

ENGLISH MARTYRS' R.C. CHURCH

37 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 4JA.

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PARISH PRIEST Fr Tom Lynch 01634 717582
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 SAFEGUARDING stroodsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
 PARISH ADMIN Anna West - 01634 717582

ENGLISH MARTYRS PRIMARY SCHOOL - 01634 718964.

Headmistress Ms Catherine Thacker

Bank details:- Nat West Bank Sort code:- 60-21-02

Account number:- 55082904

Account Name:- RCAS Strood

Mass Times and Intentions:**Sat 10th Feb Saint Scholastica**

9.30 am (Latin mass) The Holy Souls in Purgatory

6.00 pm People of the Parish

Sun 11th Feb Sixth Sunday

8.30 am Rachael Hafner and Rebecca Maufe's wellbeings

10.30 am Deceased members of Hallisey and McCusker Families

Mon 12th Feb Feria

9.30 am Francesca Giorda

Wed 14th Feb Ash Wednesday

7.00 am Vocations for the Priesthood

9.30 am Jean Mabel Tuffield RIP

7.00 pm Rosemary Eddowes RIP

Thus 15th Feb Feria

9.30 am Kazimiera Janeliunaite and Leonas Janeliunas RIP

Fri 16th Feb Feria

7.00 am John Mannion RIP

9.30 am James O'Connor RIP

6.00 pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 17th Feb The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

9.30 am (Latin mass) Sister Augustine and her intentions

6.00 pm Arthur and Kathleen Pearl RIP

Sun 18th Feb First Sunday of Lent

8.30 am People of the Parish

10.30 am Thanksgiving intentions of Jacob Solomon

Mothers Prayer groupChurch cleaning will take place **this Monday 12th February at 6pm** followed by **Mothers Prayer group meeting at 7pm**. Any help with the cleaning is very much appreciated.**Ash Wednesday Masses**Please note we will have **three masses on Ash Wednesday, at 7am, 9.30 am and 7 pm**.**Church Choir**Weekly singing practices for Holy Week and Easter services will commence on **Tuesday 20th February 6-7pm in the church**. These will be held every Tuesday until 26th March **A Saturday afternoon singing session has been provisionally set for 16 March** (more details to follow).**Youth Lenten Reading Group**During Lent we will read the spiritual classic by C. S. Lewis "The Screwtape Letters" (copies will be provided). We will meet at 5:15 on Friday 16th February in the St. John Fisher Room. All young people of secondary school age are welcome.**Day by day**The Day by day booklets are available in the porches – these are free so **please help yourself**.**Please remember the following in your prayers:**

Barbara Borthwick, Judith Streten, John Paul Stoke, Betty Jones, Cathrin La Page, Lauren Allan, Tony Carroll, Sylvia Kemp, Billy Thomas, Marie Fassioms, Samantha Candeggi-D'Alonzo, Joe-Joe Dockrell, Judith Letley, John Letley, Carol Masey, Eileen Wells. Mr Pat Ayng, Jenson Lambeth, Neo Taylor, Kathy Mogg, Anna Gawlik, Joanna Tidmarsh, Shane McNeelan, Eileen Gallagher, Helen and Arthur Annal, Claire Baron.

Anniversaries: Roy Glower, John Jo O'Kane, Martha Fitzpatrick, Luis Caruana, Albert Streten, John Warne, Phyllis Dodgston, Daniel Murphy, Mary Calnon, Mary Ford, John Say, Margaret Yeo, Myra Davies, Edward Burke-Masters, Sally Malone, Joseph Holmes, Isabel Thomas, John McGill, Jean Jarman, James Finneran, Frances Kidd.

	Total	Gift Aid	Non- Gift Aid
Weekly Collection	£718.54	£248.83	£469.71

Attendance	367
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Spiritual Thought

Lent approaches – this beautiful time of growth and maturity when we can draw close to Almighty God, and in His mercy He comes close to us.

It is a sign of spiritual maturity to take the seasons of the church seriously, and the most holy seasons are lent and Easter – they form one unit and cannot really be separated, a holy lent means a holy Easter.

What can we do to make a holy lent? First we must look at ourselves honestly and seriously, look at how we love, how we live, how we pray. Where am I lacking? What could be improved?

Next we make a decision and commit to our choice – every day I will do this, every week this also. I will pray more, attend mass more and better, I will give this amount directly into the hand of the poor.

And our commitment will lead to fulfilment and joy. Please pray for me to have a holy lent, as I will be praying for you.

Lenten Spiritual Practices**Friday morning mass** – in addition to the usual masses we will offer **Holy Mass at 7am every Friday in Lent**.**Stations of the Cross – each Friday in Lent, at 6pm**, we will walk the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome to the powerful Lenten practice.**Lenten Reading Group****During lent** this year we will be reading the beautiful treatise on the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier by Archbishop Martinez. We will meet on **Sunday 11th Feb at 3pm** - copies of the book will be available then.**Clergy Support Fund Second Collection****Next weekend we have a second collection** for the Clergy Support Fund, supporting Priests in their retirements is one way to show your appreciation for all they have done for our Parishes.**Save the date 16th March 2024 9.45am – 4.00pm Building a Better Marriage**Held at St John's RC Primary School, Rochester Road, Gravesend, DA12 2JW, **starts at 9.45am until 4pm**, is a day in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to the married.There is no charge for this course. **Booking is essential** - please contact Teresa on gravesend@rcaos.org.uk or by phone: 01474 352 415. Refreshments will be provided but please bring a packed lunch.