

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 Angela Decker - 01634 717582
Mon & Thurs 9.30am-1pm
ENGLISH MARTYRS PRIMARY SCHOOL -
Headmistress. Mrs Clare Redmond 01634 718964.

Bank details:- Nat West Bank Sort code:- 60-21-02
Account number:- 55082904
Account Name:- RCAS Strood

Mass Intentions

Sat 17th Sept
6.00pm Peter Francis
Sun 18th Sept **Twenty-Fifth Sunday**
8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am Queen Elizabeth II RIP
Mon 19th Sept **Saint Theodore of Canterbury**
9.30am James Bernard Carragher RIP
Tues 20th Sept **Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon**
9.30am For the staff, students and governors
at English Martyrs.
Weds 21st Sept **Saint Matthew**
9.30am Derek Brookwell RIP
Thurs 22nd Sept **Feria**
9.30am Irmgard Thatcher RIP
Fri 23rd Sept **Saint Pius of Pietrelcina**
9.30am Patrick Vaughan RIP
Sat 24th Sept **Our Lady of Walsingham**
9.30am John & Patrick Berry RIP
6.00pm Arthur & Kathleen Pearl RIP
Sun 25th Sept **Twenty-Sixth Sunday**
8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am Sophy Krajewjka RIP

Fr. Baker Retirement

Many of you will know that after decades ministering as Parish Priest of Chatham, Fr Baker has chosen to retire. His celebration party will happen today from 1pm at Aylesford Priory. All are welcome.

After the 10:30 Mass on Sunday 2nd October we will have tea and coffee (and other refreshments) in the hall. All are welcome.

Church Building Works

Please note that some building works have begun on the outside of the church. This is for some repairs and general maintenance, they should last one more week – none of the church services will be affected.

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Barbara Borthwick, Judith Streten, Josie Gill, John Paul Stoke, Betty Jones, Cathrin La Page, Lauren Allan, Mary Ring, Tony Carroll, Sylvia Kemp, Billy Thomas, Barbara Ongley, Marie Fassioms, Lily Farrell, Samantha Candeggi-D'Alonzo, Joe-Joe Dockrell, Judith Letley, John Letley, Karen Hill, Carol Masey, Eileen Wells. Mr Pat Ayngge, Jenson Lambeth, Neo Taylor, Kathy Mogg, Anna Gawlik, Joanna Tidmarsh.

Anniversaries:- Patrick Stanley, James Fox, John French, Mary Goodsell, Thomas Slevin, James Carragher, Laura Osman, Pat Brady, James Keenan, Mary Newton, John Burke, Bernard Rodgers, George Inglis, Maureen Boyle, Ron Johnson.

	Total	Gift Aid	Non- Gift Aid
Weekly Collection	£535.23	£192.50	£342.73
Attendance	357		

Spiritual Thought

Mourning is a very important event. There can come a point where "is this going to end" sets in – will we be mourning forever? – how much is too much?

Mourning is a set period – mourning is clearly defined. There are various traditions of mourning for example veiling pictures, wearing black, turning off music, talking in quieted tones, closing the curtains. Other cultures have different customs – but all cultures have formal mourning.

These traditions help us to express our sorrow, to draw out from our hearts the sorrow we feel. While words may fail, and tears may not come – still the music is turned off and the curtains drawn.

And this period does not last forever – next week, having passed through mourning we will emerge with our sadness fulfilled, our sorrow expressed, and the feeling that we have "done the right thing".

So, please this weekend and on Monday, or any time we lose someone we love – do something muted and sad. Choose for a few days to be sad – the dawn comes, the curtains open and we discover we can live with loss.

Food Bank

We will all struggle financially over the coming months – please remember those who will struggle most. We have our food bank collection in the porches to help our giving.

If you know of anyone, or any family who may be in particular need, please let Fr Tom know as the church may be able to help.

Large Votive Candles

The cost of these candles has recently increased – so we must now sell them for £4 each. Do remember to pay for these candles as they are expensive for the parish – if the parish doesn't get the money back from the people who buy them, we will have to discontinue them.