Sevenoaks for the last 25 years
- ◆ Lay Trustee of Southwark Archdiocese

**John  
Everingham**



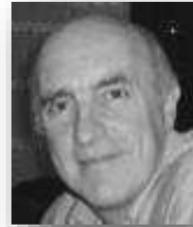
- ◆ works as an Audit Partner in an accounting firm
- ◆ Qualified Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)
- ◆ married with two grown up children and enjoys walking, travelling, improving his organ playing (as he is the organist at Otford) and studying Italian

**Gina  
Hartnett**



- ◆ works in the City as a Structured Finance specialist
- ◆ qualified solicitor (England & Wales, 2000) and LLB, University of Kyoto
- ◆ married with two teenage children and enjoys walking, cooking, singing. Studying for the Diocesan Catechetical Certificate

**Dave  
Havercan**



- ◆ Retired former Planning Manager with BT
- ◆ Treasurer at St Bernadette's
- ◆ Has lived in West Kingsdown since 1978

**Warren  
O'Leary**



- ◆ Chartered Surveyor
- ◆ Extensive experience in construction projects
- ◆ Lives in Weald village with partner and two sons and, if not providing a taxi service to sporting events, enjoys walking, cycling and golf

**Mary  
Scott**



- ◆ Retired after a lifelong career in IT, mostly in the banking sector
- ◆ Moved to Otford in 2015 and finds the parish to be very welcoming
- ◆ Currently participating in the Wednesday evening weekly study of St Mark's Gospel

**Frances  
Sylvester**



- ◆ Works in Foreign Exchange Product Control at an investment bank
- ◆ Chartered Accountant (CA (SA), 2006)
- ◆ Married with two young children; enjoys travelling, reading and walks in the countryside

## Parish NOTICES

### Today

#### Visiting Priests

We welcome Fr Mark Odion, MSP to celebrate the Mass at Borough Green and the 6:00pm Mass at St Thomas's today.

#### Sacrament of Penance

The priests are poised to hear your Confession before or after each Mass today. Confess early for Easter! At Holy Trinity, St Joseph's and St Bernadette's please do not approach the priest after 10 minutes before Mass, as he has to vest for it.

#### Meet the Parish Finance Committee

Members of the Committee will be available after each Mass to answer any questions you may have. In addition you will see large posters. They can inform you about

- ◆ the Parish's financial position;
- ◆ the financial situation of the Borough Green building;
- ◆ signing up for Gift Aid;
- ◆ how to increase your Standing Order;
- ◆ where our income comes from and where our expenditure goes.

They will also be pleased to hear any good suggestions for fund raising.

#### Holy Week & Easter 2018 leaflets

Please take a leaflet so you don't miss any of the Holy Week or Easter Triduum liturgies.

#### Volunteering for Holy Week and Easter Services at St Thomas's - new system

If you are able to read, be a Minister of Holy Communion or Welcomer at Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or the Easter Vigil, please email [st.thomas.rota@gmail.com](mailto:st.thomas.rota@gmail.com) today or let Ingrid know in the Parish office on Monday.

The Rota for Easter Sunday will be available from next week.

### This Week

#### Bereavement Support Group

Anyone who has been bereaved is welcome to come to this group on Monday in the Parish Centre from 10:30am – 12:00 noon. For more details, please phone either Ronnie Campbell 01732 452988, Isabelle Parsons 01732 462504 or Sarah Harrison 01959 522357

#### Monday – St Joseph's Day

To mark the Solemnity of S Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Universal Church and Patron of the church in Borough Green, there will

be Mass at 7:30pm on Monday, followed by refreshments. The Borough Green congregation invite all who worship at the other churches to join them for their celebration, especially if you haven't yet seen the new church. Note the change of time.

#### Monday Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday evenings at St Thomas's is now from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. Can YOU spare just an hour to join several others in silent prayer before Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament, on a Monday evening?

#### St Thomas' School

Year 3 will attend the 9:30am Mass on Tuesday; parents and family are especially welcome.

#### Parish Lent Course: "Let it be done unto me according to your Word"

Refreshments at 7:30pm, and then we shall view part 4 of the CaFE DVD on Our Lady, followed by a discussion, concluding at 9:00pm. See the Lent 2018 leaflet for further details. Why not make a special effort for Lent and come along, even if you haven't been before?

#### Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse

Pope Francis has asked each nation to hold this Day of Prayer, and in England & Wales it is on Friday. Victims and survivors of sexual abuse have often expressed a desire for prayer as an important element in their healing process.

#### Stations of the Cross

Every Thursday in Lent at Holy Trinity at 7:30pm, every Friday in Lent at St Bernadette's at 7:30pm, and every Friday in Lent at St Thomas's at 8:00pm.

#### St Thomas' School End of Term Mass

On Friday at 9:30am. As usual all parents/family members are invited to attend.

#### Arthur ('Archie') Payne RIP

Archie's Funeral Mass is at 1:00pm on Friday at St Joseph's, followed by Cremation at the Vinters Park Crematorium, Maidstone.

### Next Weekend

#### British Summer Time

The clocks go forward an hour on Saturday night. Adjust your alarm clock or you will miss the Palm Sunday liturgy!

#### Palm Sunday

The 9:15am and 11:15am Masses at St Thomas's will commence in the Presbytery garden (if dry) for the Palm Sunday Procession into church. The reconfigured

# Parish NOTICES

Music Group will sing for the first time at the 11:15am Mass.

The Mass at Otford will begin at 9:15am, to allow parishioners also to attend the village ceremony on the green at 11:00am.

The blessing of palms takes place at the very beginning of next Sunday's Liturgy, so make sure you arrive in good time or you will miss it!

## **SVP Lenten Almsgiving Collection**

The collection this Lent is for the Bridge Trust, the local homeless charity, and for the Catholic Housing Aid Society. Please bring in your donations to Mass next weekend, Palm Sunday, there will be jars and buckets available to receive them. Many thanks for your generous support.

## **Notices**

### **Easter Greenery and Flowers**

#### St Thomas

If you have any flowers (particularly daffodils) or greenery in your garden which you could donate to help decorate St Thomas's Church for Easter, please leave outside the door to the day Chapel (paved area to the rear of the Parish Centre) during the day on Good Friday, 30th March. Thank you.

#### Holy Trinity, Otford

There will be a collection towards Easter flowers after the Palm Sunday Mass. If you can supply greenery please leave it at the rear of the Church by Good Friday. Thank you.

### **Ecumenical Stations of the Cross**

Join us on Holy Tuesday, 27th March in St Thomas's Church as we reflect on the Stations of the Cross with fellow Christians from other Sevenoaks churches.

### **Parish Retreats at Aylesford**

#### Women's Retreat: 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018

##### "The name of God is mercy"

Facilitated by Sr Louise Swanston who is a Sister of St Mary of Namur. She lives in community in Liverpool. Trained in Ignatian spirituality, she has offered spiritual accompaniment as well as retreats for 25 years.

#### Men's Retreat: 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018

##### "The Heart of the Gospel"

Facilitated by Dom Brendan Thomas who is a monk of Belmont Abbey, Hereford where he has been Novice Master for the last 18 years. He is also Director of the Monastic Formators' Programme in Rome and he gives retreats at Belmont, in Britain and abroad.

### Details for both retreats

The cost for full board, lodging and a retreat facilitator is £175 and there are a maximum of 20 places available for each retreat.

If you would like to attend please pick up a registration form from the back of your Church or download a form from the website: [www.sevrcparish.org.uk](http://www.sevrcparish.org.uk)

Lift shares to Aylesford will be organised. Any queries please contact Catherine Rodger by email at [c.rodger@btinternet.com](mailto:c.rodger@btinternet.com) or by ph:01732 458852. The registration form and non-refundable deposit of £20 made payable to 'St Thomas' RC Church, Sevenoaks' must be returned to the Parish Office in an envelope marked PARISH RETREATS by Sunday 3rd June.

### **Parish Summer Party - Save the Date**

Will be held at St Thomas's on Sunday 17th June, from 12:30pm.

## **Other Notices**

### **Mass in Celebration of Sacrament of Marriage**

If you are celebrating your 1st, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th+ wedding anniversary this year, and would like to attend this Mass at St George's Cathedral on 16th June 2018, please register with Ingrid in the office by 30th April at the very latest.

### **Formation Adviser for Kent**

Last call for anyone interested in this role. Please contact Sarah Wood - [sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org](mailto:sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org) for more information by 5pm on Monday 19th March 2018.

## **Parish Finances**

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

### **Offertory - 10/11 March 2018**

St Thomas	1,333.99
Otford	247.33
Borough Green	221.60
W Kingsdown	118.83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,921.75</b>

### **Survive MIVA Appeal**

<b>(additional)</b>	<b>£25.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>£10,150.00</b>

*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*

# Confession: The Sacrament of Penance



Pope Francis, addressing young people in Rio in 2013, said

*Dear young people: "Put on Christ" in your lives .... He awaits you in the sacrament of Penance, to heal by his mercy the wounds caused by sin. Do not be afraid to ask God's forgiveness! He never tires of forgiving us, like a father who loves us. God is pure mercy!"*

The Sacrament of Penance, also known as the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession, is not an optional extra for the particularly pious. It is an integral part of Christian discipleship. Thus the Code of Canon Law (§ 988) says that *"a member of the Christian faithful is obliged to confess in kind and number all grave sins committed after Baptism and not yet remitted directly through the keys of the Church nor acknowledged in individual confession, of which the person has knowledge after diligent examination of conscience. It is recommended to the Christian faithful that they also confess venial sins"*. Church law also says (§ 989): *"After having reached the age of discretion, each member of the faithful is obliged to confess faithfully his or her grave sins at least once a year"*.

The *Catechism* teaches us that sin is 'an offence against God', a rupture of communion with him; it also damages communion with the Church. *"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us"* (1 John 1:8). Only God forgives sins but Jesus gave authority to the Church to forgive (Mark 2:5, John 20: 21-23, 2 Cor 5:18); he thus instituted this sacrament for all sinful members of His Church.

For Penance to work, the penitent must show contrition (you must be genuinely sorry for your sins), must confess the sins (ie say what they are), and must make satisfaction or reparation (this

might be, for example, returning stolen goods; usually it is the penance the priest imposes). It also requires the priest's words of Absolution. This last point is psychologically important: if you feel guilty for your sins you need to hear the words of forgiveness spoken by the priest. You don't get this if you just say 'sorry' to God in your private prayer.

Lent, of course, is the time above all when we should be thinking of our sins and making our Confession. Making a good Confession in Lent, the season of penitence, is ideal preparation for receiving the graces of the Easter celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection. So **don't put it off!** If you haven't been to Confession for a while, allow the Holy Spirit to lead you back, back to the loving forgiveness of God the Father.

### **Some Tips For Making A Good Confession**

- ◆ Examine your conscience regularly and thoroughly, and confess at regular intervals;
- ◆ Don't put Confession off; that never solves anything;
- ◆ Prepare yourself beforehand, and state your sins clearly and briefly without rambling;
- ◆ Confess *all* mortal sins *in number and kind*;
- ◆ Listen carefully to any advice the priest gives;
- ◆ Confess your own sins and *not someone else's*;
- ◆ Carefully listen to and *remember* the penance and be sure to understand it;
- ◆ Use a regular formula for confession so that it is familiar and comfortable;
- ◆ Never be afraid to say something "embarrassing" ... *just say it*;
- ◆ Never worry that the priest thinks ill of you; he has heard it all before;
- ◆ Never fear that the priest will not keep your confession secret... he is bound by the Seal;
- ◆ Don't confess "tendencies", or "struggles", or "problems" ... *just sins*;
- ◆ Ask if you don't understand something; the priest will help you if you don't know the words;
- ◆ Keep in mind that sometimes priests can have bad days just like you do;
- ◆ Remember that priests must go to Confession too ... they know what you are going through.

# God Loves his children

Join the dots

A seed dies

Jesus knew that soon he would be put to death

Step by Step

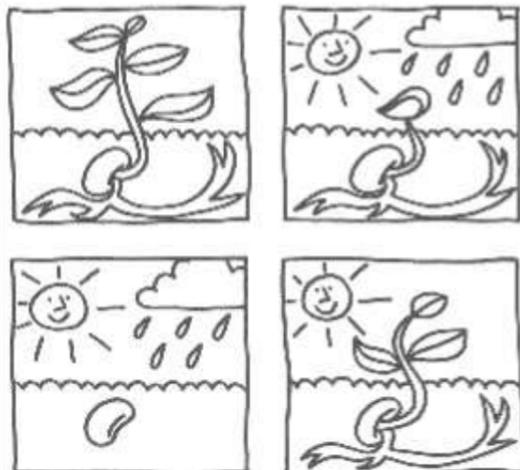
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

John 12:20-30

A seed must die to give new life and a rich harvest

Jesus calls EVERYONE to follow him!

These pictures are jumbled up. Can you put them in the right order and number them 1 2 3 4?



Help these people to follow Jesus



# Mass intentions

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

## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March *Fifth Sunday in Lent (B)*

6:00pm (Sat) Sheila Cant RIP  
 8:00am Neville family  
 9:15am People of the Parish  
 11:15am Welfare of Christians in the Holy Land, KHS  
 6:00pm Chiara Mascarenhas RIP  
 9:30am *Oxford* Adrian Doyle RIP (4th Anniv)  
 9:30am *Borough Green* Peggy Spiers RIP (Anniv)  
 11:00am *West Kingsdown* Alan, Sid & Vera Hearn RIP

## Monday 19<sup>th</sup> *S JOSEPH, Patron of the Universal Church*

8:00am Tommy Baker RIP  
 7:30pm *Borough Green* Jon Le Sbirel RIP

## Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> *Feria*

9:30am Paul Hayden RIP (Anniv)

## Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> *Feria*

8:00am Austin Mascarenhas RIP  
 10:00am *Oxford* Paul Fuller RIP

## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> *Feria*

9:15am *West Kingsdown* Ray Liddiard RIP  
 9:30am St Thomas's School End of Term Mass  
 12:00noon Eamonn Murphy RIP (Anniv)

## Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> *Feria*

8:00am Joseph & Josephine Brown RIP  
 9:15am *West Kingsdown* Good estate of Fr Richard Harvey  
 1:00pm *Borough Green* **Funeral Mass - Arthur (Archie) Payne RIP**

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> *Feria*

9:15am *West Kingsdown* Ken O'Brien RIP  
 9:30am Holy Souls

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March *Palm Sunday (B)*

6:00pm (Sat) *Not yet booked*  
 8:00am Neville family  
 9:15am *Not yet booked*  
 11:15am Good estate of Angela Simmonds (Music Group)  
 6:00pm Mary Catherine Corbett RIP  
 9:15am *Oxford* People of the Parish  
 9:30am *Borough Green* Jon Le Sbirel RIP  
 11:00am *West Kingsdown* Good health of Nolie Simmonds

## Baptism

Welcome to

**Murphy John Dickinson**

who was baptized at Holy Trinity, Oxford last weekend.

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

Marie Authers, Sue Chamberlain, Michael Gerald Cleere, John Cooney, Bob Harman, Thomas Healy, Jeanmary Laing, Fr Pat O'Leary, Hazel Pilorz, Rosemary Remnant, Ana Pilar Santos, Antony & Mary Tyler, Jim Vinson

## Anniversaries

Fr St. Clare-Hill, Gerry Kelly, Gustav Von Klemperer, Eileen Kidd, James Brown, Margaret O'Dwyer, Elizabeth Hollingshead, William Tallents, Thomas Bowditch, Susie Symonds, Lilian Owen, Arthur Stubbs, Geoffrey Smith, Monique Glenister, Pauline Chapman, Patrick Thompson, Richard Morel, Catherine Odger, John Wilson, Annie McCarron, Roy Gambrill, Paul Hayden, Charles Piddock, Margaret Coghlan, Dora Pemberton, Francis O'Toole, Patricia Dolby-Gray, Enzo Collini, John Haskins, Veronica Poole, Denis Sheehan, Alice McIntyre, Sean Coffey, Peter Green, Jan Kwraszewicz, Rosie Gilbert, Barbara Spencer, Malcolm McCulloch

*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

Iudica me, Deus, et discerne causam meam de gente non sancta; ab homine iniquo et dolosa eripe me, quia tu es Deus meus et fortitudo mea.

### Communion Antiphon

Amen, amen dico vobis: Nisi granum frumenti cadens in terram mortuum fuerit, ipsum solum manet; si autem mortuum fuerit, multum fructum affert.