

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

Newsletter – 5th February 2017 – Fifth Sunday (A)

Readings: Isaiah 58: 7 - 10; 1 Corinthians: 2: 1 –5

Responsorial Psalm: *The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the World, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13– 16

Second Collection: this week will be for the new pavement in front of the Church and the fibreglass roof to the Priest house.

Holy Mass Intentions envelopes are available after Mass on the desk in the Church Porch. Please request a date from our Welcoming Ministers.

Thought for the day: Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.

Nothing is impossible; the word itself says 'I'm possible'!

Flame 2017 is a fantastic National Youth Event taking place at the SSE Arena, Wembley on the 11th March 2017. Email jean@scys.org.uk or call 01227 272900, to join the Diocesan group.

Thanks to two of our Parishioners who have both donated £500 each towards the Building fund.

Bible verse to remember:

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No-one lights a lamp to put under a tub; they put it on the lamp stand where it shines for everyone in the house. [Mt 5: 14 - 15].

History of St John Fisher of Rochester – 15

In 1512 the Convocation of Canterbury met in St Paul's Cathedral and the preacher was the dean, John Colet. His congregation included the Archbishop, William Warham, the Bishop of Rochester, John Fisher, and the Dean of Lincoln, Thomas Wolsey who was also a Canon of Windsor. The sermon was a bold denunciation of the "secular and worldly living in clerks and priests" and had those present taken the preacher's words to heart, many evils of the coming years would have been avoided. The preacher's argument was that "if priests and bishops, that should be as lights, run in the dark way of the world, how dark then shall the secular people be?"

Youth Group in Our Parish: Our young people gather in our parish Hall once a month on a Sunday evening 5 o'clock. If you wish to join this group please contact Father Antony.

Lenten Retreat: Following the positive feedback on our Advent Retreat Day, we are planning three more for 2017. The first will be on Saturday 11th March at St John Fisher and will be a Lenten themed Retreat Day. *Footsteps – Walking the Way of the Cross.* It is an opportunity to take time out for silent reflection and prayer in a quiet and relaxed environment. A chance to prepare prayerfully for Easter by walking alongside our Lord on his journey of the cross.

The day will start at 10.00 and finish with Mass at 3.00. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring a packed lunch and your bible.

If you would like to join us on this Parish Retreat/Quiet Day, please would you sign up on the poster on the notice board, so that we have an idea of numbers. For more information please contact either Fr Antony or Steph Painter on 01634 829386.

HOLY MASSES THIS WEEK.

Sunday 5th February	9am 11am 6pm	Jo & Ted Millett R.I.P People of the Parish Eileen Enright – R.I.P.	Fifth Sunday (A) Saint Vincent, Deacon & Martyr.
Monday	10am	Mavis Meltiers R.I.P.	Saint Paul Miki
Tuesday	10am	Morris Barrett R.I.P.	
Wednesday		Holy Mass: no Mass Intentions received.	Bakhita, Virgin. Day for Victims of Trafficking
Thursday	10am	No Mass	
Friday	10am	Len Watts R.I.P.	Saint Scholastica, Virgin.
Saturday	10am	Norman Lee - Wellbeing followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation	Our Lady of Lourdes World Day for the Sick
Sunday 12th February	9am 11am 6pm	Peter Flood Jnr. – Anniversary. People of the Parish Eileen Enright - R.I.P.	SIXTH SUNDAY (A) Racial Justice Day - collection

Sunday 29th January

Collection: Loose - £196.78; Envelopes - £505.70= £702.48.

Attendance: 9am – 85; 11am – 71; 6pm 41 = 197

100 Club: £30 – Pam Colwell N° 31 £20 – M. Campbell-Carr N° 95; £10 – Lorraine O’Hara N° 24

Liturgical Guidelines:

Bringing Gifts: Bringing the Offertory Gifts is to enable more people to participate in the Liturgy. Would those who collect the Offering please kindly arrange people to bring each Offering.

Readers: At the end of the Reading kindly say “the Word of the Lord” and not “this is the Word of the Lord”. Please gently leave the Lectern immediately after the Gospel Acclamation.

Baptism: Please arrange date for preparation for Baptism with Father Antony and book date of Baptism after the preparation. When you come for preparation kindly bring proof that Parents and Godparents are Catholic.

Today’s ‘BRING AND SHARE’ lunch will be an extra special event as some of the parishioners will be bringing a variety of Indian dishes. We look forward to seeing you after the 11 o'clock Mass.

Traidcraft will be next Sunday after both morning Masses.

The Medway Foodbank organisers have gratefully received the 266 items which you donated during January. The new low-stock shopping lists for February can be found in the display case next to the table in the porch.

CAFOD UPDATE: CAFOD Lent Fast Day is on 10th March 2017. The collection will be used for drought relief in rural areas of Bolivia for good irrigation systems and water tanks. For further information website <http://cafod.org.uk/>.

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