

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, LUCKS HILL, WEST MALLING
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Fifth Sunday of the Year (A)
RACIAL JUSTICE DAY
9th February 2020

FUTURE OF THE PARISH The Archbishop has received our letter and we are waiting for his reply. The 'Parish Future Group' are meeting this Tuesday - please keep up the prayers

THIS WEEKEND is the first weekend of our "Breather Period" between Candlemas and Lent. We also celebrate our First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass and congratulate and pray for our 1st Communicants and families. It's also Racial Justice Sunday with a second collection during the notices to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote Racial Justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society. This year the focus is on the travelling community - please see the special note overleaf.

DURING THE WEEK There are meetings for the Baby & Toddler Group, Pre-School Committee, 1st Communion Parents, and Youth Group (details overleaf).

NEXT 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!

MASSES & SERVICES

SATURDAY (Weekday) Victims of Trafficking	8	2.30pm 5pm	Baptisms - Harvey & Arthur Richards Christopher Haskins RIP (Chris & Ant Gobel)
SUNDAY Fifth Sunday of the Year (A) Racial Justice Day	9	10am 5.30pm	(1st Communion First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass) The Parishioners Pauline O'Toole & May Piddock RIP (Fr. Peter)
MONDAY (St. Scholastica)	10	9.30am	Communion Service
TUESDAY (Our Lady of Lourdes) World Day for the Sick	11	9.30am	(With Year 3) Keggy Diamond RIP
WEDNESDAY (Weekday)	12	11am	(No Mass or Communion Service at 9.30am) Thanksgiving Mass for Pauline O'Toole RIP (Private Cremation at Vinters Park at 9.30am)
THURSDAY (Weekday)	13	9.30am	Communion Service
FRIDAY Ss. Cyril & Methodius	14	9.30am 6-8pm	Communion Service (N.B.) Adoration - everyone welcome to join team even for 10 minutes
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

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; 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: Norman Neale; Pauline O'Toole; Eileen Lobeck; May Piddock; Patrick Faulkin; also Luke Sullivan (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

ANNIVERSARIES: Martha Rooney; Hugh Goldrick; Florence Berry; Thomas Jackson; Bernard Cunningham; Tony Wilmot; Duncan McIntosh; Ann O'Gorman; Joy Blye; Rene Skelton; Josie Hopson; Niall McNeice; Margaret Taylor; Anthony Plumbly; Renee Havas; Domenico Barnaba; Christopher Taylor; Michael Daly; Peggy McBrien; Mary Rawlings; Dr. Filewitz; Annie Hoey; Emily Florence Gobel; Frank Stone; Nicola Corben; Rev. John O'Donovan; Margaret Nutbeen; Florence Maud Jukes; Eileen Kavanagh; John Smith.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 9		No Children's Liturgy (Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass)
TUESDAY 11	1.30pm to 3pm 7.30pm	Baby & Toddler Group in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre Parish Future Group meet in Priest's House
WEDNESDAY 12	2.30pm 7.30pm for 8pm	Pre-School Committee meet in Pre-School 1st Communion Parents Meeting in Church
FRIDAY 14	7-9pm	Youth Group meet in School
SUNDAY 16	10am	Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre

THANK YOU for your offerings which amounted to £432.79. (Standing Orders average £355 per week).

100 CLUB Congratulations go to Margaret Stone (No. 59) [£50] for the February 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 parents meeting is on **Wednesday 12th February** with refreshments from 7.30pm and the meeting commencing at 8pm. **(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.

YOUTH GROUP - Please see Youth Group Noticeboard for the notice of thanks for the £258.05 the Youth Group raised for Porchlight with their sleepover last November. Congratulations and well done!

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.

St. BENEDICT'S CENTRE are holding a day led by the resource author Martin Henwood, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Dartford on 27th February from 9.30am to 3pm and will cost £20. Please bring your own lunch. To book, please contact: - bookings@stbenedictscentre.org.

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. This programme has helped 10s of 1000s of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme commencing with a residential weekend on 28th/29th Feb and 1st March 2020, call or text 0788 7296933 or 0797 3380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com, or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

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 10th February.

CHURCH FLOWERS Dee's group week beginning 14th February. Elaine's group week beginning 21st February.

NOTICES Please see the Notice Board for more details, including a thank you letter from SPUC thanking St. Thomas More for the wonderful generosity following their recent appeal, and a poster from the Heart of Kent Hospice promoting their Concert of Favourite Music on 25th April at Invicta Grammar School for Girls.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY This weekend, the Catholic Church in England and Wales will celebrate Racial Justice - the theme is: "You are at the heart of the Church". It will celebrate the contribution travelling communities make to the Church in England and Wales. It is an opportunity for all Catholics to pray for, reflect on and respond to racial justice matters within the Church and wider society. Racial Justice Sunday should encourage proactive discussions on overt and covert forms of racism experienced by fellow Catholics from the travelling communities. To support the Church in its work with travellers, a second collection will be taken this weekend. Your contributions, however great or small, will help to make a difference.

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)

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Isaiah 58:7-10, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Matthew 5:13-16)

Unity is the key

When we married, a new flame was lit in our Church, signified by the lighting of a new candle as we made our vows and became "Little Church" together. Now, as we think of our life up to now, we can see how our love has been reflected on to our children, our family and our Church community.

