Fr Neil Vincent, tel. 01634-845430 Deacon Malcolm Turner 25558 Deacon Felim McCarthy 830145 Secretary: Gill Hanson 312171 Email: rochester@rcaos.org.uk Website: http://stjohnfisher.me.uk St. William of Perth School 404267 Newsletter: John Endicott 408105 To receive newsletter by email: johngods@blueyonder.co.uk Folk Group: http://stjohnfisherfolk band.uk **Day of Renewal:** to be held at St George's Cathedral Southwark on Saturday 5th October 2019, 9.45am to 4.45pm. There is a full day of Praise and Worship, "A Great Cloud of Witnesses" and Healing Service- led by Fr Angelus Houle. See poster in Porch for further details. Everyone is welcome.

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 is also tea, coffee and juice served after the 9am and 11am Mass each Sunday in the hall. All are welcome, so, please come and join us.

Can you help? From September, we no longer have volunteers who can serve teas and coffees after the 9am and 11am Masses on the 4th Sundays of the month. Please consider putting your name on the rota in the porch. To find out what this involves please speak with Bernard or Catherine. Thank you.

Sacrament of Confession Saturday after 10 am Mass, and Adoration. Sunday 10.30 - 10.45 am & 5.30 - 5.45 pm. Only God will satisfy our spiritual hunger. The prolife charity, 'Life' is looking for enthusiastic church and community fundraisers in the Diocese to help us grow our life-saving work with vulnerable mothers. We want you to help our volunteer fundraisers, manage local events, and develop relationships with community groups. We offer a competitive salary for a full or part-time position based at home. Contact jobs@lifecharity.org.uk for more details.

The World Day of Prayer for Creation today, 1st September, opens the 'Season of Creation' which finishes on the 4th of October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi. The Season of Creation is an opportunity to reflect upon and to pray about the universe, our planet and all of God's creatures living on it. We will have a special celebration of the Season of Creation on Sunday 22nd of September.

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 EN E-mail: rochester@rcaos.org.uk; Website: <u>http://stjohnfisher.me.uk;</u> Phone: 01634-845430 <u>Newsletter –1st September 2019 Twenty-Second Sunday (C)</u> Readings: Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29; Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24; Luke 14: 1, 7-14. <u>Responsorial Psalm. In your goodness, O God, you prepared</u> *a home for the poor.* <u>Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me</u> *he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!* Next week's Readings: Wisdom 9: 13-18; Philemon 3: 10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33

In reflecting on the Gospel of today, I recall the life of St Lawrence, deacon and martyr (feast day 10th of August). When the persecution of Christians took place in Rome in the 2nd century, the prefect of Rome summoned St Lawrence to bring the treasures of the church. St Lawrence gathered and bought in the lame, the crippled, the sick and the poor that he looked after, introducing them as the "riches of the church". He further admonished the prefect saying, "The riches of the church are far more superior, far richer than you think, far richer than yours", which angered the prefect so much, that he ordered St Lawrence to be grilled to death on a large gridiron. The God we worship is the God who is all powerful, yet comes to us accepting our little selves, adoration and service. We too are then called to be humble, that we are not blind to the "treasures of the church". That we do all that we can to serve all those the Lord puts in our path, despite their social standing. Sometimes this can be quite difficult, when our good nature to serve, at times is ridiculed or even abused. Let us ask the Lord for his grace and wisdom to share the little we have, with those really in need. Let us give due respect and love to those who are strangers, those who may be different to us, those who may irritate us. When we embrace God's little ones, we reflect him who came so that we do not remain only human, but be called children of

God, heirs to the kingdom of heaven. Let us ask the Lord for the grace, even in some small way, to serve someone that we may consider unworthy, this week. God bless. Fr Neil.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

		1 st September 2019	Feast Days
Sunday	9am	Shirley Jago R.I.P.	Twenty-second Sunday
	11am	Emma Driver R.I.P.	(C)
	6pm	People of the Parish	
Monday	7pm	Holy Mass – No intentions	Feria
Tuesday	10am	Holy Mass – No intentions	St Gregory, the Great, Pope
Wednesda	y 10am	Holy Mass – No intentions	St Cuthbert, Bishop
Thursday	10am	No Mass	St Teresa of Kolkata
Friday	7pm	Emma Driver R.I.P.	Feria
Saturday	10am	Holy Mass – No intentions	Our Lady
		followed by Adoration	
Sunday	9am	Boyd Patrick Weinling	Twenty-third Sunday
	11am	Eileen Perry - R.I.P.	(C)
	6 pm	People of the Parish	

Sunday 25th August 2019:

First collection: Loose $-\pounds$; 223.07 Gift Aid $-\pounds$ 188= £411.07 Building Fund: Loose £123.67 Gift Aid £30 = £153.67 Attendance: 9am - 72; 11am - 74, 6pm - 33 = 179 100 Club: £30– D. Jones No 55: £20– F. McCarthy N° 121 £10– A. Dernulc N° 34

This Sunday 1st **September 2019:** There will be a Mission Appeal by Father Patrice Anyanwu with a second collection at all 3 Masses on behalf of the Spiritans, (Holy Ghost Fathers), to support their missionary work abroad.

Next Sunday is Education Sunday and there will be a second collection.

On Monday we welcome Fr Kiwanuka Achilleo who will be coming from Uganda to celebrate Mass with us whilst Father Neil is away during September 2019. We welcome him to our Church and hope he has a pleasant stay with us.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Emma Driver, who died last week in the Wisdom Hospice. Our thoughts and deepest sympathies to her father Peter Flood, her husband Steve and children, Ashley, Jessica & Theo. May she rest in the peace of Christ. Emma will be received into church on Monday the 23^{rd} of September

at 4:00pm and the funeral will take place at 10:00am on Tuesday the 24th of September with Fr Gary Dyer presiding.

I pray with my children: Is a great resource now available on the newspaper shelf. It is very important that families with children have this as a great resource to help children form a relationship with God by reciting familiar prayers. I heartily recommend this resource and ask families to take some home. Please do leave a donation either in the collection or the black box by the main entrance which says repository.

Medway Young Catholic Adults aims to provide Catholics in their 20s and 30s with the opportunity to meet new people, pray, and a make difference to the Church in our area. Please join us at English Martyrs Catholic Church, Strood, on the **6th Sept for Holy Mass at 7 pm** followed by dinner and drinks.

Augustine Camino Walks: A variety of one-day and week-long pilgrimages along the Augustine Camino have been organised for this September. Why not take in the beauty of the Kent countryside, as the season begins to change, and be inspired by the history of Southwark whilst enjoying the last of the summer sunshine. See poster.

Helpers of God's Precious Infants are holding their next vigil at Marie Stopes abortion facility, Brewer St, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RV, on Friday 13th September 10.30 to 1pm, commencing with Mass at St Francis Church, Week St, Maidstone. See notice in Porch for further details.

Building a better Marriage Saturday 28th September: Married couples! You can give each other a wonderful gift by spending a day exploring your relationship more deeply to gain valuable insights into your communication. Couples who have attended the course noted the positive changes it made to their marriage. There is <u>no group sharing</u> and this is <u>not</u> marriage counselling or guidance but a chance to make your marriage even better. Contact: Carole - Tel: 07983524727 – email: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

A Day with Mary to be held at English Martyrs, Frindsbury Rd, Strood, on 28th September 2019, 9.15am to 5.30pm. All are welcome. For further details please see notice in Porch.

What we let into our minds shapes the state of our souls.