

ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY

Please remember the following :

† Frank Axson, Vivienne Axson, Maureen Baker, William Bliss, Ada Braithwaite, John Breen, Kathleen Burke, Stella Byrne, Archie Carmichael, Catherine Collins, Michael Cox, Timothy Crowley, Mrs. L. DeViell, Keith Dixey, Bonita Dodd, Simon Dodd, Kathleen Dowling, Anne Downey, Anthony Drozdicki, Bernard Feeney, John Gillies, Samantha Glover, Frank Glyde, Kathleen Gooding, Malcolm Goodwin, Susan Hickey, Ronald Horstead, Maeve Knights, Alice Elizabeth MacKereth, John Maguire, Mary Michell, Elizabeth Murray, Heather Notarianni, Donny O'Rourke, Denis O'Sullivan, Leslie Paterson, Harry Pither, Florence Porter, Jillian Saunders, Katy Smith, Mary Tinson, Walter Watson. †

MASS RESPONSES

Responsorial Psalm

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

To arrange visits to the sick and housebound please contact Sharon in the office.

New to the Parish? Please go to our website and fill in your details and Fr Brett will contact you in due course.

Parish Priest: Fr. Brett Adams

96 Ness Road, Shoeburyness, SS3 9DH

Telephone: 01702 292726

Website: www.saintgeorgeschurch.co.uk

Facebook: @stgeorgeandtheenglishmartyrs

School: St. George's Catholic Primary

Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 9RN

Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado

Telephone: 01702 293522

Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Open: Mon 10am - 3pm; Tues 8.30am - 5pm; Weds 8.30am - 1pm; Thurs 10am - 3pm.

Email: stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer. Tel. 585839

Suggestions Email:

suggestions_stgc@btinternet.com

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Those who receive Holy Communion

at home: Jo Williams, Eileen Barber, Tom Costello, Eileen Glyde, Roland de Cruz, Christine Leaver, Patricia Connolly, Neil O'Boyle, Michael Ryan, June Dillon, Carmel Collis, Rudolf Seneca, Kate Baron, Jack Pollock. Margaret Yorke-Starkey.

Other friends and family in our prayers:

Jane Barker, Kitty Grange, Robert Walliker, Sonia Curtis, Julie Stubbs, Colin Bennett, Janet Bernard, Eileen Malone, Margaret Button, Eileen Wilson, Theo Kalogerides, Maureen Woodcock, Rosie Stubbs, Mark Whitton, Shirley Essex, Emma Tredgett, Elisa Roffey, Anthony Betts, Gary Perez, Karel O'Rourke, Doug Woulds, Monica McGrath, Michael Tobin, Marion Storey, Alison Gleave, Joan Butcher, Pat Davison, Jackie and Ron Gravestock, Lesley Sullivan, Liam Bryan, Don Cannon, Steve Magee, Cath Wilks, Brigid Hogan, Gabriella Magee, Lorna Smith, Sylvia Asuquo, Michelle Oatham, Yvonne Byford, James Corr, Hilary Bliss, Paul Herbert, Joan O'Connor, Alan Essex, Glenda Rhodes, Esmé Kelly, Severino D'Andrea, Phyllis Green, Dexter and Claire Stubbs, John Wilks, Arthur Partington.

The Catholic Parish of

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Twinned with Mpuluzi, South Africa

First Sunday of Lent - Year B

In the gospel this weekend we hear a very succinct account of what happens to Jesus after his baptism – “The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days and was tempted by Satan.” Jesus’ life in the Spirit begins with an immediate challenge!

The other gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus are much more detailed than Mark’s as they go into the details of the individual temptations that Jesus must face. This brief, fast-paced style of Mark is reflected throughout the whole of his gospel. During his public life of preaching and healing, Jesus will appear as strong, focused and determined, very much in control of his destiny. However, the ‘table will turn’ at the end of his life after Judas has handed him over to his executioners. Here he will find himself in a new ‘wilderness’ where he will be totally passive as he is beaten and cursed by his persecutors.

Here is a lesson in what ‘a life in the Spirit’ looks like. Sometimes we need to be active, take control and use our initiative in witnessing to our faith and the power of God’s truth in Christ. Other times we need to be passive, allowing God’s Spirit to speak to us, guide us and, if necessary take control.

Naturally though, both stances must be present in our lives; we need to be active in living our faith, but we also need prayer and reflection to inform and enrich our activity.

But equally important is “balance”. If there is too much wanting control, then our ego may well be at work, rather than God’s Spirit. If we’re too passive, then we may end up doing nothing and therefore missing the incarnational nature of what we are about, which is making it real. If both *active* and *passive* are correctly balanced, we will find that a cohesive whole will gradually form in terms of our faith response.

Lent is an excellent opportunity in reviewing these areas of our faith lives. How are we with the *active* and *passive* dimensions of living out our faith life? Do we need more ‘faith in action’ going on? Do we need more prayer, reflection and self-analysis time? And when the two do come together, how balanced are they?

If you didn’t get a copy of the *Lenten Diary* which we gave out last week, then you’ll see a copy in the porch. It suggests some Lenten activities that we might engage in. We talk about giving things up for Lent, why not take something on?

And beware of the danger of giving up Lent for Lent!

Have a good week.



Fr Brett

17th FEBRUARY – 25th FEBRUARY 2018

First Sunday of Lent - Year B

Saturday 17th	6.00pm	Chris and All Cancer Sufferers (Pat Sach)
Sunday 18th	8.45am*	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time For All Parishioners
	10.45am	Sharon's Intentions (Chris and Tom)
	4.00pm*	Vespers (St. Gregory's)
Monday 19th	9.15am	Feria For the Intentions of All who have sent cards and good wishes to Lorna recently.
Tuesday 20th	9.15am*	Feria Pauline Heard RIP (Anne Brown)
Wednesday 21st	10.15am	Feria Requiem Mass for Brian Whelan RIP
Thursday 22nd	9.15am	The Chair of St Peter Eucharistic Service
Friday 23rd	9.15am 7.30pm	Feria Tina Kentish RIP Stations of the Cross
Saturday 24th	6.00pm	Intentions of Jacqui and Jim Graham (Dianne)
Sunday 25th	8.45am* 10.45am 4.00pm	Second Sunday of Lent For All Parishioners Intentions of Val McEvoy (Sharon) Vespers (St. George's)

*At St. Gregory's, Thorpe Bay

Confessions at St. George's—Saturday 5pm to 5.45pm. Other times may be available upon request.

Morning Prayer will begin at 9am, followed by Mass at 9.15am, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: - Adoration is on Friday mornings following the Mass. Benediction will take place at 11.45am.

SACRED JOURNEYS PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI

Tuesday 16th October to Sunday 21st October 2018

With special visits to The Madonna of Divine Amore Rome
Wednesday- General audience with Pope Francis in St Peter's Square & afternoon visit to Saint Philip Neri.
Thursday – St Francis of Assisi with special visit to Greccio, first crib built by St Francis
Friday- Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem – Rome & Holy Steps visit.
Saturday – Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Revelation & Abbazia "Quo Vadis Domine" and visit the seminary of the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
Sunday – Mass, then visit to the catacombs then return home to the UK
Price includes flights, transfers and full board £760 per person
Further information contact 01702 432458 / 07753 203129 / 07946 687623 Salvatore or Patricia Burzotta.



ST THOMAS MORE ALUMNI ANNUAL DINNER

The annual St Thomas More Alumni dinner will take place on **Saturday 24th February** at the school. Open to all past pupils and former/current members of staff. Five-course meal for only £26.00, plus plenty of wine and beer and a guest speaker. Full details at www.stmalumni.co.uk or email pdstmoldboys@blueyonder.co.uk

POPE FRANCIS' THOUGHT FOR LENT

Where there is shouting, let us practise listening;
Where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;
Where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;
Where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;
Where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;
Where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;
Where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;
Where there is hostility, let us bring respect;
Where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.

Amen

SOUTHEND DEANERY LENT TALKS

Theme: - 'The Ministries to which we are called'

Taking place at Nazareth House, Southend, on four Thursdays in Lent, beginning at 7.30pm, and ending with devotions and Benediction. Priests will be available to hear Confessions. The first one is as follows:-
22nd February - The Pastoral Care of the Sick and the Dying
Fr Gerry Drummond, Parish Priest of Rochford and Hockley, and Catholic Chaplain to Southend Hospital.

CAME BREAKFAST

(Churches Together in Great Waking)
Breakfast together with fellow Christians at 8.30am on Saturday 24th February in St. Nicholas' Hall, High St., Great Waking.
Just turn up on the day - all welcome!

OFFERTORY

The offertory last weekend came to £779.30 excluding Gift Aid and standing orders. The retiring collection for the Lourdes Sick and Pilgrimage Helpers Fund amounted to £298.65 excluding Gift Aid.
Many thanks to you all.

REFRAME

A Catholic Voices Initiative

It's tough when you're asked about a controversial issue...Reframe is an inspiring and practical experience of applying the wisdom and genius of the heart of the Gospel to 'hot-button' and relevant topics.

Engaging and well-trained speakers want to share the experience of Catholic Voices sharing the Church's story in the media and help ordinary Catholics to change controversy into an opportunity to share the Church's story in your conversations at work and at home.

Find out more about the programme by coming to one of our Workshop days: -

Saturday 28 April 10 am – 3 pm
at St John Payne School, Chelmsford
<https://doodle.com/poll/xcatfin63p9e57d4> to sign up,
or

Saturday 2 June 10 am – 3 pm
at The Campion School, Hornchurch
<https://doodle.com/poll/zhmvykyfyvi8shc5> to sign up.

For more information on Catholic Voices, visit
www.CatholicVoices.org.uk

COFFEE MORNING

This weekend ACROSS will be our hosts. Everyone welcome after the 10.45am Mass. Come and enjoy tea, coffee, and cakes, plus meet up with your parish friends.



The Coffee Mornings for the next few weeks are raising money as follows: -

25 Feb - Parish
4 March - 669

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY:

Friday 23rd February

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. This Friday, can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity? With malnutrition still killing almost 3,000,000 children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat. And this Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate, the UK Government will match it, up to a total of £5million.
Please take a Fast Day envelope home with you and return it next week with your donation.

THIS WEEK

We begin Vespers and Benediction at St. Gregory's this coming Sunday at 4pm. All welcome. If you are new to this tradition, there is an order of service to follow, so don't be afraid to come and join in.

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday, and this coming week we have our Café/Prayer Groups leading us.

PARISH SUMMER FAYRE 2018

We will be holding a meeting to discuss plans for our **Parish Summer Fayre for 2018** on Thursday the 8th March at 7pm in the Committee rooms at the rear of St George's Church (just behind the Church Hall).

If you are / have been / would like to be a stall holder do please come along.

As you may know our 669 group have run the Fayre for a number of years. This year and going forward they would like to pass that role onto another group. We hope to discuss how we can manage that transition. So, if you would like to be involved in the planning/running of this years and future Summer Fayres this is the time to let us know.

PS. we might even tell the closely guarded secret of what "669" actually means 🤫

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CHARITY

CURRY NIGHT

Maureen Woodcock is holding a Charity Curry Evening at the Polash on Wednesday 14th March. More details to follow nearer the time, or see Maureen for more information.

THE GEORGIAN

Wanted! Articles for the next edition of 'The Georgian'
Please send by email any items for inclusion in our next edition.
Please send to Frank McEvoy at:
mcevoy@ymail.com

Closing Date: 17/18 March
Don't forget!

BAPTISM BOOK

Will the lady who gave Tony Castle some money for a Baptism book on Wednesday please contact the office, as you may be due some change.

HOMELESS NEWS

This month we are asking for Tinned Meals - curries, stews, hot dogs, meat balls, and pepper and salt please. Also, as a regular item, long-life milk is always needed. Thank you to everyone who donates, it is much appreciated.

FUNERALS

Brian Whelan RIP

Brian will be brought into St. George's at 4pm on Tuesday 20th February, and his Requiem Mass will take place at 10.15am on Wednesday 21st February.

Pat Davison RIP

Pat's funeral will take place at St. Gregory's Church, Thorpe Bay, on Friday 2nd March at 2.30pm.
Please remember Brian, Pat, and their loving families in your prayers at this sad time.

CANDLES IN CHURCH

Please be aware that, due to Health and Safety reasons, we can only allow people to light votive candles that are on the metal stands in the Our Lady of Walsingham Chapel, and in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Please do not place or light candles anywhere else in the church. Thank you.

BIKING TO CHURCH

Can we ask that anyone bringing a bike into the church grounds does not leave it on the flower beds please. We have a lot of new plants/growth coming through. Many thanks.

" I never knew that about London"



Join the J&P group at 7.30 pm. next weekend, on Saturday 24th February, for fantastic food, facts and fun in a London themed "Cockney Quiz Night". Test your knowledge of people, places, music and history (and the Cockney vernacular) which has contributed to the world's most dynamic metropolis.

£10 each Fish & Chip supper included Bring your own drinks

All proceeds to our project at Mpuluzi, our twinned parish in South Africa.

Reserve your ticket by email at bfitzg6306@sky.com or mobile:
07817842604

LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS!

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 2nd March 2018 at 2pm

'All God's Creation is Very Good'
This year our parish is hosting this, but the venue has been changed to the Methodist Church, The Broadway, Thorpe Bay.

Everyone is welcome to attend, and the service is not just for women. We are very grateful to Thorpe Bay Methodist Church who have again offered their facilities. Offers of help will be gratefully appreciated. Cakes, and plenty of them, will be particularly welcome!

SENIOR JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

We meet in the Committee Room of St. George's Church on Tuesday 20th January, 1.45pm for 2pm. Come and hear about the projects we support. All welcome.

Please note the change of venue.

MEDITATIVE ROSARY

The Rosary Group meet every Tuesday in St. George's Church at 7.30pm. Please come and join us.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

If you need a low gluten host please speak with an usher on arrival in Church, and they will arrange this.