

ENGLISH MARTYRS' R.C. CHURCH

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

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Website: www.englishmartyrsrccstrood.org

PARISH PRIEST Fr Tom Lynch 01634 717582
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 DEACON Rev John Letley 01634 715151
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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

Confessions: Saturdays at 10.15 am – 10.45 am and 5 pm 5.30pm.
Adoration Saturday 10 am -12 noon and 1hour before every weekday mass.

Parish groups (in the John Fisher Room unless otherwise stated)

Monday Mothers Prayers (monthly) at 7pm

Tuesday: Legion of Mary at 7 pm

Wednesday: Coffee Club after morning mass

Thursday: Padre Pio Prayer Group first Thursday at 7 pm

Friday: Mother and toddler's group at 9am (term time) Parish Hall

Youth Club – first Friday of the month at 6.15 pm (term time)

Saturday: Knights of St Columba, first Saturday of the month at 7 pm

Sunday – Tea and Coffee first Sunday at 11.30 am in the Parish Hall

Mass Times and Intentions:**Sat 20th April Feria**

9.30 am (Latin mass) For vocations to the Priesthood

6.00 pm Monica O'Brien's wellbeing

Sun 21st April Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.30 am GUILY Capone

10.30 am People of the Parish

Mon 22nd April Feria9.30 am Alexander's 9th Birthday intentions**Wedn 24th April Saint Adalbert**

9.30 am Agnieszka Johnson's Birthday intentions

Fri 26th April Feria

9.30 am For intentions of Teresa McCarthy

Sat 27th April Feria

9.30 am (Latin mass) Sister Augustine's wellbeing

6.00 pm Artur and Kathleen Pearl RIP

Sun 28th April Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Anniversary mass Brendan Carroll

10.30 am People of the Parish

Church Car Park

Major works have begun in the English Martyrs School playground. These works **were begun on Monday 15th April and will continue for 3 weeks (including weekends)**. This means that the playground, which is often used by church and hall users for car parking, **will be unavailable**.

Please be aware, when you come to Mass for the next few **weekends the car park will not be available**. There is however much street parking available in the side roads around the church. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this disturbance.

Rosary Crusade for the Unborn

From the Annunciation until Christmas members of the Rosemary Crusade **pray the five joyful mysteries every day**. Please see the forms in the porches for more information.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

S.P.U.C. will be holding a peaceful public vigil to remember the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act **on Saturday 27th April at 1.45 pm outside Rochester Railway Station in Kent**.

The local S.P.U.C. branch (42) will then proceed to **English Martyrs Church for our 1st A.G.M. at 3.30 pm**.

For further information, help and support please call on 0207 091 7091 or 07488284744.

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, Carol Masey, Eileen Wells. Mr Pat Ayngge, Jenson Lambeth, Neo Taylor, Kathy Mogg, Anna Gawlik, Joanna Tidmarsh, Shane McNeelan, Eileen Gallagher, Helen and Arthur Annal, Claire Baron, Rod Black.

Anniversaries: Fedir Samus, Terry Griffin, Horace Comfort, Frances Walsh, Thomas Synott, Annabelle Wilson, John Higgins, Ivy Fox, Patrick Cryan, Owen Finnigan, Frank Cissewski, Paraska Martin, Frank Barron, John Savory.

| | Total | Gift Aid | Non- Gift Aid |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Weekly Collection | £691 | £220.96 | £470.04 |
| Attendance | 352 | | |

Spiritual Thought

This Sunday – the 4th Sunday of Easter – is known as Good Shepherd Sunday, because every year we read Jesus description of himself as the Good Shepherd leading, protecting and feeding his flock.

Our Lord always used images that his listeners would understand – the seed, the shepherd, the coin, or images from family life. The image of the shepherd would have been very familiar to people living on farms in the countryside – but it also would have been familiar to the scholars and kings – the Bible often refers to God as a shepherd, and kings were often seen as shepherding their people.

While it is a homely image, it is also a very deep teaching that Jesus gives us on who he is – God and King.

We are so fortunate to have a Good God, not an unkind or cruel one. To have a Good King, who loves us and feeds us with his own self.

Services this Week

Please note **the funeral of Patricia Travers will be celebrated on Monday 29th April at 1pm at English Martyrs**. Please remember to pray for the repose of her soul.

There will not be Holy Mass offered in the church on Thursday (25th) this week – as Fr. Tom will be at the funeral of Fr. David Stanley.

Easter collection

A huge thank you for the generous Easter collection –The collection this year came to £ 3260.28. Can I also say a huge thank you to everyone who gave Sr. Augustine and I cards and gifts. Thank you so much for your kindness.

Lenten Alms

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the **Lenten Supper on 22nd March**. This was to raise funds for the charity 'Let the Children Live!' The total raised was **£453.20** - a fantastic result.

Diocesan second collection for the Priest Training Fund.

On this Sunday 21st April there will be the usual Diocesan **second collection for the Priest Training Fund**.

The **following week, Sunday 28th April**, the Diocesan second collection in support of **St George's Cathedral** shall take place.

Saturday 4th May: Catholic Men's Walking Pilgrimage

Catholic men of the parish are invited to take part in the **Rochester to Aylesford Marian pilgrimage on Saturday 4th May. Starts 10.45am outside Rochester Cathedral**, walking to Aylesford shrine. Holy Hour 2-3pm. Return walk to Rochester for pub dinner around **6pm**. Please email to book your dinner seat: medwavcatholicmen@outlook.com