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 Mon, Wed & Fri

**Funerals: Margaret Hanley** funeral Mass will take place at St Thomas’ on Monday 18th March at 10am followed by interment in Woodlands Cemetery at 11.30am. Please remember her family and friends in your prayers. May she rest in peace, Amen**.**

**Bogus Email -** please be aware of a bogus email in circulation feigning to be from Fr Tom, which displays with his picture, asking for your assistance. Please do not open, if in doubt contact the parish office.

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

**Thank you -** Jill & Rod O’Neill would like to thank all who have sent them good wishes, prayers and Masses in this difficult time.

**Confirmation Group -**please pray for our young people who are on retreat this weekend at St. Vincent’s Centre in Whitstable.

**Pathway to a Joyful Easter –** Friday 22nd March, Mass at 7.30pm followed by discussion, all welcome.

**Stations of the Cross** on Wednesday and Friday mornings throughout Lent at 9.20am.

**Lenten Observance -** during Lent there will be evening Mass at 7.30pm on Fridays.

**Beatitudes Lent course** **-** 7-30pm at **St Margaret’s Church**, Rainham

**World Youth Day** **-** Friday 7th to Sunday 9th June 2019 at Alton Towers. The festival is aimed at young people aged 15-25 years; there will be an array of inspiring speakers, uplifting worship, prayer and lots of fun. For further information see the poster at the rear of Church.

**Cafod: Step into the Gap** -In partnership with various UK placements, Cafod offers opportunities for 18-30 year olds to gain experience, develop leadership skills and spend a year in the service of others. This allows them to inspire a generation of people to act for the poorest and most marginalised. Successful applicants may be placed in a retreat centre, university chaplaincy or take part in a programme that works alongside the Catholic community. Applications for September 2019 are now open.  To read more about this opportunity and for an application form visit: **cafod.org.uk/Education/CAFOD-Gap-year**

**NOTICE BOARD AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ - Weekend Workshop Aylesford Priory, March 22nd-24th 2019

St Patrick’s Weekend Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 16th March 2019.

**Chrism Mass** - St George’s Cathedral, Wednesday 17th April at 11.30am.

**Guild of St Stephen: Altar Servers' Rally** - Aylesford Priory Monday 6th May 2019.

World Youth Day - Friday 7th to Sunday 9th June 2019 at Alton Towers

Annual Marriage Mass - 3pm Saturday July 13th, at St George’s Cathedral

The Annual Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - 23rd August to 30th August 2019.

Pilgrimage to the **HOLY LAND** - 29th September to 7th October 2019

Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ - Weekend Workshop Aylesford Priory, October 11th-13th 2019

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

**Collections –** 9th & 10th March main collection amounted to £1064.94 incl. S/O’s.

**March 2019**

**Saturday Feria**

16 Sat10.00 Pat Milton RIP (Dunne Family)

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

**Second Sunday of Lent** 18.00 People of the Parish

 **2nd Collection for CAFOD’s Family Fast Day**

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**Sunday SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

17 Sun10.30 Clare Kavangh RIP (Anne Connally)

 18.00 Huge D’arcy (Brigid Brassill)

 **2nd Collection for CAFOD’s Family Fast Day**

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18 Mon **- Feria** 10.00 Funeral Mass for Margaret Hanley

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19 Tue **- St Joseph** 10.00 Jerard Travers RIP (Patricia Nohilly)

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20 Wed **- Feria** 10.00 Eucharistic Service

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21 Thur **- Feria**  9.15 Violet Berry RIP (S Back)

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22 Fri **- Feria** 10.00 Audrey Fernandez (Noel Fernandez)

 19.30 Memorial Mass for Fr Alex Fraser RIP

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**Next Saturday Feria**

23 Sat10.00 Tino & Olivia (Mrs Coleman)

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

**Third Sunday of Lent** 18.00 People of the Parish

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**Next Sunday THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

24 Sun10.30 Fred Melder RIP (Melder Family)

 18.00 Pat Durkan RIP (Kew Family)

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