

MASS INTENTIONS

ALL MASSES ARE AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Saturday 3rd April HOLY SATURDAY/The HOLY NIGHT of EASTER

8:00pm *Oxford* Parish Altar Servers
9:00pm Founders & Benefactors of the Parish

Sunday 4th EASTER SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION of the LORD

8:00am Kenneth D'Souza RIP
9:15am People of the Parish
11:15am George Rizza RIP
6:00pm Parish musicians
9:30am *Oxford* Dawid & Magda Wiacek (Birthday)
9:30am *Borough Green* Benjamin Shaw RIP
11:00am *West Kingsdown* Harry Goldsmith RIP

Monday 5th Monday within the Octave of Easter

12:00noon Rosalie White RIP
(6:00pm Holy Souls)

Tuesday 6th Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

9:30am Christopher La Trobe RIP
(6:00pm Well-being of Owen Colaco)

Wednesday 7th Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am Barbara Smoker RIP
10:00am *Oxford* Patricia (Sam) Burford RIP

Thursday 8th Thursday within the Octave of Easter

10:00am *Borough Green* In thanksgiving for safe birth of baby Sierra
12:00pm Chris Latter & family

Friday 9th Friday within the Octave of Easter

8:00am Alison Fitzgerald RIP
10:00am *West Kingsdown* Bertha & Ruth Lett RIP

Saturday 10th Saturday within the Octave of Easter

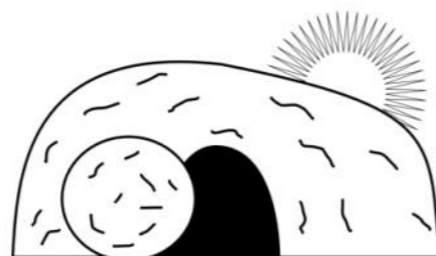
9:30am Lionel Edwards RIP (80th Birthday)

Sunday 11th April SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

6:00pm Yvonne Haggarty RIP (Birthday)
8:00am Edward & Marguerite Maxwell RIP
9:15am Well-being and protection of Justin Edwards
11:15am People of the Parish
6:00pm Laura & Laerte Ravelli RIP
9:30am *Oxford* Comfort and well-being of Isabell
9:30am *Borough Green* Parish Sacristans, welcomers & stewards
11:00am *West Kingsdown* Marius McDermott RIP

Please pray

- for the salvation of all mankind;
- for those newly Baptized and Confirmed;
- for true and lasting peace in our world;
- for the sick and housebound members of the parish.



Finances

The Offertory for February (Standing Orders, loose collection, contactless device and Just Giving via the website) totalled £9,346.85. Thank you for your generosity.

Stephanie Cotterill, our Accountant, reports that the Offertory for 2020 was surprisingly robust. The lower collections at Mass were offset by the steady increase in monthly Standing Orders. This is greatly appreciated as it gives a more assured steady income and also it means that there is less handling of cash each week. The use of the Sum Up contactless machine in St Thomas's is also helpful, especially for the second collections.

Donations and other income were lower than previous years. This covers things like Garden Party income, special collections, the repository, candles and appeals. Hopefully this will get back to normal as 2021 progresses.

Even though expenditure during the year was lower on things like supply priests, church consumables, office expenditure, and staff costs (because of furloughing) etc, the Parish spent a lot of money on planned maintenance: £103K. Overall we made a loss of around £95k in 2020, but would have broken even if major maintenance and repairs to our buildings hadn't been carried out. The biggest item of expenditure was the Sanctuary restoration in St Thomas's.

If you don't yet contribute by Standing Order, or you don't Gift Aid your donation, please do so if you can.

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, SEVENOAKS

www.sevrcparish.org.uk 01732 454177

EASTER LITURGY (VIGIL & MASS of the RESURRECTION)

8:00pm at Holy Trinity, 9:00pm at St Thomas's The most important Liturgy of the year: 'what Sunday is to the week the Easter Mass is to the year'. We welcome Alexander Buxton-Carda to be Confirmed at St Thomas's.

Vigil Readings: there are three Old Testament Readings, including the compulsory one from *Exodus* (14: 15-15:1). In a great saving act God enables the Israelites to escape through the Red Sea. This prefigures Baptism. In the Exodus the people of God were led by their leader, Moses, from slavery in Egypt through the waters of the Red Sea to the Promised Land (Israel). In Baptism we are led by our leader, Jesus Christ, from slavery to sin and death through the waters of Baptism to the Promised Land (heaven).

Epistle (*Romans* 6: 3-11): by Baptism we become "dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus".

Gospel (*Mark* 16: 1-8): Mary of Magdala and two other women discover the empty tomb and are told to tell Peter and the other disciples.

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Holy Mass at the normal times at all four churches.

Acts of the Apostles 10: 34, 37-43; *Psalms* 117; *Colossians* 3: 1-4 or *1 Corinthians* 5: 6-8; Sequence (*Victimae Paschali Laudes*); *John* 20: 1-9.

First Reading: this gives us the earliest preaching about Jesus, in Peter's homily to Cornelius and his household. Jesus was sent by God and equipped with the Holy Spirit and power, and so went about healing, but He was crucified. However, He rose again, and the result is forgiveness of sins and a new relationship with God.

Psalm: a song of thanksgiving for God's goodness and love have raised up the Lord, who was rejected by His people.

Second Reading: in the Reading from *1 Corinthians* Paul has in mind the Passover bread: the Church is the new unleavened bread (that is, without sin).

In the *Colossians* Reading Paul spells out the consequences of rising with Christ: our thoughts should be on the things of heaven.

Sequence: ideally this is sung, but at present it will be said. The text goes back to the eleventh century.

Gospel: Mary of Magdala, followed by Peter and the 'other disciple' (thought to be John) discover the empty tomb, and the penny drops that this means Jesus has risen from the dead.

Fr David

Notices

Easter Offering

Along with the Christmas Offering this is your way of paying Fr David and Fr Paul for all that they do. You can

- put your donation in the box/plate at the entrance,
- use the contactless device at St Thomas's,
- put an envelope through the Presbytery letterbox,
- or make an online transfer (put Easter Offering as the reference) to RCAS ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS, Sort Code 60-19-02, A/c No 25782002.

If you contribute to parish funds by Standing Order, note that this will not include the Easter Offering. Please Gift Aid if you can (the parish gets the tax refund). Thank you in advance.

Divine Mercy Novena

You are invited to join in praying the **Divine Mercy Novena** each evening on Zoom at 8:00pm, ending on Saturday. To join the daily Novena contact Deacon Neil on neilphilipson@rcaos.org.uk to register and receive more details. Next Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday.

Monday

Mass at St Thomas's at the Bank Holiday time of 12:00 noon.

Confessions

You can approach the priest if there is plenty of time before Mass but more likely after Mass. Alternatively, contact me or Fr Paul to make an appointment.

Baptisms and Weddings

These can now take place, provided anti COVID measures are observed. For Baptism of infants please complete the green application form and return it to the Presbytery. For Weddings please contact Fr David.

Confirmation 2021

Attention all those currently in Year 7 or above: registration for this year's Confirmation Programme is now open. Register on line at www.sevrcparish.org.uk where there is an outline of important dates. This is a proposed programme, and the dates may need to be altered due to the coronavirus. Once registered, we can keep you informed of any changes by email. **Closing date: 7th May 2021.**