St. Thomas of Canterbury RC Church Newsletter

PARISH CLERGY Fr Tom McElhone (T: 232972) Deacon James Coleman (T: 306558)

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**St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School, Romany Road, Gillingham ME8 6JH**

**Tel: (01634) 234677 Head Teacher Mrs Clare Redmond**

**Parish Secretary**: Emma office hours this week 9-12 Wed & Fri

**Funerals:** **Pat Watkins,** Funeral Mass will take place at St Thomas on Thursday 30th August at 10am followed by committal in Woodlands Cemetery at 11.15am. **Recently Deceased**: Margaret Hutchinson & Cath Graham. Please remember their family and friends in your prayers. May they rest in peace, Amen**.**

**In August, we pray with Pope Francis**: “That any far-reaching decisions of economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity”.

**#Ahoto2018 –**Thank you to everyone who supported our trip to Ahotokurom, through your prayers and fundraising. It was very successful and we will be arranging presentations to the school and parish in September.

**First Holy Communion 2019:**Can any parents who have a child going into Yr 3 or above and wish them to make their First Holy Communion in 2019 please write your name, address and contact phone number and hand it to a member of Clergy, or email rainham@rcaos.org.uk

We will contact you in September with further details.

**Sharing the Faith:** RCIA (*Right of Christian Initiation for Adults*) is the process for people to both enter the Catholic Church and complete the Sacraments of Initiation as adults (18+).  If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church or receiving Holy Communion and/or Confirmation, please contact Deacon Jim on 01634 306558. It is hoped to begin the course for this year in October.

**UCM Rainham**will be holding a quiz night at 8pm on Wednesday 5th September, tickets £3, please bring your own drinks and glasses.  Proceeds in aid of our charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) and anyone is welcome to come along.  Please contact Mrs Alma Payne on 01634 362896/Janet Nastaly on 01634 371897 for further details.

**Baptism Classes -** will be on Saturday **8th & 15th September** for parents who wish to have their children baptised. The meetings will be in the church at 11.30 am.

**Churches Together September Walk** - Saturday 15th September starting on Parkwood Green at 10am to St. Thomas’ for refreshments at 11am and onwards to St. Margaret’s for a concluding liturgy and refreshments at 12 noon. Further details at rear of church.

**Kerala floods: an SVP appeal** - As you’ve probably seen in the media, terrible floods have been taking place in Kerala in southern India.  Hundreds of people have been killed and many more are missing. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), is very active there and they are doing great work helping the victims of the flood in local communities however, they desperately need funds. Please contribute to the SVP’s Kerala appeal and remember our sisters and brothers in Kerala in your prayers. For further details see notice at rear of church.

**Tea/Coffee & Biscuits** in Parish Centre after 10.30 Mass every Sunday, all welcome.

**Noticeboards** - please take some time to read the noticeboards at the rear of church detailing a variety of events happening throughout the year.

**Collections** – 18th & 19th August main collection amounted to £931.01 incl. S/O’s.

**August & September 2018**

**Saturday Our Lady**

25 Sat10.00 CT Donnelly

 **Confessions 10.30 – 11.00 &** **17.30 – 17.45**

18.00 People of the Parish

 **Collection of Dry Goods for Cyrenians**

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**Sunday TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY**

26 Sun10.30 Patricia Anderson

 18.00 Mrs Doris Ward RIP (Irene Mealey)

 **Collection of Dry Goods for Cyrenians**

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27 Mon **- St Monica** 10.00 Kathleen McEvans (Marleen Brooks)

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28 Tue **- St Augustine** 10.00 John Delath (Olga Higgins)

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29 Wed **- The Passion of St John the Baptist**

10.00 Eucharistic Service

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30 Thur **– Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward**

10.00Funeral Mass for Pat Watkins

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31 Fri **- St Aidan** 10.00 John & Michael O’Neill (J&R O’Neill)

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**Next Saturday Our Lady**

1 Sat10.00 People of the Parish

 **Confessions 10.30 – 11.00 &** **17.30 – 17.45**

18.00 Mr Peter Ward RIP (Irene Mealey)

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**Next Sunday TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY**

2 Sun10.30 Felix Fernandez RIP (Noel Fernandez)

 18.00 Joseph Brooks (Marleen Brooks)

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