

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH , LUCKS HILL, WEST MALLING
PRIEST: Fr. Peter Soper, The Priest's House, More Park, West Malling, ME19 6HN

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Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)
CELEBRATION OF CANDLEMAS
FIRST RECONCILIATION THANKSGIVING
Education Sunday
5th February 2012

This weekend we celebrate 'Candlemas' and bring the new Light, Strength and Life the Lord has brought us this Christmas and Epiphany into the temples of our hearts and Parish to shine for us, our church and our world in all the calls and challenges of this year—as Jesus brought his light to the temple of Jerusalem and the people of his time on the First Candlemas—and as the wise men brought it back to their countries and people at this time. This is the true end of our Christmas and we give thanks to the School and Pre-School for their Mass on Friday and our Children's Liturgy organisers and all who have worked to prepare for this celebration and all who have worked with our children, young people and adults in our celebration of the Christmas Season from the first Sunday of Advent to today. And a reminder to our Youth groups of their meeting at 4pm today (Sunday) to prepare the 5.30pm Mass followed by their party and our thanks to them too.

We also congratulate our First Communicants today as they receive their First Reconciliation Certificates and give thanks for their 'Second Sacrament' and this new stage in their Faith and Parish Journey—with thanks to them and their Parents and Families and Catechists for their work and commitment.

We also celebrate 'Education Sunday' this weekend and pray for the work of Education in our Schools and Colleges and Parish for our children and young people—and give thanks to our teachers, helpers, governors, catechists and youth leaders and all involved in this—and we have a retiring collection for the Catholic Education Service for England & Wales.

During the week there are meetings for the First Communion children and Safeguarding Team on Monday, the Parent & Toddler group, Parish 'Five Year Plan' Team and the West and East Malling area group on Tuesday and the Snodland & Halling area group on Wednesday—and next Sunday the Senior Youth group (Topic—'Careers') - details overleaf.

And now we have a sort of 'rest' after all the 'Journeys' of the Christmas Season—so enjoy it but don't get too used to it because Lent is coming!!

Let's help each other then to have a good Candlemas today and to go forward in its Light and Strength to the calls and challenges of this year.

Fr. Peter

MASSES & SERVICES

SATURDAY	4	5.00pm	The Parishioners
SUNDAY —5th Sunday of the Year Celebration of Candlemas First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Education Sunday	5	10.00am 5.30pm	(Family Mass) - Anthony Wilmot R.I.P. (anniv) (Youth groups' Mass) - The Parishioners
MONDAY - Japanese Martyrs	6	9.30am	Communion Service
TUESDAY	7	9.30am	Mgr Jack Elliott R.I.P.
WENESDAY	8	9.30am	Communion Service
THURSDAY	9	9.30am	Communion Service
FRIDAY - St Scholastica	10	9.30am	Fr Gregory Wiinterton R.I.P.
SATURDAY	11	2.30pm 5.00pm	BAPTISM : Max Stevenson The Parishioners
SUNDAY— 6th Sunday of the Year	12	10.00am 5.30pm	(Children's Liturgy) Olive & Margaret Johnson R.I.P. The Parishioners

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE : Saturdays from 4.15 to 4.45pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR : Derek Arund; Catherine Finn; Jenny Morgan; Bernie Laws; Maureen Hook; Margaret McGinn; Richard Mills; Achille Kao (and Mark, Mohammed & Eric); Vera Cortial; Liz Kent; Barbara Old; Isabella Styles; Pat Green; Bill Killackey; Anna Allsop; Chris Steward; Laura; Brian Bell; Robin & Mary Paul; Victoria Addor; Sarah Russell; Estelita Caberlin; John Cruickshank; Graziella Memoli; Jimmy Alexander; Arabella Webster; Baby Joseph Scudder; Anne-Marie Townend & Parents; Ronald Moys; Dean Family; Geoff Rice; Sarah O'Neil; Bridget Conroy; Andy Cripps; Terence Kirkham; Noel Birkett; Frank Bryant; Michael Puxley; Jason Collins; Lynda Pitt; Moira Stevens; Hazel Stephenson; Theresa Dickins; Leo Pitt-Williams; Leah Beal; Gabriel Hughes; Chelsea Kirby, all our housebound and all at Maidstone Hospital, the Hospice and local nursing homes. Please pray, too, for all those affected by the present cutbacks, illnesses and other challenges in our country and World.

RECENTLY DEAD: Freddie McQueen; Albert Champ; Fr Gregory Winterton; Jim Puxley; Annabel Wright. Also, Gunter Altenburger; Jack Dempsey; Nellie Atkins; Pat Wheeler (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers the soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and those who have died in the troubled spots in our world during this past week.

ANNIVERSARIES : Bill and Norma Fennell; James Reeves; Mary Palmer; Joan Barry; Martha Rooney; Hugh Goldrick; Florence Berry; Thomas Jackson; Bernard Cunningham; Tony Wilmot; Duncan McIntosh; Joy Blye; Rene Skeltono; Margaret Taylor; Anthony Plumbly; Renee Havas; Domenico Barnaba; Christopher Taylor; Michael Daly; Peggy McBrien; Mary Rawlings; Dr Filewitz.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 5	4.00pm	Youth groups meet to prepare 5.30pm Mass (group Party afterwards)
MONDAY 6	5—6pm 8.00pm	(8.45 Visit to 8si1at St Simon Stock; 9.45 visit to 8st1 at St Simon Stock) First Communion Children meet in Church & House Safeguarding Team meet in Priest's House
TUESDAY 7	1.30—3.00pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Parent & Toddler group meet in Priest's House Parish 'Five Year Plan' Team meet in Priest's House West & East Malling Area group meet at 18 Epsom Close, WM. (see below)
WEDN'DAY 8	8.00pm	(9.45—visit to 8st2 at St Simon Stock) Snodland & Halling Area group meeting at 33 High Street (see below)
THURSDAY 9		
FRIDAY 10		
SATURDAY 11		
SUNDAY 12	10.00am 6.45—8.45pm	Children's Liturgy at Mass Senior Youth group meet in Priest's House - Topic :- "Careers"

THANK YOU for your donations which amounted to £591 in last week's collection. Second collection (Pax Christi) £210.

STANDING ORDERS Further to the brief in the last Parish Magazine, the Finance group have some forms available to those Parishioners who may prefer to make their weekly contributions to the Church by using this method.

DIARIES It doesn't seem that we will get them this year due to problems at the printers—Sorry!

CHURCH CLEANING This week it's Tracy's group.

CHILDREN under 8 who need to visit the toilet during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

'SITS VAC' - (Voluntary Person/s) urgently needed

Minutes Secretary—required to cover Parish Meetings every 2 months and possibly any special meetings that may be required.

Fundraising— somebody with some experience in this and who may like to set up a team

Organiser for the **MAY FAYRE** (19th May) Someone is needed to form a team to run this. A 'job description' is in the Office.

First Aid Trainer—somebody qualified to do this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER : Service on Friday 2nd March at 10.30am at the **Church of Ss Peter & Paul, Castle Way, Leybourne**. The theme is '*Let Justice Prevail*' and it has been prepared by the Christian Women of Malaysia. The Guest Speaker is the Reverend Pam Rink. This wonderful service is open to everyone and refreshments will be available afterwards. If you would like to attend and require a lift please contact Christina O'Sullivan on 01732 220606.

MAY FAYRE : 19th May

..... **2012**—Married Couples Anniversary Celebration Mass (for those married 1, 10, 25, 40, 50 & 60 years) with Archbishop Peter at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 16th June at 3.00pm—details to follow.

NOTICE BOARD

Pax Christi 'Justpeace' Newsletter for February.

Southwark Diocesan Directories for 2012 on sale in Porch

Sacred Heart Messenger for February on sale in Porch.

The Pilgrim Newspaper from the Archdiocese— this gives all the positive news of what's happening and being achieved in our Diocese.

AREA GROUPS—HOUSE MASSES –and MEETINGS

West & East Malling Group meet on Tuesday, 7th February at 8.00pm. *Venue*: 18 Epsom Close, WM. Contact Ann Hillan on 01732 849546

Snodland & Halling Group meet for a 'Cheese & Wine' on Wednesday 8th February at 8pm. *Venue*: 33 High Street, Snodland. Contact Eileen Calkin on 01634 240069

Kings Hill & Mereworth Group meet on Thursday 1st March at 8.00pm. *Venue*: 109, Discovery Drive (contact Mary Lockyear on 01732 875752) and on Thursday 19th April at 8pm *Venue*: 145 Discovery Drive (contact Mr & Mrs Cassidy on 01732 521261)

HOUSE MASSES FOR LENT

5th March 8.00pm West & East Malling : 10 Meadowbank

Contact Dee & Peter Avery on 01732 870207

7th March 8.00pm Snodland & Halling : 84a Birling Rd

Contact Francis & Teresa Britto 01634 240474

6th March 8.00pm Leybourne & Villages: Oast View, Teston Rd, Offham

Contact Chris & Ian Butler 01732849438

9th March 8.00pm Larkfield group : 3 Osprey Walk, Larkfield

Contact : Anne & Tony Law 01732 844077

14th March 8.00pm Kings Hill & Mereworth

At Kings Hill Community Centre

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK