

MASS INTENTIONS

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

SUNDAY 5th SEPTEMBER TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (B)

6:00pm (Sat)	Patricia Holmes RIP
8:00am (Latin)	A swift end to the pandemic
9:15am	Timothy & Clea Andradi
11:15am	Holy Souls
6:00pm	Mgr Jim McGettrick RIP
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Fr Peter and his work in our Parish
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	UCM
11:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	People of the Parish

Monday 6th Feria

8:00am	Christopher La Trobe RIP
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Tuesday 7th Feria

9:30am	Joseph and Josephine Brown RIP
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Wednesday 8th NATIVITY of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:00am	Fr Joe Andradi
10:00am <i>Oxford</i>	Sister of Anne McDonnell

Thursday 9th Feria

10:00am <i>Borough Green</i>	People of Afghanistan
12:00noon	Welfare of Abel & Karie-Lyn Pelletier

Friday 10th Feria

8:00am	Dec'd relatives - Andradi & Brown families
10:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	Private Intention

Saturday 11th of Our Lady

9:30am	Welfare of Grace Fleming & family
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SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY (B)

6:00pm (Sat)	All Priests
8:00am (Latin)	Canon John Morris RIP
9:15am	Wendy Par & family
11:15am	Edwina Playfair RIP
6:00pm	People of the Parish
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Fr David
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	Margaret Vinson RIP
11:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	A swift end to the pandemic

PLEASE PRAY

- for Deidre Thomas, Ann Steven, Antonia Mroziuk, Lilian Spragg and all who are ill or in old peoples' homes;
- for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan;
- for Giancarlo Pau, Rosemary Gibson, Judy West & Peggy La Trobe who have died.

LATIN ANTIPHONS

Entrance: Iustus es, Domine, et rectum iudicium tuum; fac cum servo tuo secundum misericordiam tuam.

Communion: Ego sum lux mundi, dicit Dominus; qui sequitur me, non ambulat in tenebris, sed habebit lumen vitae.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Thomas's

We are starting an evening session of Adoration especially for those at work during the day, on a Tuesday from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. This will start on 14th September, appropriately the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Men's and Women's Parish Days of Prayer

The Women's Day of Prayer will be on 18th September, and the Men's Day of Prayer on 2nd October. Both will be 10:00am - 4:00pm at Most Holy Trinity, Otford - as last year - with registration and tea/coffee from 9:30am. Bring your own Lunch and bottle of water. Cost: £15. Both days will be led by Fr Bryan Wells, well known as a regular supply priest in the parish.

For more information contact Catherine Rodger (c.rodger@btinternet.com or 01732 458852). To attend send £15 (cash or a cheque payable to 'St Thomas' Church, Sevenoaks') in an envelope marked Parish Day of Prayer to the Parish Office, by Sunday 5th September. Do consider inviting someone to come with you who may not have attended before. These Days were very well received last year.

St Edith Devotions

We are looking forward to celebrating the memorial of our local saint, St Edith of Kemsing, at 3:30pm on 19 September at the Well in Kemsing. A number of us are proposing to make a Pilgrimage from St Thomas' on the day, walking to Kemsing - if you would like to join us, please do!

If you have any questions about the route or would like a copy of the walking directions, please let James and Gina know (gina.hartnett@hotmail.com).

Another church Newsletter typo

"A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow".

RECENTLY BAPTIZED

Nora Elias

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, SEVENOAKS

www.sevrcparish.org.uk 01732 454177

Today's Mass Readings: TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (B) SUNDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2021

Isaiah 35: 4-7; Psalm 145; James 2: 1-5; Mark 7: 31-37

First Reading: Isaiah portrays the glorious fulfilment of God's saving purpose at the end of time. This end-time - we believe - begins with Jesus (see the *Gospel* reading).

Psalm: this carries on the same idea as the *First Reading*: the Lord who comes to save those in need.

Second Reading: James draws out a practical implication of our faith: discrimination against different classes, especially the poor, is wrong.

Gospel: Jesus heals the deaf-mute of the Decapolis. The word used to describe his infirmity is used only twice in the Bible, here and in Isaiah 35 (today's *First Reading*). As the Isaiah prophecy is describing the end-time, this is clearly meant to be understood in this *Gospel* passage: Mark is suggesting that Jesus is not merely a good man and a healer, but is the Messiah who ushers in the kingdom of God.

Ephphatha is Aramaic for 'Be opened'. As well as being a testing word for a spelling bee (it can be spelled in English either with an 'a' or an 'e' in the middle), it forms the basis of the Ephphetha ceremony in the Baptism of Infants, in which the celebrant touches the ears and mouth of the child, and reminds us that once Baptised everyone has the duty to receive Christ's word and to proclaim His faith. *Fr David*

NOTICES

Supply priest

Welcome to Fr Bryan Wells, offering the Mass at Most Holy Trinity today.

Holy Matrimony

The Wedding of Luke Ross and Natasha Willis is on Tuesday at 12:00 noon in St Thomas's church.

Fr Peter

will be away from Tuesday until the 17th.

Toddlers Group

This group - for toddlers and their mums/dads - will change to a Thursday morning, starting this Thursday (9th), in the Parish Room. It will start at 9:15am and run until 11:15am. Contact Mary Strinati (07890 229794) if you are interested.

The Pilgrims Outing

Also this Thursday. 10.00am Mass at St Joseph's, Borough Green, followed by a talk about the new church with hospitality from the community there, and then on to the lovely garden at Great Comp. Transport will be by minibus; sign up list in St Thomas's Entrance.

Who are You?

An opportunity in the Parish to learn about and discuss the rich and liberating teaching on love, relationships, sex and gender, gifted to the Church by Pope John Paul II (see introduction at <https://youtu.be/xaEiQEGGXfE>). The meetings are open to parents and teenagers aged 16 and above, and the format will involve the presentation of video content to the parent & teenager group, followed by three separate moderated discussions groups for parents, daughters and sons in attendance.

The first meeting will be held at 8:00pm in the Parish Centre at St Thomas's on Thursday, followed by 16th and 23rd September. Questions to either Andrew La Trobe

(andrew.latrobe@gmail.com) or David La Trobe (david.latrobe9@gmail.com).

Rosemary Gibson RIP

Funeral Service on Friday at 12:00 noon in the Greatness Cemetery Chapel, followed by burial.

Kent Ride & Stride; Saturday on 11th September

To participate please collect the sponsor form from Magda. Get your family on their bikes and visit the local churches while raising money. More info: www.kentrideandstride.co.uk

Next Sunday: Second Collection

will be for the Catholic Education Service, which acts on behalf of the Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. Catholic schools make up 10% of maintained schools and over 2,000 Catholic schools and colleges educate over 800,000 students. The CES is the principal negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting Catholic education.

Confessions

We are resuming the previous Confession times on Saturdays in St Thomas's, viz 10:00am - 10:30am and 5:15pm - 5:45pm, but in the side Chapel not the Reconciliation Chapel, as it is bigger and better ventilated and hence more COVID safe. You can continue to make an appointment for Confession by emailing me or Fr Peter. At the Chapels of Ease you can approach the priest before Mass - if there is plenty of time - or after Mass.

RCIA Course

The RCIA course will start on Monday 20th September at 8:00pm in the Parish Centre. This is a programme designed for adults (in our Parish we use the *Evangelium* course) who wish to be Baptized in the Catholic Church or (if already Baptized) Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. Contact Andrew La Trobe (andrew.latrobe@gmail.com; 07775 738485) to enquire or to register for the course.