St. Thomas of Canterbury RC Church Newsletter

PARISH CLERGY Fr Tom McElhone (T: 232972)

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

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

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**Tel: (01634)** **543123 Head Teacher Mrs Dympna Lennon**

Parish Secretary: Emma’s office hours this week 9-12 Mon, Wed & Fri

**Funerals:** The Funeral Mass for Racheal (Ray) Mitchell will be at St Thomas’ Church on Tuesday 20th April at 2pm. The Funeral Mass for Jean Donaghue will be at St Thomas’ Church on Thursday 29th April at 11am. The Funeral Mass for Peggy Rose will be at St Thomas’ Church on Friday 7th May at 10am. Please be aware due to Covid 19 these are private masses but will be live streamed, please see our website for the relevant link.

Please remember their family and friends in your prayers, may they rest in peace, Amen.

**Pope’s prayer intention for April:** ‘For fundamental human rights’ Pope Francis releases his prayer intention for the month of April 2021, and urges everyone to pray for those fighting to protect people’s fundamental human rights in all parts of the world. The full text of the Pope's prayer intention is below:

*Defending fundamental human rights demands courage and determination.  
I’m referring to actively combatting poverty, inequality, the lack of work, land and housing, and the denial of social and labor rights.  
Often, in practice, fundamental human rights are not equal for all.  
There are first-, second-, and third-class people, and those who are disposable.  
No. They must be equal for all.  
In some places, defending people’s dignity can mean going to prison, even without a trial. Or it might mean slander.*

*Every human being has the right to develop fully, and this fundamental right cannot be denied by any country.  
Let us pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis, that they may see their sacrifice and their work bear abundant fruit.*

Live Streamed Mass Links are available on our website [www.rcrainham.co.uk](http://www.rcrainham.co.uk)

**This Sunday’s Second Collection is for St George’s Cathedral, Southwark, the mother church of the diocese. This collection helps meet the cost of the upkeep of the cathedral.**

**Please** observe current **Government guidelines at all times** when in Church.

**Please** remember in your prayers the people who are suffering because of the Covid Virus;

also the children and their families who have started **their First Holy Communion** classes. This year the classes are by Zoom, we will have to work out a way of introducing the children to an experience of live worship and community.

*Almighty ever-living God, only support of our human weakness,*

*look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children*

*who suffer because of this pandemic;*

*relieve the pain of the sick, give strength to those who care for them,*

*welcome into your peace those who have died*

*and, throughout this time of tribulation,*

*grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

**Collections -** 27th & 28th March’s main collection amounted to £1206.42 including S/O’s. Collection for Holy Places 2nd April amounted to £152.79. Thank you for your generosity.

**APRIL 21**

Saturday **Saturday within the Octave of Easter**

10 Sat **18.00** John Liney RIP (Liney Family)

**2ND Collection for the maintenance of St George’s Cathedral**

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Sunday **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

11 Sun **10.30** Rev Alan Boxall RIP

**2ND Collection for the maintenance of St George’s Cathedral**

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12 Mon **Feria**

**10.00** Peggy Hill RIP (E Ballard)

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13 Tue  **St Martin I, Pope and Martyr**

**10.00** Paul Tapley RIP

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14 Wed **Feria**

**10.00** Eucharistic Service

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15 Thur  **Feria**

**10.00** James Brown RIP (Owen O’Neill)

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16 Fri **Feria**

**10.00** Lilian Mulraine RIP (Leek Family)

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Next Saturday **Feria**

17 Sat **18.00** Josie & Family (J&R O’Neill)

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Next Sunday **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

18 Sun **10.30** People of the Parish

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