St. Thomas of Canterbury RC Church Newsletter

PARISH CLERGY Fr Tom McElhone (T: 232972)

Deacon James Coleman (T: 306558) & Deacon Arthur Champ (T: 360251)

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

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

**St. John Fisher Catholic Secondary School, Ordnance St, Chatham ME4 6SG**

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

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

**PARKING -** Please be considerate to all our neighbours when parking for Mass. We have received complaints of parishioner’s cars causing serious road obstructions by double parking narrowing roads access, especially for emergency vehicles, or blocking drives, particularly on Birling Avenue and Cranford Close.

**Prayer - Act of Spiritual Communion My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen**

#### World Mission Sunday 24th October 2021 - Missio is the Church’s official organ for the support of foreign missions. The collection in its entirety goes to supporting churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missio works through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources and distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need.

**About the Synod – Helping people walk the Synodal Way.** Pope Francis has asked the whole Catholic Church worldwide to engage in a process of discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This process is called a synod. It involves everyone in the Church – clergy, religious, and lay Catholics, each participating according to the gifts and charisms of their vocation. The word ‘synod’ comes from two Greek words ‘syn’ meaning together and ‘odos’ meaning way. The English word synod therefore mean making our way tougher, journeying together along the way, united in Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life. As everyone journeys together, listening first to the Lord in their heart and them speaking openly and listening with each other, we learn to hear the voice of the Lord speaking to us. Pope Francis describes it like this: ‘Synodality is a style, it is a walk together, and it is what the Lord expects from the Church of the third millennium’. This Sunday, Archbishop John Wilson will launch the Synodal Process in Southwark with a livestreamed 10am Mass at St George’s Cathedral visit: <https://youtu.be/aiCHG9JuqaY>). A copy of Pastoral Letter for Opening of the Synod at rear of Church and on our website.

**Open Mornings, St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School** Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th October, at 8.15am-11am. For more details and information about how to book, please visit <https://stjohnfisher.school/home/school-information/admissions/>.

**UCM Members** - Fr Tom will celebrate Mass at 2pm on Thursday 21 October in memory of the members of the UCM who have died, especially during the pandemic when we have only been able to have limited numbers at funerals.  After the service we will be holding a short meeting, either on the grass beside the parish centre or in the parish centre with the doors/windows open. We hope to finish by 4pm.  Please wear a mask and bring a plate of food for yourself and any drinks/cups if you require them. Parishioners are welcome to join us. Any queries please contact Alma Payne on 362896.

**Mass Intentions** **-** please be aware the diary for 2021 is full.

**Collection’s -** 2nd & 3rd October main collection amounted to £914.60 including S/O’s

2nd collection for CAFOD amounted to £198.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**OCTOBER 2021**

Saturday **St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin**

16 Sat **Confessions 17.15 - 17.45**

 **18.00** George Showkum (J Boxall)

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Sunday **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY**

17 Sun **10.30** Michael Fennell & Richard Avron-Cotton

 **18.00** People of the Parish

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18 Mon **St Luke**

 **10.00** Teresa Allen (Owen O’Neill)

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19 Tue **St Paul of the Cross, Priest**

 **10.00** Marjorie Harping RIP (M Shackleford)

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20 Wed **- Feria 10.00** Eucharistic Service

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21 Thur **- Feria** **10.00** Mrs Ajela (Fr Tom)

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22 Fri  **St John Paul II, Pope**

 **10.00** Peggy Rose RIP (Eileen & Denis Mills)

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Next Saturday **St John of Capistrano, Priest**

23 Sat **Confessions 17.15 - 17.45**

 **18.00** Peter Drakes

 2nd Collection for Missio

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Next Sunday **THIRTIETH SUNDAY - World Mission Day**

24 Sun **10.30** Tino & Olivia Coleman (R Coleman)

 **18.00** People of the Parish

 2nd Collection for Missio

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