Classified Ads Advertise here and be seen by more than 800 local families every week.

email: sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

> Max. 50 signs in black and white





Translator and Copywriter

Contact: transfulness@gmail.com

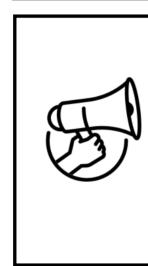


Looking for: a two bedroomed house or apartment in Sevenoaks, preferably in Eynsford Contact: michaelrphardy@gmail.com



Excellent monthly lectures on art, guests welcome www.theartssocietyseve noaks.org.uk







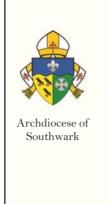
Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees is helping to deliver the UK Government's global Resettlement Scheme, the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan citizens' resettlement scheme, working in close partnership with Sevenoaks District Council and Kent County Council.

Please visit our website www.sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org for further information and our contact details. If you have a property that meets the requirements set out on page 8, and would like to help a vulnerable refugee family start a new life in Sevenoaks District, we would love to hear from you.

How do I advertise my business or get my ads in the Newsletter?

Advertising space is now available. This page is intended for the publication of all solicitations from our parishioners who would like to offer their services, or who are looking for information or support. Please email sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk for further details. The deadline for next weekend is Wednesday noon.

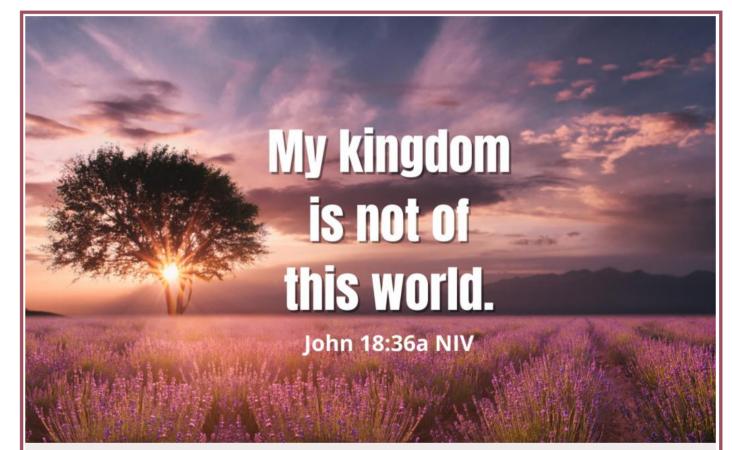
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PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY **SEVENOAKS**

Churches in Sevenoaks, Otford

Parish Newsletter



Today's Mass: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE (B)

Daniel 7: 13-14; Psalm 92; Apocalypse 1: 5-8; John 18: 33-37

First Reading: Daniel's somewhat mysterious description of the coming of the Son of Man was taken up by the New Testament writers as a title for Jesus Christ, whose 'sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away'.

Psalm: let us sing to the Lord, ascended and enthroned in Heaven.

Second Reading: alpha and omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. So, Jesus is the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

Gospel: Pilate asks Jesus about his kingship. Jesus' kingship, while it concerns what goes on in this world (we must not forget that), is not derived from this world but from beyond it. And Christ's kingship is about witnessing to the truth. Those who have a sense of truth respond to him.

Fr David







21st November 2022

St Thomas of Canterbury

Sunday Mass times: Saturday 6:00pm

Adoration:

Monday

Tuesday

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

8:30am - 9:30am

6:00pm - 7:00pm

Weekday Wass times:Monday8:00amTuesday9:30amWednesday8:00amThursday12:00noonFriday8:00amSaturday9:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

10:00am - 10:30am,

5:15pm - 5:45pm

Saturday



Granville Road, Sevenoaks TN13 1ER

Parish Office: Magdalena Wiacek Monday - Friday **9:30am - 12:30pm** Tel: 01732 454177 sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk **www.sevrcparish.org.uk**

Church contact:

Barry Authers

Tel: 01959 524362

sevenoaksmht@rcaos.org.uk



High Street, Otford TN14 5PH

Western Rd, Borough Green TN15 8AG

Fawkham Rd, West Kingsdown

TN15 6JP

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am (with Children's Liturgy of the Word) Wed 10:00am Holy Days of Obligation 10:00am Adoration: Thursday 7:30pm - 8:30pm Friday 11:00am - 12:00noon

St Joseph's

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am (with Children's Liturgy of the Word) Thurs **10:00am** Holy Days of Obligation **6:00pm** Church contact: Antoni Offert Tel: 07513 041075 sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

St Bernadette's

Mass times: Sunday 11:00am, Friday 10:00am Holy Days of Obligation 11:00am Rosary: 1st Wed every month at 7:00pm Adoration: Wed 12:00noon- 1:00pm Church contacts: Jill & John Gobel Tel: 01474 853676 sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

St Thomas' catholic

South Park, Sevenoaks, TN13 1EH www.saintthomas.co.uk Executive Head : Mrs Annemarie Whittle Academy Principal : Ms Geraldine Leahy *Tel: 01732 453921*

God loves his children



Lock. Design by Anna Davie. Edited by Rachel Thompson. Published by Redemptorist Publications Chawton Hompshire GU34 3HQ.
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Sunday 21 November 2021 John 18:33-37 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

> Jesus tells Pilate that he is a king like no other. Jesus is not interested in showing off power and strength like other kings. Jesus came to show us what God's kingdom of love is like.

Listening to God's truth

Jesus wants us to listen to him and be on the side of God's truth. Which of the children is listening to Jesus' voice?



Unjumble the lines to see who is on the side of truth.

A PRAYER TO SAY

ear Jesus, thank you for inviting me to belong to your kingdom of love. Help me to always listen to your words of truth and to follow your rule. Amen.

Swers user to Jesus.

Contacts & organisations

Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks

Presbytery and Parish Office: 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER Website: www.sevrcparish.org.uk Tel: 01732 454177

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons, KHS davidgibbons@rcaos.org.uk Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Littleton peterlittleton@rcaos.org.uk **Parish Deacon:** Rev'd Neil Philipson neilphilipson@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Mrs Magdalena Wiacek sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm

Safeguarding Rep: Ken Baines sevenoakssg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator can be contacted on 020 7261 1606; in an emergency dial 999

Adoration Barry Authers adoration@sevrcparish.org.uk

Altar Servers (St Thomas's) Catherine Ingram Ingramfamily15@yahoo.com

Bereavement Support Third Monday, 10:30am in Parish Room Ronnie Campbell 01732 452988, Sarah Harrison 01959 522357 or Kate Travers katetravers521@hotmail.com.

Catenians Social club for Catholic men Aiden O'Mahony aidan.omahony@btinternet.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sunday Mass Sevenoaks, 9:15am Mass: Mark O'Prey sevenoaksclow@rcaos.org.uk Otford, 9:30am Mass: Magdalena Wiacek sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk Borough Green, 9:30am Mass: Fiona Newton - fionanewton321@btinternet.com

Choirs Music Group: Lonnie Christophers lonniechr@hotmail.com Traditional Choir: Barbara Page 01732 454726 Borough Green: Chris Hurll chris.hurll@outlook.com

Church Cleaning (St Thomas's) Jim McSharry jamesmcsharry@hotmail.com

Confirmation Programme Gabrielle Ellis seveoaksconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Finance Committee Secretary: Mary Scott 3maryscott@gmail.com

First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Programme Ingrid La Trobe sevenoaksfhc@rcaos.org.uk

Flowers (St Thomas's) Jan Gordon janice.gordon47@hotmail.com

Gift Aid: Sean Corrigan sevenoaksgac@rcaos.org.uk

Holy Trinity Committee Secretary: Barry Authers sevenoaksmht@rcaos.org.uk

Lectio Divina Kathie Gonzalez 01732 761253 Mothers' Pravers Mondays, 11:30am at Star House, Star Hill Road 01959 532505

Baby & Toddlers Group Thursdays 9:30am - 11:30am, Parish Centre Mary Hunt 07890 229794

Parish Evangelization Team David Cooper dpcoop1963@gmail.com

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

Readers, Ministers & Welcomers Rota (St Thomas's) Andrew Pembroke st.thomas.rota@gmail.com

Repository Christine Landon christinedlandon@gmail.com

RCIA For adults becoming Catholic Andrew La Trobe andrew.latrobe@gmail.com

Retreats

Catherine Roger c.rodger@btinternet.com

St Bernadette's Committee Secretary: Jill Gobel jill.gobel@btinternet.com

St Joseph's Committee Secretary: John Foley johnandmariefoley@gmail.com

The Pilgrims For retired parishioners Jackie Pembroke ac.jbpembroke@gmail.com or 01732 450197

Scripture Fellowship Reading a Gospel together Andrew Wilkinson 07847 652846

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Kathie Gonzalez sevenoakssvp@gmail.com

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) Borough Green UCM: Mary Ringham 01732 672602 West Kingsdown UCM: Monica Biggs mmddbiggs@hotmial.com

Webmaster

Barry Authers sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk

Parish NOTICES

Contents this Week Pages 3-4 Parish Notices Page 5 Mass Intentions Page 6 Mass Readings Page 7 Sunday Message Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees Page 8 is looking for Landlords Parish Information Document (part2) Page 9 Page 10 **Contacts & Organisations** Page 11 Mass Activity for Children

First Holy Communion

Cameron Macdonald makes his first Holy Communion at the Saturday 6:00pm Mass this weekend.

Supply priests

Welcome to Fr Bryan Wells, at Most Holy Trinity, Fr John Tabor at St Joseph's, and Fr Alexander McAllister, DBS at St Bernadette's.

Second Collection

On Youth Day, this is for the Catholic Youth Services.

11:15am Mass

Luke Coll and Aaron Akiri will be Confirmed by Fr David at this Mass. Because of school commitments they were unable to attend the Confirmation Mass in the Cathedral.

Adoration & Benediction, 5:00pm - 5:30pm

A Plenary Indulgence is granted to those who fulfil the usual conditions and on this day recite - in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed - the consecration of the human race to Christ the King and the Litany of the Sacred Heart. Accordingly, there is Adoration at 5:00pm, concluding with Benediction at 5:30pm, in St Thomas's today.

Fr David

will be taking a few days' break from Monday. On Friday and Saturday he will attend the annual Investiture of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. He will be back on parish duties next Sunday.

Tuesday: Class Mass

Year 4 attend the 9:30am Mass on Tuesday. Parents etc of those in Year 4 are welcome to attend this Mass.

Wednesday: The Pilgrims and friends

10:30am in the Parish Room. All 'senior' parishioners and friends are invited to coffee and croissants; Fr Peter who will give a Reflection on the forthcoming season of Advent. If you know of anyone who would like to attend but needs help getting there, please let Jackie know: 01732 450197.

Next weekend

The SVP will be having their annual sausage roll sale, to raise funds for their projects including the baby feeding centre in Sudan.

St Thomas's flower arranaina

Jan Gordon is soon retiring from St Thomas' School after some 30 years - and from co-ordinating the flowers at St Thomas's - after 25 years. We thank her profusely and wish her well as she moves away.

We now need a new flower rota co-ordinator. Speak to Jan or to me if YOU can volunteer.

Repository in St Thomas's

The Repository has a selection of Advent and Christmas items on display, including Christmas cards. If no one is minding the Repository, please put your money in the wall box marked 'Repository'.

First Holy Communion/ **Reconciliation Programme 2022**

Registration is now open for the 2022 Programme. If your child is in Year 3 or above, please fill in the online Registration Form on the Parish website, where you will find more information. Applications close on Sunday 12th December.

St Thomas' School: new admissions 2022

Registration for Reception Year entry 2022 opened on Friday and closes at midnight on Monday 17th January 2022. Parents/carers must apply online: go to the link https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/

schools/school-places/primary-school-places.

To book a tour of the school please contact office@saintthomas.co.uk or phone 01732 453921. You must also obtain a Supplementary Form from the school; email me to make an appointment to obtain the Parish Priest's Reference.

Parish and other NOTICES

Another Newsletter blooper

"Both bride and groom are black belts in karate and other marital arts".

Five Bible Studies in the Advent Sunday Gospels

Mario Iannicelli will break open the forthcoming Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. As a result you will experience Sunday Mass in a new way! Five Wednesdays, beginning 24th November, 7:00pm - 8:00pm. Free of charge live sessions on YouTube. Info and registration: https://comeandsee.org/advent.

Do you have skills to offer as a Governor in the Catholic schools in Southwark?

The diocesan Education Commission is looking to build up its list of people able to offer time, expertise and commitment to support primary, secondary schools and sixth form colleges in Southwark. The Diocese needs local people from its parishes to volunteer as foundation governors in Catholic maintained schools and academies. It also needs people to become trustees/directors in their multi-academy trusts. Could you spare a few hours a month?

These are fulfilling roles though not without challenges. You do not need to be a parent or work in the education sector. The Diocese welcomes interest from all sectors of society and across all ages. It is looking for people with finance and accounting, legal and HR, premises and health and safety experience. Induction, training and mentoring will be provided.

Further info: <u>https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/</u> <u>could-you-become-a-governor/</u>.

Please pray

 for our young people and for Catholic Youth Services;

for God's help in ending the pandemic;

• for all listed in the Books of Remembrance in each church.

Today with Jesus

Lord, Jesus, today is Your day, and I want Your will to be done. So, whatever happens, hold my hand and let's face it together. Amen. - Back to the Bible

.

God's Promises for Today

Heavenly Father, I have been so wishy-washy when it comes to taking hold of Your promises and making them mine. But today, I'm putting my foot down! I will not allow my human reason to talk me out of my spiritual inheritance. I will set my foot down on every promise that You have given me today. I'm going in! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

- Sharon Jayes

Good Morning Lord Prayer

Good morning, Lord! Today's a new day, a chance for a new start. Yesterday is gone and with it any regrets, mistakes, or failures I may have experienced. It's a good day to be glad and give thanks, and I do, Lord. Thank you for today, a new opportunity to love, give, and be all that you want me to be. Amen. - Rebecca Barlow Jordan

Fill Me With the Spirit Today

Dear Lord, as we rise to meet each new day, please let us be filled with Your spirit. Wherever we go, let us spread love, joy, peace, goodness, and faithfulness. Let us desire to become more like you and to worship you in all we do. Help us desire these things so much more than the sin that entices us. Thank you for always going before us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

- Dr. Charles Stanley

A Daily Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy! In Jesus' Name, Amen. - Debbie McDaniel





he next section is about Evangelization, Catechesis and Formation. Under Evangelization we have a Parish Evangelization Team in formation; as is the

case with everything at the moment its development has been delayed by the pandemic. David Cooper is the Chair of the Team, and he would be pleased to hear from anyone - from any of the four churches who is interested in joining him on the Team.

We do, as you will know, have catechetical teams for First Holy Communion and Penance, for Confirmation, and for RCIA, led by Ingrid La Trobe, Gabrielle Ellis, and Andrew La Trobe respectively. The parish should be very grateful for the time and effort put in by so many catechists. A number of our catechists have obtained, or are studying for, the Archbishop's Certificate in Catechesis. (This was a course I introduced when I was the Director of the Diocesan Formation Centre, so I am delighted that it continues.)

Deacon Neil Philipson is in overall charge of adult formation in the parish, and we had a highly successful Sycamore programme before COVID cut it short.

The ninth section is about Catholic Education. We, of course, have our parish Primary School, St Thomas' School, which is part of the cluster of the three Primary Schools in the Deanery. Mrs Kathryn Sexton is the Executive Head, while Ms Geraldine Leahy is the Academy Principal. The school is part of Kent Catholic Schools Partnership (KCSP), the Multi Academy Trust (MAT) which runs the Catholic schools in Kent.

There are close links between school and parish as you would expect: the children regularly attend Church for whole school and class Masses, the priests go into the school, and many parishioners are governors or help in other ways. Catherine Ingram is the Chair of the Academy Governance Committee.

Parish Information Document (part 2)

The Catholic Secondary School for the Deanery is St Gregory's in Tunbridge Wells. We also maintain good links with Trinity School, the inter-denominational school in Sevenoaks.

Then the form asks about Promoting Vocations: 'is there a Parish Vocations Team?' The answer is no. Should we have one? Who would volunteer to be a member of such a Team?

The eleventh section is about Ecumenism. The parish is a member of Churches Together in Sevenoaks and District. However, its activities stopped during the pandemic, and the Clergy Forum has ceased to exist. I have to say that Sevenoaks is the least ecumenical place in which I have ever served, partly because the communities in other denominations are - to put it diplomatically - somewhat divided amongst themselves, and do not appear to be at all interested in ecumenism. Quite what to do about it I don't know; a large dollop of the Holy Spirit will be needed to get things going again!

Section 13 (which is confusingly the 12th section, as Section 1 is an introduction) is about Lay Apostolate. Here we have a long list of lay people engaged in various apostolates. We employ (part-time) three people: Magda Wiacek as the Parish Secretary, Mariola Czaja as the Presbytery Housekeeper and cleaner at the Parish Centre and Most Holy Trinity, and Stephanie Cotterill, our Accountant and bookkeeper.

We also have many groups in the Parish, all run by volunteers: these include Bereavement Support, the Catenians, Lectio Divina, Mothers Prayers, Baby & Toddlers, Retreats, the Pilgrims (older parishioners), Scripture Fellowship, SVP, UCM. Please let me know if I have absent-mindedly missed any group out of this list.

In addition, we have volunteers for collection counting, ICT maintenance, church cleaners, gardening, building maintenance, flower arranging, altar linen laundry, social events, and Sacristans in each church. Christine Landon is in charge of the Repository, as well as being the Authorised Person (that is, the civil registrar for Weddings).

Add in the catechists, musicians, Ministers of Holy Communion, readers, COVID stewards etc etc, and we have an impressive number of parishioners involved in so many ways in what is by any standards a vibrant parish.

SEVENOAKS WELCOMES REFUGEES

Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees is helping to deliver the UK Government's global Resettlement Scheme, the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan citizens' resettlement scheme, working in close partnership with Sevenoaks District Council and Kent Councy Council. There are vulnerable refugee families waiting to travel to the UK just as soon as there is a property available here for them. We would therefore like to secure more properties as a matter of urgency and are seeking the support of local landlords.

Our work

Thanks to the generosity of local landlords and other supporters, we are already helping to resettle six refugee families in our District. We provide local practical support to refugee families in our area - welcoming, help with learning English, finding jobs, sourcing necessary household items, and making small welfare grants to help the families resettle, rebuild and recover.

With more landlords on board, we can help more families

If we can secure more properties in Sevenoaks District, this will allow other vulnerable refugee families to join the ones that are already here. An excellent package is on offer for any private landlord able to help. We make the whole landlord sign-up process very simple and you will have the security of knowing that monthly rental payments will be both reliable and secure. Rental payments are made directly by Sevenoaks District Council (SDC).

What types of property do we need?

1-4 bedrooms, self-contained, available for at least 24 months, furnished or unfurnished, close to public transport links

How much rent will I receive?

Monthly rental payable under the scheme is based on UK Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates. For example, the rate for a 3-bedroom house in Sevenoaks is £1,130 pcm and for a 3-bedroom house in Swanley it's £1,050 pcm. In addition, the following incentive payments are paid to the landlord annually in advance: £1,500 for a 3-bed and above, £1,000 for a 1 or 2-bed and £500 for a studio/bedsit. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and donors, SWR may also consider making incentive payments to landlords in addition to the amounts mentioned above.

How do the tenancy agreements work?

The terms are similar to a normal private tenancy agreement:

The tenancy agreement is between the landlord and the family.

Minimum period of two years.

A cash deposit of up to 6 weeks rent is provided (along with one month's rent in advance).

The cash deposit is registered with one of the approved protection schemes.

Rent is paid monthly in advance at the beginning of each month.

Rent is paid by SDC directly to the landlord or to his/her agent managing the property.

Rent is paid to the landlord from the time the property is approved for use by SDC, thereby avoiding any 'void' period.

Who will live In my property?

Your property will be tenanted by a Syrian or Afghan refugee family. The families who come here will all have been identified as vulnerable by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and will have been screened by both the UNHCR and staff from the Home Office. From the moment the families arrive in the UK and travel to Kent they are closely supported by the relevant UK Government agencies, Sevenoaks District Council and our charity Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees.

How do I join the scheme?

Please visit our website www.sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org for further information and our contact details. If you have a property that meets the requirements set out above, and would like to help a vulnerable refugee family start a new life in Sevenoaks District, we would love to hear from you. We can also put you in touch with our existing landlords for a confidential discussion about their experiences with the scheme.

Mass intentions

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

SUNDAY	21 th N	IOVEMBER		LORD JESUS CHRIST, OF THE UNIVERSE
6:0	0pm (Sat)		All Holy Souls
				and Mullaly family &
8:00am (Latin)				People of the Parish
9:15am			Pam & Stan Allen RIP	
11:15am			Jones & Sausman fam	
6:00pm			Judy West RIP (Birthd	
9:30am Otford		Otford		Richard Bunce RIP
9:3	0am I	Borough Green		Silvia Hogg RIP
11:0	0am I	West Kingsdown	n	UCM
	- nd -			in Celebration of our
Monday	22 S	Cecilia, V M		
8:0	0am			Joyce Alberta Anyaeg
Tuesday	23 rd Fe	eria		
9:3	0am			People of Afghanistar
Wednesd	lay 24	th SS Andrew Di	ĭng-Lạ	c, P & Comp, MM
8:0	0am			The success of the ma
				life saving surgery too
10:00am Otford				Christopher Baran RIF
Thursday	25 th /	Feria		
10:0	0am <i>l</i>	Borough Green		Sue Dedman RIP & fa
12:00noon			Douglas, Mona, Anne	
Friday 26	th Fer	ia		
8:0	0am			Bishop John Jukes RIP
10:00am		West Kingsdown	n	Health and wellbeing
				of Josie and her famil
Saturday	27 th	of Our Lady		
9:3	80am			Rosalia Bullock RIP &
SUNDAY	28 th N	OVEMBER	FIRST	SUNDAY OF ADVENT
6:0	0pm (Sat)		Marie Mercer RIP
8:00am (Latin)			Joyce Alberta Anyaeg	
9:15am			In thanksgiving from	
11:15am			Rachel Alexander RIP	
6:0	0pm			People of the Parish
9:30am Otford		Otford		In thanksgiving (18 th
9:30am Borough Green				Richard Murphy Rip (
11:0	0am I	West Kingsdown	1	Good estate of Ronal

friends

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100th meeting

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ajor day P (1st Anniversary)

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P ly

family

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gbunam RIP Mercado family

Birthday) (1st Anniversary) ld Hewett

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

Deidre Thomas, Ann Steven and Lilian Spragg, Jane Tabor and all in old people's homes.

Departed Please pray for the soul of

Anne Hobbs **Patrick Thackaberry Evelyn Wyeth**

who have recently departed.



Prayer for All The Faithful Departed.

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

Latin Antiphons

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

Communion: Amen dico vobis, quidquid orantes petitis, credite quia accipietis, et fiet vobis, dicit Dominus.