

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

### Sisters of Chigwell Convent

We offer our sympathy to the Sisters of Chigwell Convent. On Tuesday there was a quadruple burial in their cemetery. Three of their sisters, all suffering terminal illness and cared for in their nursing home in Uxbridge had died a couple of weeks ago. The fourth casualty was Dermot an elderly friend of the convent who like the 3 sisters had been a patient there. Together they were brought to Chigwell and buried with the briefest of ceremony. By the time this happened a further two sisters have died in the same home. We do not know when they will come for burial.

### Anniversaries:

Sarah Glyde, Peggy Hall, Lita Hayde, Helena James, Margaret Murphy, Sandra Sifflet, Garrett Godkin, Dominic Correia, Patrick Lennon, Frederick Simmons, Jessie Anderson, Luciana Dodge, Anthony Fair, Eileen Hands, Terence Lewis, Maureen Morgan, Ann Starr, Mary Onn, Richard Flynn.



**Pray the Rosary  
to unite in pray-  
er for the pan-  
demic to end**



### Parish Website

To view our parish website go to [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org).

### Live Mass

To view Live Mass go to [www.stthomaswoodford.org/watch-mass-live](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org/watch-mass-live).

### Recorded Mass

To watch a mass or other service which has previously been recorded go to <https://www.stthomaswoodford.org/watch-the-mass> Then click 'Watch Mass Online to view Sunday, Easter or Christmas masses Or click 'Special Services' to see other masses, prayer services or events.

### Parish Newsletter

To sign up to receive the parish newsletter online go to <https://www.stthomaswoodford.org/>

Scroll down to the bottom of the page where you will see (on the right hand side) a box headed SUBSCRIBE TO THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

### Parish News

To sign up to receive general parish news please mail [parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org)



**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

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Website: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)

Facebook: [@STOCWoodford](https://www.facebook.com/STOCWoodford)

Twitter: [@STOCWoodford](https://twitter.com/STOCWoodford)



Served by the Franciscans

## 3rd Sunday of Easter Sunday Cycle A Sunday 26th April

The Church gathers us together once again to hear the story of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, how lives are turned around when the story of our fear and disappointment is shared with a stranger on the road to Emmaus.

### First Reading Acts 2:14. 22-33

Peter gives witness to the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, in fulfilment of the prophecy of David that God's holy one would not be allowed to experience corruption.

### Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21

We are freed from a useless way of life by the ransom paid in the precious blood of the lamb that is Christ.

### Gospel Luke 24:13-35

The disciples' hearts burn within them as they talk with the stranger on the road to Emmaus and they recognise the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

### Responsorial psalm

Show us, Lord, the path of life.



As with the broadcasters so with us: There is next to no **news to communicate**. Yet they manage somehow to fill the allotted news slots. Someone remarked that life in the Friary must be like going back to the noviciate. To an extent that is so. We have space to pray and read. Our daily mass is leisurely as are the hours of the office.

We are getting used to the **Sunday streamed mass**. It has prompted a canvassing of views of the members of the parish council and others about our equipment for streaming, but also the inadequacy of the church loudspeaker system. That is where and how we are.

**But what of you?** Surely there are many lonely. A considerable number engaged in various degree and manner in the NHS and its contributory services. Many stretched to the limit in keeping families interested and happy, and fed! It is distressing that we are unable to know, and to be of service to you. If one thing is abundantly clear it is the need and the actuality of service to others in need. Let's hope this is not forgotten when eventually we can congregate safely.

**When will the lockdown end?** I have a theory which would suggest we still have a long way to go. God has a purpose in driving us into solitude and a stop to our previous frenzied activity. He wants us to learn to be contemplative. It takes a long time to learn. It is not pleasurable since we are now conditioned to see value only in activity. Yet not unpleasant.

God wants us to learn: simply to be.

It is a gift.

In addition he has given us more than a month of quite unprecedented good weather to help us in our learning to become contemplative. St Francis took pains to find solitude - on Mount La Verna, Poggiobustone, Le Celle and many other inaccessible places where he spent his 40 days of unremitting prayer. Nature in each of these places is full of Italian beauty. This month God has given us sunshine to take in the glory of our Spring with its abundance of beauty – flowers, shrubs, trees each blossoming in turn to cede ascendancy to the next variety peaking. Contemplating beauty; being still with God. There can be no doubt it is His intention that we use the stillness to grow. Into Him.

### Mass Intentions

#### **Sunday 26th April**

People of parish  
John Doherty RIP

#### **Monday 27th April**

Frank Fitzpatrick RIP  
Ann O'Gara RIP

#### **Tuesday 28th April**

Bernadette Blade sick  
Peter & Petrina Stubbings

#### **Wednesday 29th April**

Fr Austin

#### **Thursday 30th April**

Bernard Trill RIP

#### **Friday 1st May**

CWL  
Protasio Pingli RIP

#### **Saturday 2nd May**

Renzo Bechelli RIP

#### **Sunday 3rd May**

People of the parish  
Stubbings Family thanksgiving

### More from Pope Francis speaking to his biographer in Holy Week

“We need to recover our memory because memory will come to our aid. This is not humanity's first plague; the others have become mere anecdotes. We need to remember our roots, our tradition which is packed full of memories. In the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, the First Week, as well as the “Contemplation to Attain Love” in the Fourth Week, are completely taken up with remembering. It's a conversion through remembrance.

This crisis is affecting us all, rich and poor alike, and putting a spotlight on hypocrisy. I am worried by the hypocrisy of certain political personalities who speak of facing up to the crisis, of the problem of hunger in the world, but who in the meantime manufacture weapons. This is a time to be converted from this kind of functional hypocrisy. It's a time for integrity. Either we are coherent with our beliefs or we lose everything.

You ask me about conversion. Every crisis contains both danger and opportunity: the opportunity to move out from the danger. Today I believe we have to slow down our rate of production and consumption (Laudato Si', 191) and to learn to understand and contemplate the natural world. We need to reconnect with our real surroundings. This is the opportunity for conversion. Yes, I see early signs of an economy that is less liquid, more human. But let us not lose our memory once all this is past, let us not file it away and go back to where we were. This is the time to take the decisive step, to move from using and misusing nature to contemplating it. We have lost the contemplative dimension; we have to get it back at this time.”



Join us for  
**Mass on-line**  
live this  
**Sunday at**  
**10am**

### Suggested reflection activity for young people

Draw a path on a big piece of paper and, starting with being born, draw all the most important events in your life so far

*Thank God for always being with you, even if you didn't know it at the time.*

### Brentwood Diocese

Will be celebrating  
**Mass for Migrants**  
via Instagram Livestream on  
**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, at 10.30am.**

The Mass details – and how to access the livestream – are at [www.bcys.net/events/migrantsmass](http://www.bcys.net/events/migrantsmass)

### Mass intentions/mass cards

If you would like a mass said please put the details in an envelope and post through the parish office door. We can also send mass cards for you, however, you will need to provide details of the recipient and their address. Cards cost £1.00.