

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Lately dead:

Mary Fuscoe

May she rest in peace

Anniversaries:

James Graham, Margaret Mead, Marian Proscinski, Veaux Leila Du, Bernarda Sekolec, Elizabeth Courtney, Terence Murphy, Kathleen Douglas, Sr Bernadette Cain, Luigi Beschizza, Eileen O'Connell, Miss Hill, Gerald Thackway, Juliet Woodleigh, Maria Petter, Rose McGranaghan, Mrs R Wren, Paz Mingay, Ronald Murphy.

Private prayer

The Church is open at least 30 minutes before Mass commences. If anyone wishes to visit for private prayer during that time they are most welcome.

We hope to open for private prayer when the heating project finishes at the end of June.

Mass Timetable

All our services are live streamed

Monday

Open for 10am Mass

Wednesday

Open for 10am Mass followed by the Rosary

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

8am Mass no public live streamed ONLY and recorded

Saturday

Open for Mass at 10am & 6pm

Sunday

8.30am, 10am & 11.30am
(The 11.30am Mass is recorded)

Remember when attending Mass that there is a one way system in operation and the stewards will direct you to a seat

Please wear a facemask, sanitise your hands, observe appropriate distancing & follow the instructions of the Stewards.

Confessions

Are taking place by Appointment



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green
A FAIRTRADE PARISH



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Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)

9th May 2021

At the heart of the Gospel message is love, and our readings today celebrate the Spirit of God's love in the Church and in the whole world.

First Reading

Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

Christ has revealed that God's love extends to everybody.

Second Reading

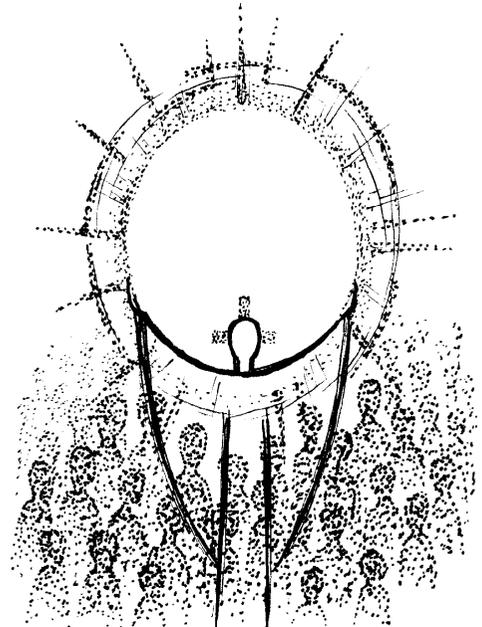
1 John 4:7-10

John insists that the more fully and completely we know God, the more the reality of God's love dawns on us. We are called to love one another as God has loved us.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

Jesus spends his last hours with his closest companions, speaking of love – abiding in love, living each day with joy, and bearing the fruits of that love and joy.



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations

Sisters of the Holy Family of Bordeaux

With sadness we learned this week that the sisters are shortly to close their house on The Green and withdraw from our parish. Several of the community working with us for a long time have moved elsewhere in recent months. The remaining sisters will move: some to Rockferry, some to a new venture working with immigrants in Wrexham. The move was forced by the widespread decline in vocations to religious life and the near-disappearance of new candidates for it.

Parkmore school

In 1879 they came to Woodford to set up a school in Sydney Road. There was no local church for we friars only arrived in 1894. The sisters' community flourished and built St Mary's secondary school in Mornington Road. Once St Antony's school opened they supplied members to the teaching staff. Living memory goes back to Sister Dolores who reigned as Head teacher there for 35 years. In the 1970s, through the generosity of the sisters St Mary's combined with St Paul's Secondary Modern to form Trinity. The sisters moved across the Green, to continue their work of prayer and pastoral service that you and I have known and valued so much.

Disaster? or Opportunity?

Many of our present parish will remember with gratitude the good education and care they have received from them. There will be less awareness of the unseen influence of the sisters' life of prayer, even though this is just as important and life-giving as the visible and tangible education process. What – we puzzle – is God doing in the steady decline of religious Orders? The answer: It is the age of the laity. There was a comfort in the days when you could sit in the benches at mass, hear the preaching yet feel safe in that there were priests and religious in abundance to lead God's work. It is no longer so. You have the Holy Spirit. The baton has been handed on to you.

A novelty?

No. You have been progressively taking over more and more. A couple of examples: This week a most impressive survey has appeared about the course of preparation for Confirmation in the parish. You have planned and executed an exercise of huge value to this year's candidates for this sacrament. New ways of home-based preparation for First Communion – and all subsequent communions – has pioneered teaching in a setting much better than school or mass-teaching in Becket. If you look at all the services of our parish – social, caring for health of mind, body, emotions and spirit you see a wide range. Then there is caring for poor, sick, lonely, bereaved that you cover with quiet perception and generosity.

Mass Intentions

Sunday 9th May

People of the parish
David Scoggins sick
Michael Butterworth RIP

Monday 10th May

Allen Charles RIP
Frances Byrne RIP
Trinity intentions

Tuesday 11th May

Marcella Graham sick
Sr Bernadette Ward
Holy Souls

Wednesday 12th May

Derek Beerli anniversary
Christopher Wright anniversary
Chris Nestor RIP

Thursday 13th May

People of the parish
Johanna Morrissey

Funeral Anne Duffee

Friday 14th May

David Scoggins sick
Gerry Doris sick

Funeral Mabel Harris

Saturday 15th May

Those who helped Sheila Charles
Holy Family sisters
Stubbings family thanks

Sunday 16th May

People of the parish
Joe Martin anniversary
Alfred & Dorothy Hagger RIP



Church Cleaning

Saturday 15th May at 10.30am

Rachel Woolf & Kathleen Mahoney

BRIDGE

If there is sufficient interest, we will start a Bridge club when Covid restrictions allow. Please contact bridgeclub@stthomaswoodford.org and indicate if you are a beginner, a social player or a competitive player.

Web update

This week we have a new edition of The Word on our website. This issue contains articles on The Ascension; Mary; Faith in Action; Meditation and Lectio Divina

Emerging from covid

In a situation having some similarity with WWII we have come through a pruning of all our organisations and services. Next week the Parish Council will continue its task of guiding and leading us into the future God wants. We must fill the gap left by the departure of the Sisters of the Holy Family. In addition there are gaps left by covid: some by the death of members still active, some by the inevitable sapping of energies in those who have served for long years. Think. Not "What can the parish do for me?" but "What can I do for the parish?" To match the standard of our past is a big challenge. It is the only thing that can bring us true joy.