

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

Newsletter – **23rd April 2017 – Divine Mercy Sunday (A)**

Readings: Acts 2: 42– 47: 1 Peter: 1: 3-9

Responsorial Psalm: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for His love has no end.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said, “You believe because you can see me.*

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20: 19 - 31



Consider this: What comes easy, may not last. What will last, won't always come easy! Slow down and enjoy yourself more. After all, life is not a race!

Holy Mass Intentions envelopes are available after Mass on the desk in the Church Porch. Please request a date from our Welcoming Ministers or just find a date from the calendar kept there.

Confession
Every Saturday 10.30am

Holy Rosary Devotions.
During the month of May, we will be praying the Holy Rosary, every Saturday morning at 9.30am. All are most welcome to come along to honour our Blessed Mother during her month of May.

Bible verse to remember:

'Come to Me, all *you* who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' [Jn 20:29]

Divine Mercy Sunday: This Feast was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on 30 April 2000. In a decree dated 23 May 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that "throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come."

Pope Francis' Message on Divine Mercy: In God's mercy, all of our infirmities find healing. His mercy, in fact, does not keep a distance: it seeks to encounter all forms of poverty and to free this world of so many types of slavery. Mercy desires to reach the wounds of all, to heal them. Being *apostles of mercy* means touching and soothing the wounds that today afflict the bodies and souls of many of our brothers and sisters. Curing these wounds, we profess Jesus, we make him present and alive; we allow others, who touch his mercy with their own hands, to recognize him as "Lord and God" (Jn 20:28), as did the Apostle Thomas. This is the mission that he entrusts to us. So many people ask to be *listened to and to be understood*. The Gospel of mercy, to be proclaimed and written in our daily lives, seeks people with patient and open hearts,

"good Samaritans" who understand compassion and silence before the mystery of each brother and sister. The Gospel of mercy requires generous and joyful servants, people who love freely without expecting anything in return.

Initiation Ceremony of the Knights of St Columba [Province 12, Southwark]: In our parish today, there are 17 New Candidates expected to be brought into the Order of the Knights of St Columba at 11am Mass after the Homily. All are invited to witness this very special occasion. Knights of the order will be on hand after the Mass should any Catholic Gentleman over the age of 16yrs wishes to find out more details about joining the Knights.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS.

Sunday 23rd April	9am	People of the Parish	2 nd SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.
	11am	Bridie Busher - R.I.P	
	2.30pm	Sacramento of Reconciliation	
	3pm	Divine Mercy chaplet and Holy Mass – Maria Sumitt intentions.	
	6pm	Margaret Devitt - R.I.P.	
Monday	10am	Samuel Elitambi – Birthday.	SAINT GEORGE
Tuesday	10am	Jill Mary Jarvis – wellbeing.	SAINT MARK
Wednesday		No Mass.	
Thursday	10am	Funeral Mass – Donald McWilliam	
Friday	10am	Joseph Laurent [Laury] - wellbeing	FIRST FRIDAY
Saturday	10am	Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation and Benediction	
Sunday 30th April	9am	People of the Parish.	3 rd SUNDAY OF EASTER
	11am	Winifred Luxton - R.I.P.	
	6pm	Derrick Stedman - R.I.P.	

Sunday 16th April

Collection: Loose - £901.28; Envelopes - £691.50= £1592.78. Many thanks for your generosity.

Attendance: Maundy Thursday -70; Good Friday – 176;

Easter: Vigil – 68; 9am - 120; 11am - 128; 6pm – 30

100 Club: £20 – J P Naughton No 101; £10 – Maureen Endicott No 92

There will be a Second Collection next Sunday, 30th April, for the maintenance of St George's Cathedral.

If you are sick at home and would like Holy Communion brought to you, please give your name, address and telephone number to Fr. Antony, Deacon Felim or Deacon Malcolm and a Eucharistic Minister will get in touch with you. Also, if you are aware of a parishioner who is housebound or ill please let us know. If you are in the hospital and wish to speak to a priest, please ask the staff to

Contact the Catholic Chaplain.

Please pray for the sick, Stephan Jenkins, Michael Ionta, & all the sick in our rest homes and hospitals. Please let us know if you wish your name to be added to this list.

Christ is hope and comfort to the Christian communities suffering most for their faith on account of discrimination and persecution ... is close to all human situations of suffering and injustice

Before Mass speak to God and after the Mass to people!!!

Clergy:

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam, tel. 845430

E-mail: church@stjohnfisher.me.uk

Website: <http://stjohnfisher.me.uk>

Deacon Malcolm Turner, tel. 255558

Deacon Felim McCarthy, tel. 830145

Voluntary Secretary:

Gill Hanson, tel. 312171

School: St. William of Perth, tel. 404267

Newsletter Editor: John Endicott, tel. 408105

Find this Newsletter in

<http://stjohnfisher.me.uk>

To receive by email:

johngods@blueyonder.co.uk