St. Thomas of Canterbury RC Church Newsletter

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

Contact Address: Parish Office, 63 London Road, Rainham, Kent, ME8 7RH

Tel: (01634) 232972 e-mail: [rainham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:rainham@rcaos.org.uk) website: [www.rcrainham.co.uk](http://www.rcrainham.co.uk)

**Rainham Safeguarding e-mail:** [**parishsafeguarding63@gmail.com**](mailto:parishsafeguarding63@gmail.com)

**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:** **Bill Devine** Funeral Mass will take place at St Thomas’ on Tuesday 5th February at 10:00am. **Helen O’Brien** Funeral Mass will take place at St Thomas’ on Monday 11th February at 10:00am. **Recently Deceased:** **Elizabeth Mountain.** Please remember their family and friends in your prayers. May they rest in peace, Amen**.**

**St Blaise, Sunday 3rd February** - For rite of blessing of throats will be celebrated after Mass on Sunday.

**Please pray** for our young people who have now started the Confirmation Programme and will be getting to know each other and building church over the next couple of sessions.

**Altar Servers News –** Anyone who wishes to become an Altar server is requested to contact Tony Roberts either at Mass or on 01634 361549.

**Liturgy Meeting -** Tuesday 5th February at 7.30pm. Review of Advent/Christmas services, plans for Lent and Easter please.

**Thursday 8th February** **-** is the Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita - the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking. On this day Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those affected by the crimes of modern slavery and human trafficking, and the people that volunteer and work to eradicate this crime. This year the particular focus is on those who are caught up in forced labour and labour exploitation both in the UK and beyond.

**Racial Justice Sunday is on 17 February 2019.** The theme this year is “Dignity for all workers”, recognising the problems faced by people due to racism and ethnic discrimination in the workplace.

**Bereavement Support Group -** coffee morning meeting 10.30am **Tuesday 19th February** in the Parish Centre.

**World Day of Prayer** **-** Friday 1st March, Holy Trinity Church in Twydall at 2pm. Two volunteers from St Thomas’ required to read a couple of pieces, each playing the parts of Marjeta and Natasha, both Slovenian ladies (one of whom is retired and the latter who is 46 years old). Please email Lindsay Marley - lindsay@pcmarley.co.uk

**100 Club January 2019 Winners -** Congratulations to 1st Prize - Mary Buuljtens £25.00, 2nd Prize Yvonne Durkan £20.00 and 3rd Prize Sr Mary O’Neil £10.00.

**Vacancy for School Chaplain at St John Fisher Catholic School, Chatham, Kent.**

Part Time (Term time only, plus two weeks). Application forms can be downloaded from the school website: www.stjohnfisher.school. Closing Date: 25 February 2019, Interviews to held: Week commencing 4 March 2019. For further details please see notice at rear of church.

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**Pilgrimages to Lourdes, The Holy Land and Fatima –** please see notice at rear of Church.

**NOTICE BOARD AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Follow your Heart - Discernment and Vocation - 15 - 17 Feb 2019 Liverpool (FCJ)**

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.

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

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

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

**Collections –** 26th & 27th January’s main collection amounted to £1109.97 incl. S/O’s.

2nd Collection for SPUC (White Flower) amounted to £117.97. Thank you for your generosity.

**February 2019**

**Saturday THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

2 Sat10.00 People of the Parish

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

**Fourth Sunday** 18.00 Frank Doherty RIP (Jim & Yvonne Durkan)

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**Sunday FOURTH SUNDAY**

3 Sun10.30 Katie Mullarkey RIP (Anne Lewis)

18.00 Caroline Wordsworth (E&D Mills)

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4Mon **- Feria** 10.00 Mrs Patricia Rhatigan RIP (Mrs Pamela Jordan)

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5 Tue **- St Agatha** 10.00 Funeral Mass for Bill Devine

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6 Wed **- St Paul Miki and Companions**

10.00 Eucharistic Service

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7 Thur **- Feria** 9.15 John Lewis RIP (Anne Lewis) **School Mass**

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8 Fri **- St Josephine Bakhita Day for Victims of Trafficking**

10.00 Maurice Springate RIP (Pat Springate)

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**Next Saturday Our Lady**

9 Sat10.00 Carol Pringle RIP (J&J Viotto)

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

**Fifth Sunday** 18.00 Denny Delaney (Nora Reid)

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**Next Sunday FIFTH SUNDAY**

10 Sun10.30 Joseph O’Reilly RIP (Anne Connelly)

18.00 People of the Parish

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