

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

Newsletter – 30th April 2017 – Third Sunday of Easter (A)

Readings: Acts 2: 14. 22– 28: 1 Peter: 1: 17- 21

Responsorial Psalm: *Show us Lord the path of life.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Luke 24: 13 - 35

In Our Parish, we have...

1st Sundays -Bring & Share
Lunch

2nd Sundays – Traidcraft

3rd Sundays – Parish Walk
Youth Group

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:

‘So Jesus went in **to stay** with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight’ [Jn 20:29].

Pope Francis’ Message on TED: “...I would like to share today is, indeed, about revolution: the revolution of tenderness.

What is tenderness? It is the love that comes close and becomes real. It is a movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands. Tenderness means to use our eyes to see the other, our ears to hear the other, to listen to the children, the poor, those who are afraid of the future. To listen also to the silent cry of our common home, of our sick and polluted earth.

Tenderness means to use our hands and our heart to comfort the

other, to take care of those in need.

Tenderness is the language of the young children, of those who need the other. A child’s love for mom and dad grows through their touch, their gaze, their voice, their tenderness. I like when I hear parents talk to their babies, adapting to the little child, sharing the same level of communication. This is tenderness: being on the same level as the other.

God himself descended into Jesus to be on our level. This is the same path the Good Samaritan took. This is the path that Jesus himself took. He lowered himself, he lived his entire human existence practicing the real, concrete language of love.

Yes, tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women. Tenderness is not weakness; it is fortitude. It is the path of solidarity, the path of humility...

The future of humankind isn't exclusively in the hands of politicians, of great leaders, of big companies. Yes, they do hold an enormous responsibility. But the future is, most of all, in the hands of those people who recognize the other as a "you" and themselves as part of an "us."

We all need each other.

And so, please, think of me as well with tenderness, so that I can fulfill the task I have been given for the good of the other, of each and every one, of all of you, of all of us. Thank you.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS.

Sunday 30th April	9am 11am 6pm	People of the Parish Winifred Luxton - R.I.P. Derrick Stedman - R.I.P.	3 rd SUNDAY OF EASTER
Monday	10am	No Mass Intention received.	
Tuesday	10am	No Mass.	
Wednesday	10am	No Mass Intention received.	Father Gary Dyer
Thursday		No Mass.	
Friday	10am	No Mass Intention received.	Father Anton
Saturday		Holy Communion Service	
Sunday 7th May	9am 11am 6pm	Pat Flood – Wellbeing. People of the Parish. Margaret Devitt - R.I.P.	4 th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 23rd April

Collection: Loose - £342.82p; Envelopes - £258.73p= £601.55p

2nd Collection: Loose - £30; Envelopes - £72 = £102 Good Friday collection: £202.20p

Attendance: 9am - 82 ; 11am -178 ; 6pm – 36 = 296 100 club: £20 - M Davis No 141, £10 - C Handy No 15.

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

The Missionary Society of St Columban will be celebrating all 3 Masses, next Sunday 7th May.

Parish Sacristans' Training: There is an afternoon of practical training for Parish Sacristans at the Amigo Hall (SE1 6HR) on Saturday 6 May 2017 from 2pm until 5pm. The training will be facilitated by Paul Moynihan who is Master of Ceremonies at Westminster Cathedral and the Secretary of Southwark Archdiocesan Liturgy Commission. All our sacristans and those who would like to become sacristans can participate in this programme.

Vacancy: Deputy Headteacher:

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School in Canterbury is looking to appoint a new Deputy Headteacher from September 2017. For further information, please contact the school on 01227-462539. Advert available on www.kent-teach.com. Closing date: Monday 8th May at 4pm.

Vocations Weekend for young women: (20s and 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in my life

Dates: 26th - 28th May 2017

Location: Broadstairs, Kent

There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life, and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters!

If anyone is interested to join any religious congregation, kindly contact Fr Antony.

Clergy:

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam, tel. 845430

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Deacon Malcolm Turner, tel. 255558

Deacon Felim McCarthy, tel. 830145

Voluntary Secretary: Gill Hanson, tel. 312171

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