

**ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH , LUCKS HILL, WEST MALLING**  
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## 24th Sunday of the Year (B) 16th September 2018

**THIS WEEKEND** is Home Mission Sunday with a collection during the Notices to support the Bishops National work of Evangelisation. In today's Gospel Jesus presents us, as Disciples, with a challenging question, "Who do you say I am?" For some the most challenging element of this question is about whether we talk about Him at all. Today on Home Mission Sunday we have been praying for the spread of the Gospel and in the second collection will have the opportunity to support it financially by giving what we can. The money you give to this collection does not go abroad but is used to help Catholics in England and Wales become more confident in sharing their faith. For more information about the Home Mission Office please visit [www.homemission.org.uk](http://www.homemission.org.uk)

**NEXT WEEKEND - CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT** will take place during Mass. Please pray for our candidates as they make their decision whether to enrol or defer this weekend.

**THANKS** to all who arranged and supported our 'Open-Air' Cinema fundraising event this weekend - we will let you know the amount raised.

**PRAYERS PLEASE** for James Cork of Snodland and his family as they prepare for his funeral at Vinters Park Crematorium on Wednesday 26th September at 12.30pm - also Fr. John Mulligan and the Parish of Morden - and we offer them all our love and support and prayers at this time.

**GOOD WISHES** to Bishop Paul Mason in his new role as 'Bishop of the Forces' - also to Fr. Sam Davey who is leaving Maidstone for a new appointment in the Archdiocese of Birmingham - and we offer them our thanks and prayers.

### MASSES & SERVICES

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|--|----|----------------|--|
| <b>SATURDAY</b> (23rd Week of the Year)  | 15 | 5pm            | Beno and Neville Perera - Wedding Anniversary  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br><b>24th Sunday of the Year (B)</b>  | 16 | 10am<br>5.30pm | (Children's Liturgy) Ellen Caughlin RIP<br>The Parishioners  |
| <b>MONDAY</b> (24th Week of the Year)  | 17 | 9.30am         | Communion Service  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b> (24th Week of the Year)   | 18 | 9.30am         | Fr. John Mulligan RIP  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> (24th Week of the Year)   | 19 | 9.30am         | Communion Service  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>(St. Andrew Kim and Companions)   | 20 | 9.30am         | Communion Service  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b> (St. Matthew)  | 21 | 9.30am         | Canon Joseph Simmons RIP (Foundation Mass)   |
| <b>SATURDAY</b> (24th Week of the Year)  | 22 | 5pm            | (Confirmation Enrolment)<br>Beno and Neville Perera - intentions   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br><b>25th Sunday of the Year (B)</b><br><b>Confirmation Enrolment Weekend</b> | 23 | 10am<br>5.30pm | (Children's Liturgy and Confirmation Enrolment)<br>The Parishioners<br>(Confirmation Enrolment) The Parishioners |

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday from 4.30 to 4.45pm

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Baby Giorgio Gangemi; Jenny Craddock; Nicholas Powell; Terry Barton; Betty Ward; Max Bryer; Sue Foley; Moira Stevens; James Hay; Brendin O'Doherty; Sarah Content; Susan Peek; Frank Hall; May Pid-dock; Isabel Elanjikal; Mary Sellwood; Audrey Matcham; our housebound and all at Maidstone Hospital, Hospice and local Nursing Homes. Please pray, too, for all affected by cutbacks, illnesses and other challenges in our country and world.

**RECENTLY DEAD:** Fr. Peter Lessiter; James Cork; Fr. John Mulligan; Iris Roots. Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Christine Webster; Denis McCarton; Gwendolin Jupp; Mary Cunning; Noreen Hendricks; Benjamin Feehan; Canon Joseph Simmons; Vera Comer; Mary Moran; Eileen Cronin; Alice Ballard; Patrick Cunningham; Esther Davies.

## MEETINGS THIS WEEK

|                     |                 |   |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| <b>SUNDAY 16</b>    | 10am            | Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre   |
| <b>TUESDAY 18</b>   | 1.30-3pm<br>8pm | Baby & Toddler Group meet in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre<br>Kings Hill and Mereworth Area Group Meeting - see below |
| <b>WEDNESDAY 19</b> | 8pm             | Children's Liturgy Organisers meet in the Priest's House  |
| <b>FRIDAY 21</b>    | 7-9pm           | Youth Group meet in <b>SCHOOL</b>   |
| <b>SUNDAY 23</b>    | 10am            | Children's Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre   |

**THANK YOU** for your Offerings which amounted to £397.68 (Standing Orders average £303 per week). The second collection raised £169.61

### FUNDRAISING

**£1,821.30 total raised in August through donations and events. Overall total raised is £83,447.31**

**Amount still owed on loan is £1,552.69**

**A final push is needed to raise the remaining balance of the loan which needs to be repaid by November 2018**

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**PARISH BARBECUE** in the Orchard behind the Church on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 12 noon to 4pm.

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses from this weekend. Tickets: Adults £5 and Children £2.50

**LAST SALE DAY FOR TICKETS WILL BE TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER** (ordering of food)

We would like people to bring a salad or dessert to share. Please see the list at the back of Church.

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**LUCIA'S CONCERT** will take place on Sunday 14th October.

Refreshments from 3.30pm. Concert begins at 4pm. Suggested donations of Adults £5 and Children £1

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**NEEDLEWORK AND KNITTING GROUP** meet on **Wednesday 10th October** from 7.30 - 9.30 pm in the Church porch.

A £2 contribution towards the Building Fund is requested at each meeting. All welcome or call Chris on 01732 841522

**SECURITY** Anyone going into the Church alone must notify the Parish Office **even if they have their own Church key** and lock themselves in for safety reasons. They must also notify the Office when they leave.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Schedules for classes starting in October 2018 are now at the back of the Church. Please note that children must be currently in at least Year 3 at school to participate. Any parents interested in putting their child forward will need to attend the first parents meeting on **Wednesday 10th October 2018** with **refreshments from 7.30pm and the meeting commencing at 8pm**. The cut-off date for acceptance into this year's Class is **18th November 2018**. **No children will be accepted onto the course after this date.**

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** is the weekend of 29th/30th September. Parishioners are asked to bring in **tins** and **non-perishable** goods for the Harvest Festival and place them on the table by the altar.

**MISSIO** The Mission Today magazines have arrived and our collectors will shortly be contacting all Red Box holders to carry out the Autumn collection. If you haven't seen your box lately, please accept a gentle nudge to dust it off (and add something to it?) in readiness for your collector.

**DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS** Catechists and Children's Liturgists are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Day for Catechists at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. SE1 6HR on Saturday 22nd September 2018. Fr. Peter has the details, information and forms.

**MOTHERS PRAYERS** 'Mothers Prayers' was launched in England in 1995. At that time, two Grandmothers, both from England, felt led by the Lord to pray in a special way for their children. Through prayer, they learnt that Jesus wishes all mothers to surrender their children into His care, to take away pain from the mothers and to pour blessings on their children. 'Mothers Prayers' has now spread throughout the world and is in over eighty countries. There have been many wonderful answers to prayers. A Prayer Group may be started with only two mothers with a recommended maximum of eight. Usually members meet each week but it can be every month. They obey the strict rule of confidentiality and anything that is said at the meeting must never be repeated. As mothers learn to trust each other, through their prayers and sharing together, their burdens become lighter. If you wish to start a Prayer Group in the Parish or would be interested in attending the group, please contact Steph Blackburn on 07977458970 or email [steph@bbits.co.uk](mailto:steph@bbits.co.uk) This information is taken from the 'Mothers Prayers' booklet.

#### **CHANGE OF MASS TIMES**

Maidstone Deanery have been discussing possible changes to Mass times. At the Parish Meeting it was suggested that the 10am Mass could be moved to either 9am or 9.30am. We would very much like to hear your opinion / preference of time and would appreciate them being emailed to the Parish Office by 30th September.

**FOUNDATION GOVERNORS** Kent Catholic Schools Partnership is looking for Foundation Governors to join governing bodies across a number of our academies in Kent. Foundation Governors are committed to supporting education in a Catholic context and help the Trust to deliver outstanding spiritual, moral and learning outcomes for children and young people. For further information please see the KCSP website at <http://www.kcsp.org.uk/recruitment/> or contact the Trust on [office@kcsp.org.uk](mailto:office@kcsp.org.uk)

**MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING** Friday 28th September from 9.30am - 12 noon in the Priest's House. Donations of cakes and raffle prizes are needed.

**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS** For safeguarding reasons all children under 10 must be escorted to the toilet during Mass. Could we also remind parishioners that the doors inside Church must be accessible at all times and that prams or other items must not block them. Thank you.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Steph's Group - week beginning 17th September.

**NOTICES** Please see the Notice Board for more details.

### AREA GROUP MEETINGS

**Kings Hill and Mereworth** meet on Tuesday 18th September at 8pm. Venue: 109 Discovery Drive, Kings Hill. ME19 4DS. Contact Mary Lockyear 01732 875752

