

Austin ofm

“It is better for you that I go away!” These are painful words most of the time, from a young child leaving Mum for a day to go to school, to the man leaving his family for a week to go on a business trip, to the young man moving out of his family’s house to begin life on his own, to a loved one saying goodbye in death. Separation hurts, goodbyes bring painful tears, and death of every kind wrenches the heart.

But that is part of the mystery of love. Eventually we all reach a point where what is best for everyone is that we go away so that we can give our spirit. The gift that our lives are can only be fully received after we ascend to where there is no more separation.

Cardinal Newman put it like this: His bodily ascending, is his spiritual descending. His taking our nature to God is the coming of God into us. He has truly taken us to God by bringing God to us.

15TH WOODFORD GUIDES RANGERS

We have some places for girls aged between the ages of 10 and 15. We meet on Friday nights in the Becket Centre. If you would like more information, please call Janet Morris 07803810666.

1ST COMMUNION

Please remember in your prayers the children who are making their 1st communion this weekend.

MOTHERS’ PRAYER GROUP

Francis Room after 10am Mass on Tuesday 3rd June.

CWL

Meeting 8pm in the William Scott Room on 4th June.

800 YEARS!

The Friars have donated a book and DVD to celebrate 800 years of the Order of Franciscan Friars and these are available this weekend at the back of the church for you to take a copy. The book celebrates Franciscans with Frontiers since 1209 and the DVD looks at the life and ministry of the Friars in Great Britain since 1224. You are welcome to take a copy of each and any donations would be gratefully received.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Next month our meeting will be back in the usual place in the Becket Centre. It will take place on Thursday, 12th June at 7.30pm. Please ring Angela on 020 8505 0356 if you have any queries about this meeting. Anyone who has been bereaved and feels that they would like to join our small, supportive group is welcome to ‘phone for more details.

A date for your diary:

Annual Bereavement afternoon tea will be held on Sunday, 29th June from 3—4.30pm. More details to follow.

THE AURELIAN ENSEMBLE

Sat. 12th July at 7.45pm in St. Thomas’. A Summer Promenade Concert in honour of Sea Sunday. Please see poster on the noticeboard. Advance tickets contact Kathryn 020 8505 7900 or Tom 07835 721930. Profits from this evening’s event will be donated to the parish Jumbulance Appeal.

COMPANIONS

Meeting of the Companions in Chigwell on Monday, 2nd June at 2pm. All are welcome.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX CHOIR

Sat. 5th July 7.30pm at Walthamstow Assembly Hall. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church giving more details.

PLANT WATERING ROTA

We have volunteers for Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, but still need volunteers for the rest of the week. If you can spare a few moments of your time once a week, we would be grateful to hear from you. Please contact the parish office.

MARRIAGE CARE

Ilford Centre are looking for suitable volunteers (male or female) to be trained as Marriage Preparation Providers/Counsellors/FOCCUS Facilitators. Training for Marriage preparation will be over 2 weekends. For further information please contact Glenda Spencer on 020 8590 7775.

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS

Come and join us for a family day of faith and fun. There are two grandparents’ pilgrimages one to Aylesford on Sat. 12th July and the other Walsingham on Sat. 26th July. Call Elizabeth 01277 265236 or familylife@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

FOOTBALL RECRUITMENT

St. Thomas of Canterbury YFC

We are expanding again. Playing under 7,8,9,10,11,12 and 13 teams this season we are looking to increase next season to under 15 as well (that’s year 10 next year_). We train at Woodbridge School, St. Barnabas Rd. We are looking for boys and girls of all ages from reception up, we are not worried if they haven’t played before. For more information call Matt Tallon 07855170256/ matttallon1@gmail.com.

JOB VACANCY

At Brentwood Cathedral. Fr. Martin Boland is looking for a PA to support him in running a large busy parish and diocesan events that take place at the Cathedral. For more information contact Fr. Martin Boland cathedralbrentwood@gmailcom or 01277 265235 by 15th June.

GARDEN FETE

14th June 12pm—5pm

Volunteers Required. Please take a flyer from the back of the church if you would like to be involved.

WE NEED

Wine bottles, beer bottles, spirit bottles, mixer bottles, soft drink bottles. Please donate a **BOTTLE** before 14th June for the ever popular Bottle Stall. Please hand bottles in to the Parish Office or contact Laura Beales 020 8505 2311.

ALSO we would appreciate donations of toys, books, DVDs to be left at the back of the church or call Santina 020 8506 0615. **PLEASE PLEASE NO JUMBLE.** We also rely on donations of plants which ideally are to be dropped off on the day. Raffle prizes would also be welcome—these can be left in the office. Many thanks.

BCCS SPONSORED WALK

The parish sponsored walk for Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is taking place this year on Saturday, 21st June. The approx 7 mile round trip to High Beach is highly suitable for all ages. Families are especially welcomed. Meet at 10.30am Becket Centre for 11am start, returning at approx 3pm for refreshments provided by the CWL. Last year, thanks to the generosity of parishioners, we raised over £3k for the BCCS. Please contact David Underwood on 07905 741033 if you would like to take part or sponsor the walk.

THE CLIMATE IS A CHANGING

Are you aged 18-30, living in or around London? We need you to take action on Climate! Come to our evening talk on Wed. 2nd July to find out what CAFOD is doing to tackle climate change and how you can play a vital role. For more info and free ticket visit www.cafod.org.uk/Events/youngadultclimateevent.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Phil Archer, Ellen Armstrong, Mary Barnes, Moira Bisset, Teresa Bonaventure, Irene Bradbury, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Janet Canty, Violet Clarke, Donald Dourado, Bernie Doyle, Mary Duffy, Michael Durcan, Harold Elston, Ray Finney, Fr. Jim Fitzpatrick, Philomena Freeman, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Nora Gaiger, Martin Garnar, Ollie Gaynor, Judy & John Gilmartin, Kathleen Gissane, Joan Green, Pat Greene, Lyndsy Greck, Doris Harriss, Christine Hewstone, Maureen Howlin, Desmond Kavanagh, Sophie Jordan, Phyllis & Geraldine Kelly, Fr. Austin Kinsella O.F.M., Claire Lauren, Nora Lucey, Mary McKay, Gloria McQueen, Roger Machin, Hannah Martin, Paul Mason, Sadie Meade, Jutta Menzies, Kay Meyler, John Moneghan, Jean Morgan, Trisha Morgan-Smith, Maureen Moss, Miriam Mullally, Maureen Noden, Betty Norton, Anthony O'Boyle, Mary O'Boyle, Joanne O'Boyle, Fr. Con O'Connell O.F.M., Paul McDonnell, Mick O'Hara, Una O'Mally, Janet Pinfold, John Potter's sister who is seriously ill, Anneli Prowse, Jacky Rott, Debbie Smythe, Karen Spencer, Carmel Sweeney, Mary Sullivan, Christine Thurston, Teresa Warnock, Terry Wauer, Richard White, Monica Worsfold.

Anniversaries. Patrick Kildea, James & Elizabeth Loughran, Jack Poulter, Michael Reilly.

Lately Dead. Tommy Feehan, Kit Fitzgerald, Daniel Kilvington, Ram Ramsey

SUNDAY MASSES

St. Thomas'

1st Mass Sat. 6pm; 8.30am;
10am (Children's Liturgy)
11.30am

Chigwell Convent

10am

St. James URC (Buckhurst Hill)

9am (Children's Liturgy)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St. Thomas'

10am

Chigwell Convent

9.30am

Saturday 10am

(1st Weds of the month)

No morning Mass

Trinity High School

8.20am on Lower Site.

CHURCH CLEANING

Thursday, 10.30am 5th June, Mary Charter, Dianne Molloy, Dorothee Gabriel and Rowena Li.

DIOCESAN COLLECTION

There will be a collection after all Masses this weekend for World Communications Day.

UNUSED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS?

Do you have a musical instrument gathering dust in a drawer or cupboard, once used by you or your children, but no more? At St. Teresa's, Basildon, children are working with classical musician James Rhodes to form a school orchestra. Could you donate your instrument?

Please contact Fr. Dominic Howarth

01268 281732 or email
frdominic@basildoncatholics.org. We will pay postage or arrange a pick up and your instrument will be put to very good use—it could truly transform the life of one of our children as they discover new talents.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL

Nursery Assistant required for Sept. 2014. Full-time, term time only (37 wks per year) ALSO Finance/Reprographics/First Aid Assistant required a.s.a.p. (37 weeks per year. Contact Mrs Juffs, 0208 989 4700 or sbm@stjosephsconventschoo.co.uk.



St Thomas of Canterbury

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Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

1ST JUNE 2014

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY



Today our risen Lord ascends to his Father's right hand. In him, our mortal nature experiences immortality. We are no longer destined for death, but for life and glory in heaven. May our celebration today help us to find hope and joy in our faith.

First Reading

(Acts 1:11-11)

The second volume of St. Luke's story of Jesus begins with the story of his ascension into heaven.

Second Reading

(Ephesians 1:17-23)

St. Paul prays that we may fully understand what Christ's resurrection and ascension mean for us.

Gospel

(Matthew 28:16-20)

Before being taken up into heaven, Jesus sends out his disciples to all the nations, to continue his own mission by baptising them and teaching them to observe all his commandments.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

God goes up with shouts of joy;
The Lord goes up with trumpet blast.