

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, LUCKS HILL, WEST MALLING

PRIEST: Fr. Peter Soper, The Priest's House, More Park, West Malling, ME19 6HN Tel: 01732 843302

e mail: westmalling@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.westmallingrc.org.uk

St. Thomas More Pre-School, St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre, Lucks Hill, West Malling, ME19 6HN Tel: 01732 874559

Second Sunday Of Lent (A)

A LENT OF INCREASED PRAYER, LOVE & SELF-CONTROL FOR OUR PARISH

8th March 2020

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE The Bishops have advised us to sanitise our hands before coming to Mass and to ask anyone with cold or flu symptoms to refrain from receiving Communion on the tongue or from the chalice to help contain the spread of the coronavirus. Also, as a precaution, we are not shaking hands at the Sign of Peace or holding hands at the 'Our Father' at Mass.

FUTURE OF THE PARISH We are still awaiting a decision from the Diocese on the Parish Centre and Pre-School (Stable Block) - please keep up the prayers and listen for announcements in Church this weekend.

THIS WEEKEND We continue Lent with a Sunday of encouragement in our Lent and during the week have Stations of the Cross and Penitentials at St. Simon Stock on Tuesday, the Snodland Area Lent House Mass on Wednesday, Adoration on Friday (with an extra Adoration with Fr. Peter's 'Jesus Caritas' group on Monday), and the Youth Group's second Lent meeting on Friday. Please continue to use the Lent 'Prayer Sheets', candles and self-denial envelopes at home.

DURING THE WEEK There are also meetings for the 1st Communion Children, Mothers Prayer Group, Parish Future Group, Baby & Toddler Group, and Churches Together in Snodland.

ARCHBISHOP PETER SMITH, our former Archbishop, has recently received a diagnosis of cancer and is currently in hospital. Please kindly keep him in your prayers at this time.

PRAYERS PLEASE for Tony Brewer RIP and Meg and family and friends as they prepare for his funeral on Tuesday at 10.15am at Vinters Park Crematorium - also for Ann McCormack and Enzo Argento and their families following their funerals last week - also Adrian Atmore and Peter Avery and all facing illness and challenges at this time - and we offer them all our prayers and love and support at this time.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING - especially with the agricultural sectors around Kent - please see the special note about a training day about this here in Bishop's House on Saturday 28th March on page 3 of this newsletter. We have been asked to host this and provide tea and coffee - if you could help with this can you let the office know.

MASSES & SERVICES

SATURDAY (Lent)	7	5pm	Shelton Fernando RIP
SUNDAY Second Sunday of Lent (A)	8	10am 5.30pm	(Children's Lent Liturgy) The Parishioners The Parishioners
MONDAY (Lent)	9	9.30am 12 noon - 1pm	Communion Service Adoration in Church with Fr. Peter's 'Jesus Caritas' Group
TUESDAY (Lent)	10	9.30am 10.15am 7.30pm	Communion Service (N.B.) Funeral Service for Tony Brewer at Vinters Park Crematorium Stations of the Cross (Dee Avery)
WEDNESDAY (Lent)	11	9.30am 8pm	Deceased Relatives & Friends of the Lobo Family Snodland & Halling Lent Area House Mass - see overleaf
THURSDAY (Lent)	12	9.30am	Communion Service
FRIDAY (Lent)	13	9.30am 6-8pm	Welfare of the Diamond Family Adoration - everyone welcome to join team even for 10 minutes
SATURDAY (Lent)	14	5pm	Tony Brewer RIP (Parish)
SUNDAY Third Sunday of Lent (A)	15	10am 5.30pm	(Children's Lent 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; Meg Brewer; Abbey & Oilly Blackmore; Natalie Walker; Jean Clifford; carers of the sick; our house-bound 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: Tony Brewer; Carol Blackmore; Bruce Costin; Fr. John Castelli; Ann McCormack; Colm Hillan; Fr. John Garrett; Enzo Argento; Anthony Gobel (cousin); also Norman Neale (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

ANNIVERSARIES: Lauren McIntosh; Peter Thew; Mary Lucas; Michael Heggarty; Eric Gillespie & Family; Nellie Littlefear; Mary Still; Florence Smith; Patrick O'Neill; Jean Jackson; Harley Bernard.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 7	10am to 12pm	Gardening Club
SUNDAY 8	10am	Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre
MONDAY 9	5-6pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	First Communion Children's Class in Church Mothers Prayer Group in Church Porch Parish Future Group meeting in Priest's House
TUESDAY 10	1.30pm to 3pm	Baby & Toddler Group in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre (Penitentials in St. Simon Stock School)
WEDNESDAY 11	7pm 8pm	Churches Together in Snodland meet at The Vicarage Snodland Area House Mass - see below
FRIDAY 13	7-9pm	Youth Group Lent Meeting in School
SUNDAY 15	10am	Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre

THANK YOU for your offerings which amounted to £468.19. (Standing Orders average £355 per week). The second collection for Poor Parishes raised £339.55. Also, there is a thank you note from Pax Christi on the noticeboard for the £173.78 raised.

100 CLUB Congratulations go to Michael Puxley (No. 28) [£50] for the March draw.

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 9th March from 5-6pm**. (Bread to Offer - discuss chapter.) (**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 9th March 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.

ATTENTION ALL MISSIO RED BOX HOLDERS Along with the beginning of Lent also come the 'MISSIO Today' magazines and our collectors will be contacting all Red Box holders to carry out the Spring collection in the near future. Following the Extraordinary Month of Mission in October 2019, the magazine tells us some of the work your contributions help in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the World.

DONATE8 has new appeals for help for *welcomers before mass, church cleaners, and flower arrangers*. 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.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MALLING Holy Trinity Church Larkfield Quiz Night on Saturday 7th March at Larkfield Scout Hut, opposite the church. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Maximum team size 6 people. £5 per person.

A PILGRIMAGE DAY INTRODUCING THE SAINTS AT ST BENEDICT'S CENTRE will take place on 23rd March from 9.30am to 3pm with Sister Mary John. Cost is £20 to include refreshments plus bring a packed lunch and a change of footwear in case the ground is soggy or damp! See poster on noticeboard for full details of the event.

HEART OF KENT HOSPICE Bluebell Walk 2020 on Sunday 3rd May starting and finishing at Harrietsham Village Hall. See noticeboard for full details.

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES They currently have two job opportunities available. If you would like more information about either of them, please look on the Diocese's website www.rcsouthwark.co.uk. **(1) Marriage Tribunal Administrator** - full time based on Tooting Bec, London SW17 **(2) Safeguarding Office Administrator** - based on the Cathedral site, London SE1.

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 Wiesia's group week beginning 9th March.

CHURCH FLOWERS Lent - No Flowers.

NOTICES Please see the Notice Board for more details.

LENT HOUSE MASSES 2020

Snodland & Halling Wednesday 11th March at 8pm. 33 High Street, Snodland ME6 5AG. Eileen Calkin 01634 240069.

Kings Hill & Mereworth Wednesday 18th March at 8pm. 109 Discovery Drive, Kings Hill ME19 4DS. Mary Lockyear 01732 875752.

Larkfield, Ditton, East Malling & Teston Wednesday 25th March at 8pm. 2 Barrie Drive, Larkfield ME20 6UG. Eileen Scholes 01732 846844.

West Malling, Offham, Addington, Leybourne & Villages Wednesday 1st April at 8pm. 9 The Links, Addington ME19 5RX. Bernadette & Jim Burke 01732 873392.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twainoneflesh.org.uk)

Second Sunday of Lent (Genesis 12:1-4a, 2 Timothy 1:8-10, Matthew 17:1-9)

Transformed by our love

Sometimes life is hard and we can get lost in the daily grind of making ends meet, of getting things done. Then, suddenly, a change occurs through a simple show of affection: a kiss, a touch, a loving glance from my beloved! In little gestures like these, we reveal again our love for each other and our relationship is transformed!

**** **Save The Date** ****

SCHOOL & PARISH SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 13th June 2020

Let's all get together and make it our best one yet!

THE SANTA MARTA GROUP is an international initiative of the Catholic Bishops throughout the world working in partnership with the police and other agencies to bring an end to human trafficking - a form of modern-day slavery. It is a fact that human trafficking exists in every country, and probably in some form in every city and town - and, sad to say, that Kent area is highlighted as one of the many '***Hot Spots***' in the UK. It is hard for us to comprehend that people are being tricked, deceived and traded in our part of the world. The Bishops Conference of England & Wales, through the Santa Marta Group, seeks to create awareness of the trafficking situation and abuses that go on within the agricultural sectors around Kent, but they need the help of some volunteers from our parish to achieve their aim. The Santa Marta Group is, therefore, appealing for volunteers to be trained to assist in creating awareness of the problem of modern-day slavery in our parishes. The volunteers will be commissioned to go to parishes to help promote the campaign against the abuses in the agricultural sector. The training will take place in areas of Kent on two different dates. Please feel free to attend any of the dates. The first will be on Saturday 28th March 2020 at The Hermitage, More Park, West Malling, Kent, ME19 6HN from 10.00am to 2.30pm and the second will be on Saturday 4th April 2020 at St. Thomas of Canterbury Hall (***entry in Canterbury Lane***), Canterbury Lane, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2HJ, from 10.00am to 2.30pm. You are invited to attend any of the two training sessions. Please bring a packed lunch. The training programme is also opened to all interested parishioners. If you are interested to be a Volunteer in this project, please speak to your parish clergy. All are invited to the training programme - thank you.



