

There is a 'Bring & Share' Lunch, on the first Sunday of the month, after the 11 am Mass, in the Parish Hall; Traidcraft on the second Sunday after the 9am & 11 am Masses, and a Parish Walk on the third Sunday starting at 12 Noon from the Parish Hall.

There will be Traidcraft on sale today in the Hall so do come and join us.

Food Bank list is available for priority items needed on desk in Porch. Thank you for your generosity.

Starting on Saturday 18th May, there will be a weekly '**Saturday Fun Club**' in our Parish Hall. The classes, for children, are interactive, jam packed with fun with games, activities, storytelling, role play and drama to help make learning a second language fun. Spanish & Italian will be taught. You can book up at rochesterlanguageclub@hotmail.com with Barbara and Sabrina. Poster in church porch & notice board.

Next Sunday, 19th May 2019, there will be a walk, setting off from Church, after the 11am Mass and coffee in the Hall. Lifts will be available to Maidstone as the walk will be along the River Medway. Do come along and enjoy a pleasant afternoon with fellow parishioners.

There is an amazing concert by The Abrams coming up in Rochester Cathedral on May 27th 2019. The Abrams are a Christian band and have been described as one of Canada's biggest country and bluegrass bands. The Cathedral is the last stop on their international tour. Bob Harris from BBC Radio 2 described them as 'just brilliant. Information about the event is on the Cathedral's [website](#).

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Sacrament of Confession
Saturday after 10 am
Mass, and Adoration.
Sunday 10.30 – 10.45 am
& 5.30 – 5.45 pm.
God gives us friends to
help us face life's battles!

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Newsletter – 12th May 2019 Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)

Readings: Acts 13: 14, 43-52; Apocalypse 7: 9 14-17; John 10: 27-30

Responsorial Psalm: *We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!*

Next week's Readings: Acts 14: 21-27; Apocalypse 21: 1-5;

John 13: 31-35



Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Saviour who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the "King of Glory", respectful silence in the presence of the "ever greater" God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications. (Catechism of the Catholic Church no.2628) The Catechism teaches us the importance of silence as we gather to worship. That is why parts of the liturgy have sacred silence for us to listen to the Lord God speak to us. It will be a wonderful act on our part to offer this silence before Mass and for some time after Mass. Even if our neighbours and friends want to chat to us, it is a good thing to talk after Mass preferably in the porch area, keeping the silence for those who are still praying. In the scriptures, the risen Lord only appears to those who believe him when they are in a state of contemplation. Let us too show that the church is primarily a place of worship, adoration, silence and contemplation. Let us by example show this to our children. This example is so important and urgent, otherwise if we leave it for later, it will be too late and we will lose them where the faith is concerned. Let us ask Mary our mother and the Mother of the Lord that she will intercede for us and through our prayer, silence and adoration we will be a good example

to those around us. Helping us and those we love to be in a loving relationship with her son our Lord. *Ave Maria*. Fr Neil.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

	12 th May 2019	Feast Days
12 th Sunday 9am 11am 6pm	Bridget McDonnell R.I.P. Eddie Murphy People of the Parish	Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)
13 th Mon 10am	Holy Mass No Intentions	Our Lady of Fatima
14 th Tue 10am	Holy Mass No Intentions	St Matthias, Apostle.
15 th Wed 10am	Sophia – R.I.P.	Feria
16 th Thurs	No Mass	St Simon Stock, Priest
17 th Friday 7pm	Nancy O’Brien - Birthday	Feria
18 th Sat 10am	Holy Mass No Intentions	St John, Pope and Martyr
19 th Sunday 9am 11am 6 pm	Holy Mass No Intentions People of the Parish Michael Devitt – R.I.P.	Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)

Sunday 5th May 2019:

First Collection: Loose – £340.71; Gift Aid - £266 = £606.71

Second Collection for our Building Fund: £160.01

Attendance: 9am - 93 ; 11am – 72, 6pm – 67 = 232

100 Club: £20– M. McDowall N° 137; £10– S. Dernulc N° 35

The second collection today is for Ecclesiastical Education.

Holy Rosary will be said every Saturday in May, at 9.30am, before the 10 am Mass. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the prayers.

We welcome Elliott Hugo Servante, who was Baptised in our church, yesterday, 11th May. Please pray for him, his parents, Rosemary & Rob and grandmother, Brigid Ost. May the blessings of Christ be upon their family at this precious time.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Andrew James Simpson, whose funeral will be held at 10 am on Wednesday 22nd May.

Pray also for the repose of the soul of David Michael Patrick Tyrie, whose funeral will be at 10 am on Monday 3rd June. May they rest in the peace of Christ. With sympathy to all family and friends. Please remember them in your prayers.

Baptism Course: Will be held on Wednesday the 15th of May at 7:00pm in the Presbytery. This is for parents preparing to baptise their children in the near future. We aim to finish at 8:30pm. Please speak to Fr Neil for further details.

A free Worship night event, Encounter, with artists leading worship interspersed with prayer for those in need and others in our communities is being held in the Corn Exchange on Saturday 18th May 2019 and members of St John Fisher Catholic Church are welcome to come along and lift up the name of Jesus with them. Here's a link to the event:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/encounter-tickets-59752451190?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Archbishop Peter Smith kindly invites you to attend the **Archdiocese of Southwark 2019 Spring Assembly**, on Saturday the 18th May at Our Lady of Reparation (St Mary's) Catholic Church in Croydon. Entitled '**Tackling Poverty in the Diocese**'. Mass is at 10am in the church followed by the Assembly from 10.30 to 4pm. To register email the JPIC Office Co-ordinator at justiceandpeace@rcaos.org.uk

Men's Group Meeting: The men's group of St Simon Stock, Ashford was formed as a men's prayer and support group which meets once a month for prayer and informal discussion on Catholic topics. The group will be meeting in the hall on **Saturday the 18th of May from 6:30pm-9:00pm**. The topic for discussion is, "What does it mean when, as a Catholic, I say that I am pro-life?" We will end the session with refreshments and Benediction. Those men who are interested from our parish are warmly welcome to attend the session.

Father Neil would like there to be a Parish Advisory Council, made up of parishioners from all culture groups within our community. Please be generous in coming forward or nominating someone you think would be willing and able to give their time to helping with planning and decision making within our Church

It's not how big the house is, it's how happy the home is!

