

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, LUCKS HILL, WEST MALLING
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Fourth Sunday of the Year (A)
PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
CANDLEMAS
2nd February 2020

FUTURE OF THE PARISH Please see the letter on pages 3 & 4, prepared by our Parish Future Group on behalf of the Parish, and sent to the Archbishop this week, and let us keep this in our prayers. Also, abbreviated copies of the special Parish meeting on 16th January are available in the Parish.

THIS WEEKEND - CANDLEMAS The true end of our Advent and Christmas journey where we bring the light and love and joy we have received from the Lord this Christmas and Epiphany to 'root' it in the temples of our hearts and especially our Parish in this challenging year. We celebrate with a special Mass and a children's liturgy and 'Christingles' at the 10am Sunday Mass and the Youth Group presenting the 5.30pm Mass (Youth Group meet at 4pm in the House to prepare the Mass and then have their Christmas/Candlemas party afterwards).

DURING THE WEEK There are meetings for the Mother's Prayer Group, Baby & Toddler Group, Youth Group Leaders, and Friendship Group - details overleaf.

NEXT WEEKEND is the first weekend of our "Breather Period" between Candlemas and Lent. We also celebrate our First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass and congratulate and pray for our 1st Communicants and families. It's also Racial Justice Sunday with a second collection during the notices to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote Racial Justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society. This year the focus is on the travelling community - please see the special note overleaf.

MASSES & SERVICES

SATURDAY (Candlemas Journey)	1 Feb	5pm	Ildefonso Bustamante RIP (Anniv.)
SUNDAY (Candlemas Journey) Fourth Sunday of the Year (A) Presentation of the Lord	2	10am 5.30pm	(Children's Liturgy & Christingles) The Parishioners Mgr. Matthew Dickens (Welfare)
MONDAY (Weekday)	3	9.30am	Communion Service
TUESDAY (Weekday)	4	9.30am	Welfare of the Diamond Family
WEDNESDAY (St. Agatha)	5	9.30am	Deceased Relatives & Friends of the Lobo Family
THURSDAY (Ss. Paul Miki & Companions)	6	9.30am	Communion Service
FRIDAY (Weekday)	7	9.30am 11am 6-8pm	Keggy Diamond RIP Funeral Service for Patrick John Faulkin followed by burial at Snodland Cemetery at 12.15pm Adoration - everyone welcome to join team even for 10 minutes
SATURDAY (Weekday) Victims of Trafficking	8	2.30pm 5pm	Baptisms - Harvey & Arthur Richards Christopher Haskins RIP (Chris & Ant Gobel)
SUNDAY Fifth Sunday of the Year (A) Racial Justice Day	9	10am 5.30pm	(1st Communion First Reconciliation Thanksgiving Mass) The Parishioners Pauline O'Toole & May Piddock RIP (Fr.Peter)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30pm to 4.45pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Betty Ward; Moira Stevens; Peter and Dee Avery; Mary Wilmot; Fiona Evans; Roy & Heather Lewis; Frank Ostridge; Jacky Seeds; Archie & Arrison Sullivan; Sheila Koster; Caroline Walker; Abby & Oilly Blackmore; carers of the sick; our house-bound and all at Maidstone Hospital, Hospice and local Nursing Homes. Please pray for all affected by cutbacks, illnesses and other challenges in our country and world.

RECENTLY DEAD: Pauline O'Toole; Eileen Lobeck; May Piddock; Patrick Faulkin; Luke Sullivan; also Baby Francis Blackmore; Bert McLelland; Mary Gallagher (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Hadwin; Freddie MacQueen; Charles Harkin; Joy Corrigan; Pamela Richardson; Patrick Willoughby; Jean Brooker; Francis Gillan; Christopher Hayes; Barbara Barnes; Charles Hennessey; Emily Seymour; Jadwiga Makuch; Brendan Kilcoyne; James Reeves; Mary Palmer; Joan Barry; William Fennell; Martha Rooney; Hugh Goldrick; Florence Berry; Thomas Jackson; Bernard Cunningham; Tony Wilmot; Duncan McIntosh; Ann O'Gorman.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 1 FEB		(Dedication of Borough Green Church at 11.30am)
SUNDAY 2	10am 4pm	Children's Liturgy & Christingles in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre Youth Group meet to prepare Candlemas Mass followed by Group Party
MONDAY 3	7.30pm	Mothers Prayer Group meet in Church Porch
TUESDAY 4	1.30pm to 3pm 8pm	Baby & Toddler Group in the St. Thomas of Canterbury Centre Youth Leaders meet in Priest's House
WEDNESDAY 5	1.30pm	Friendship Group meeting - see details below

THANK YOU for your offerings which amounted to £405.04. (Standing Orders average £355 per week).

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 Candlemas Family Mass on Sunday 2nd February - the workshop will take place during Children's Liturgy. **Thanksgiving Mass for Reconciliation on Sunday 9th February.** *(We have taken down photos of last year's first communicants and they will be left on the table in the porch for parents to collect.)*

FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER CARDS Please take a card and pray for the child whose name is on it as they prepare for their First Communion. The cards are in a box on the table in the porch. Thank you.

MOTHERS PRAYER GROUP The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd February at 7.30pm in the Church Porch. If you would be interested in attending please contact Steph Blackburn on 07977 458970 or email steph@bbits.co.uk.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th February at 1.30pm. Venue: 3 Osprey Walk, Larkfield, ME20 6JJ. RSVP: Tony & Anne Law 01732 844077.

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER This year the World Day of Prayer Service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe and the title is Rise! Take your mat and walk. There will be two services at 10am and 8pm both at the West Malling Baptist Church with refreshments served 30 minutes before each service. As usual the World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on the first Friday in March which is the 6th. This promises to be a beautiful Ecumenical service and there is a poster at the back of the church advertising it. All are welcome.

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 3rd February.

CHURCH FLOWERS Dee's group weeks beginning 7th and 14th February.

NOTICES Please see the Notice Board for more details.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY Next weekend, Sunday 9th February 2020, the Catholic Church in England and Wales will celebrate Racial Justice - the theme is: "You are at the heart of the Church". It will celebrate the contribution travelling communities make to the Church in England and Wales. It is an opportunity for all Catholics to pray for, reflect on and respond to racial justice matters within the Church and wider society. Racial Justice Sunday should encourage proactive discussions on overt and covert forms of racism experienced by fellow Catholics from the travelling communities. To support the Church in its work with travellers, a second collection will be taken next weekend. Your contributions, however great or small, will help to make a difference.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twainoneflesh.org.uk)

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13, 1 Cor 1:26-31, Matt 5:1-12)

Being human - we are human be-ings, not do-ings

With the ever-increasing pace of life, when do we get a chance 'to be'? Today, the Word of God is intended to relate more to the deeper aspects of our humanity and the inner essence of our being, and the qualities of our personhood. It's about the ways we relate to each other in our marriages, our families, our communities.

