

Sixth Sunday of the Year (A) 16th February 2020

FUTURE OF THE PARISH We have received the letter from the Archbishop (attached) and Adrian Atmore, the Chair of the 'Parish Future Group', will speak to us on this at all Masses this weekend. There will also be a meeting of the 'Parish Future Group' this Monday (17th) at 7.30pm in the Priest's House to look at this - please keep up the prayers.

THIS WEEKEND We continue our "Breather Period" between Candlemas and Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, 26th February. It's also the first weekend of the Pre-School and School's holiday break - whoopee!

DURING THE WEEK The Parish Future Group will meet on Monday, Fr. Peter will be at the Council of Priests and the Kent Clergy gathering but there are no other meetings in the Parish except for our usual Adoration in Church on Friday between 6pm and 8pm - enjoy the break!

NEXT WEEKEND is the final weekend of the pre-school and school's holiday break and also the last Sunday before Lent. It is also a Day of Prayer for the Unemployed and we remember them and their families in our prayers and for new help and solutions.

PRAYERS PLEASE for Enzo Argento and Eileen Lobeck who have died and their families and friends as they prepare for their funerals - and we offer them all our love and support and prayers at this time.

MASSES & SERVICES

SATURDAY (Weekday)	15	5pm	Deceased (Julie Bryant)
SUNDAY Sixth Sunday of the Year (A)	16	10am 5.30pm	(Children's Liturgy) The Parishioners The Parishioners
MONDAY (Weekday)	17	9.30am	Communion Service
TUESDAY (Weekday)	18	9.30am	Pauline O'Toole RIP (Dee & Peter)
WEDNESDAY (Weekday)	19	9.30am	Communion Service (N.B.)
THURSDAY (Weekday)	20	9.30am	Communion Service
FRIDAY (Weekday)	21	9.30am 6-8pm	Communion Service (N.B.) Adoration - everyone welcome to join team even for 10 minutes
SATURDAY (The Chair of St. Peter)	22	5pm	Harry Fellows RIP
SUNDAY Seventh Sunday of the Year (A) Day for the Unemployed	23	10am 5.30pm	(Children's Liturgy) The Parishioners The Parishioners

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30pm to 4.45pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Betty Ward; Moira Stevens; Peter and Dee Avery; Mary Wilmot; Fiona Evans; Roy & Heather Lewis; Frank Ostridge; Jacky Seeds; Archie & Arrison Sullivan; Sheila Koster; Caroline Walker; Margaret Edwards; the Orlando Family; Ross, Philip, Niki & Freya; Betty Hatton; John Stevens; Tony Penfold; carers of the sick; our housebound and all at Maidstone Hospital, Hospice and local Nursing Homes. Please pray for all affected by cutbacks, illnesses and other challenges in our country and world.

RECENTLY DEAD: Fr. John Garrett; Enzo Argento; Anthony Gobel; Norman Neale; Pauline O'Toole; Eileen Lobeck; May Piddock; also Patrick Faulkin (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Nutbeen; Florence Maud Jukes; Eileen Kavanagh; John Smith; John McLoughlin; Natalina Jeffrey; Brian Williams; Rina Franchi; Catherine Fisher; Carmen Mifsud; Thomas Gilligan; Jan Conway-Ryle; Dennis O'Connor; Charles O'Malia.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 16	10am	Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre
MONDAY 17	7.30pm	Parish Future Group meet in Priest's House
TUESDAY 18		(No Baby & Toddler Group - school holiday break)
WEDNESDAY 19		(Fr. Peter at Council of Priests - London)
THURSDAY 20		(Fr. Peter at Kent Clergy Gathering)
FRIDAY 21		(Fr. Peter at Kent Clergy Gathering)
SUNDAY 23	10am	Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre

THANK YOU for your offerings which amounted to £380.08. (Standing Orders average £355 per week). The second collection for Racial Justice raised £146.61.

SECURITY Anyone going into the Church alone must notify the Parish Office **even if they have their own Church key** and lock themselves in for safety reasons. They must also notify the Office when they leave.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The next children's lesson is on **Monday 24th February from 5-6pm**. (Recap on Reconciliation and assess the books and class - discuss Glory to God in the Highest as discussed at parents meeting - check knowledge of prayers and general question time. **(We have taken down photos of last year's first communicants and they will be left on the table in the porch for parents to collect.)**

FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER CARDS Please take a card and pray for the child whose name is on it as they prepare for their First Communion. The cards are in a box on the table in the porch. Thank you.

MOTHERS PRAYER GROUP The next meeting will be on Monday 24th February at 7.30pm in the Church Porch. If you would be interested in attending please contact Steph Blackburn on 07977 458970 or email steph@bbits.co.uk.

**** Save The Date ****
SCHOOL & PARISH SUMMER FAYRE
Saturday 13th June 2020
Let's all get together and make it our best one yet!

DONATE8 has new appeals for help for *welcomers before mass, church cleaners, flower arrangers* and also need a *team to move a shed*. If you can spare some time to help please fill in a card in the church porch and post in the box or email the office with your details. Many thanks.

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER This year the World Day of Prayer Service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe and the title is Rise! Take your mat and walk. There will be two services at 10am and 8pm both at the West Malling Baptist Church with refreshments served 30 minutes before each service. As usual the World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on the first Friday in March which is the 6th. This promises to be a beautiful Ecumenical service and there is a poster at the back of the church advertising it. All are welcome.

HEART OF KENT HOSPICE have a volunteer open morning on Friday 20th March from 10am to 12 noon. See noticeboard for full details.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL From 26th February to 5th April, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Marie Stopes, 10-16 Brewer Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RU, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Rebecca Luton 07956 111909 or rebeccaluton@yahoo.co.uk

BUILDING DISCIPLES FOR MISSION Saturday 22nd February 2020, 10.30am to 4pm at Centre for Catholic Formation, Tooting Bec. A day to equip those with a passion for Evangelisation. With international speaker, Andre Regnier, co-founder of Catholic Christian Outreach (www.cco.ca/parish). *Part One* - What does it mean to be a Missionary Disciple? *Part Two* - How can we form people as missionary disciples in the parish context? For further information or to book a your place - www.ccfootingbec.org.uk or 020 8672 7684.

A DAY WITH MARY (1) St. Columba, Selsdon on Saturday 29th February. (2) Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe on Saturday 14th March. See noticeboard for full details together with information regarding their pilgrimages to Fatima and Italy.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK - Celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Monday 16th March to Friday 20th March 2020. See noticeboard for full details.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS For safeguarding reasons all children under 10 must be escorted to the toilet during Mass. Could we also remind parishioners that the doors inside Church must be accessible at all times and that prams or other items must not block them. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING Fiona's group week beginning 17th February.

CHURCH FLOWERS Elaine's group weeks beginning 21st and 28th February.

NOTICES Please see the Notice Board for more details.

AREA GROUP MEETINGS

West Malling, Offham & Addington meet on Friday 6th March at 7 for 7.30pm at The Bull, High Street, West Malling for a fish and chip supper (dessert extra if required). **RSVP** Bernadette Burke 01732 873392

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Matthew 5:17-37)

Making the right choices

Choices! How difficult sometimes to make the right choices. What to eat today, how to save money, what clothes to wear, what we or our children need. For Christians, prayer and a set of Christian values influence the choices we make. Why not ask the Lord's help to decide what issue is uppermost for us today and dialogue about it?

