

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Sunday 23rd May **PENTECOST (Year B)**

6:00pm	John Albertini RIP
8:00am	Cyril Waite RIP (Anniversary)
9:15am	Peace & Justice in Jerusalem and Holy Land
11:15am	People of the Parish
6:00pm	Jan & Stefania Ociepa RIP and Stanislaw Czaja RIP
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Fr Bryan Wells
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	Good estate of the Hurl's family and Richard Murphy RIP
11:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	George Copplestone RIP and Michael & Pauline and their family

Monday 24th **Mary, Mother of the Church [Ordinary Time Week 8]**

8:00am	Marion Nash RIP and for the comfort of her family
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Tuesday 25th **S Bede the Venerable, Pr D**

9:30am	In thanksgiving for Sally Haggarty (Birthday)
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Wednesday 26th **S Philip Neri, Pr**

8:00am	Sara Moore
10:00am <i>Oxford</i>	Holy Souls

Thursday 27th **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST**

10:00am <i>Borough Green</i>	Holy Souls
12:00 noon	Lancy Rodrigues RIP

Friday 28th **Feria**

8:00am	John Baby Isobel, Cyril & Louise Gouldstone in loving memory RIP
10:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	In thanksgiving for Samantha Smith

Saturday 29th **of Our Lady**

9:30am	Holy Souls
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Sunday 30th May **The MOST HOLY TRINITY (Year B)**

6:00pm	Eileen McSharry RIP (Birthday)
8:00am	People of the Parish
9:15am	Cyril Waite RIP (Anniversary)
11:15am	Bernard Page RIP
6:00pm	Holy Souls
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Children who died in Palestine and Holy Land
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	Izabela's Parents Zofia & Zdzislaw RIP
11:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	Thanks to St Rita for prayers answered

Mass Intentions

To book Mass Intentions you can use a Mass Intention envelope (put your donation inside) and hand it to a priest or pop it through the Presbytery letterbox, email Magda in the Office (sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk) and make an online donation, or call in to the Parish Office (Monday to Friday, 9:30am - 12:30pm).

Most Holy Trinity flower arrangers

Frances Bacon - who has been arranging flowers for over 30 years (to whom many thanks!) - is retiring from the team. Please contact her (01959 523585) if you are interested in joining the team or learning about what it involves. There is flexibility with dates, materials are supplied and costs refunded, and you can arrange in your own style.

Sevenoaks Food Bank

Isabelle Mercer sends her thanks to the many parishioners who responded to her appeal for the Loaves & Fishes Food Bank: she had three trolleys full of St Thomas's donations and "it was so welcome and much appreciated".

Quiet Day of Reflection

On Saturday 26th June at The Poul House barn, Ashes Lane, Hadlow TN11 9QU from 10.00 to 16.00, led by Gilly Fenner. Suggested contribution £5. Numbers are limited to 20. To attend please email Gilly at gff58b@icloud.com.

Please pray

- for God's help to end the pandemic;
- for Rev'd Matthew Donnelly on his placement in the parish;
- for peace, reconciliation and justice for all in the Holy Land.

St Roch, pray for us.

St Joseph, pray for us.

St Thomas of Canterbury, pray for us.

St Bernadette, pray for us.

St Edith of Kemsing, pray for us.

Health & Safety

I am pleased to report that Maria Boehne has agreed to be the Parish Health & Safety Officer. This does not mean that she alone will be responsible for health & safety; far from it, it is everyone's responsibility to avoid hazards and maintain safe practices.

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, SEVENOAKS

www.sevrcparish.org.uk 01732 454177

Today's Mass Readings: **PENTECOST (Year B)**

Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13 (or Galatians 5: 16-25); Sequence; John 15: 26-27, 16: 12-15 (or 20: 19-23)

First Reading: the famous account of the gift of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, a reading which strikes fear among Mass readers with all the difficult names!

Psalm: praise of God the Father for sending us the Spirit, the spirit of creation, of life, and of renewal.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12): another famous passage: there are many different gifts but all from the same Spirit, just as the different parts make up one human body.

Sequence: please stand and recite the Sequence (the *Veni Sancte Spiritus*) together.

Gospel (John 20): before His Ascension and before Pentecost the risen Jesus Christ breathes on the apostles (echoing God breathing life into man in *Genesis 2:7*) and gives them the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness and retention of sins. This power to forgive was given to the Eleven and in turn given by them through Ordination to others, leading to the Sacrament of Penance we have today. Have you been to Confession lately?

Today is the last day of the Easter season. The Paschal Candle is relocated next to the Font and Ordinary Time recommences tomorrow with Week 8. *Fr David*

Notices

Supply priests

We welcome Fr Bryan Wells for the 9:30am Mass at Oxford, and Mgr Matthew Dickens for the 9:30am Mass at Borough Green and the 11:00am Mass at West Kingsdown.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to Daniel O'Riordan and Cillian Hayes, making their first Holy Communion at the 11:15am Mass.

Diaconate placement

Rev'd Matthew Donnelly is here for a short placement in the parish, prior to Ordination as Priest.

COVID restrictions changes

DO NOT come to church if you have COVID-19 or have COVID symptoms.

New guidance has been received from the Bishops' Conference. The key points are

- ✦ awareness of local conditions (the infection rate in Sevenoaks is very low at the moment and a good percentage of parishioners have been vaccinated),
 - ✦ hand sanitising on entry,
 - ✦ wearing face coverings (unless exempt),
 - ✦ good ventilation (especially during and between liturgies),
 - ✦ good routine cleaning, especially of places which people may have touched,
 - ✦ the COVID-secure capacity may be increased,
 - ✦ congregational singing is still prohibited; small choirs and cantors are permitted,
 - ✦ the Sign of Peace remains suspended, and Holy Communion is only under one kind,
 - ✦ up to 30 people are permitted at a stand-alone Baptism and at a Wedding; each church will have its own maximum for Funerals.
- Choir leaders and organists, authorised Ministers of Holy Communion, stewards, and Mass readers should all have

received more detailed information. Please contact Magda or Fr David if you have any queries.

~ Mass readers

We can now resume reading from the Lectionary, but readers please DO NOT touch the microphone or touch the Lectionary (unless you have to turn the page). The Prayer of the Faithful can now be reintroduced

~ Holy Communion on the tongue

This is now permissible, but please wait until the end of the Communion procession, kneel at the prie-dieu, and receive last. The priest will sanitise his hands after administering Holy Communion.

~ Sacrament of Reconciliation

We still cannot use the Reconciliation Chapels at St Thomas's or Most Holy Trinity or the Confessionals at the others. Contact Frs David or Paul to make an appointment, or ask the priest after Mass. Confessions will be heard outside or in a safe space in the church.

~ Home Visits (including Holy Communion)

These can now resume, but under strict regulations. If you used to receive Holy Communion at home or in an old people's home, or now wish to do so, please contact Magda in the Office (01732 45417 or sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk). Ministers of Holy Communion MUST contact Fr David for authorisation before proceeding to make home visits (and only those EMoHCs on the DBS list may do so, by law).

Above all everyone should feel safe, and so no one should feel obliged to receive Holy Communion at home or to take Holy Communion to someone. Multiple visits to several people are not permitted; this will limit the number of home visits the Clergy will be able to make.

~ Catechetical groups

These may now resume without limitations on group size, as long as the standard precautions (eg hand sanitising) are observed. We have drawn up a Risk Assessment.