

**ENGLISH MARTYRS' R.C. CHURCH**

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

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 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug** **The Blessed Virgin Mary**

9.30 am (Latin Mass) Mary Tootill special intentions

6.00 pm People of the Parish

**Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Eighteen Sunday**

8.30 am Liz Fiorani Birthday

10.30 am Aunt Laetitia Aman RIPone-year anniversary

**Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Aug** **The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint**

**Mary Major**

Father William Bolger RIP

**Tue 6<sup>th</sup> Aug** **The transfiguration of The**

**Lord**

Mrs Maria Farrugia RIP

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Saint Sixtus II**

9.30 am Patricia Colgan RIP

**Thur 8<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Saint Dominic**

9.30 am Brian Harte RIP

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Saint Teresa Benedicta**

09.30 am Clive Baron RIP

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Saint Lawrence**

9.30 am (Latin Mass) Patrick and Bridget Deery RIP

6.00 pm People of the Parish

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Aug** **Nineteenth Sunday**

8.30 am Patricia Colgan RIP

10.30 am Graham Godfrey RIP

**Tea and coffee**

**This Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> August) after the 10:30am Mass** we will have tea and coffee in the hall – you're most welcome to come and get to know the other parishioners.

In the porches you will find many **gift bags** that have been the presbytery for a while that have been used for gifts for the priests. **They are free to take.**

**Gift -aid donations**

Could O. Ajayi speak to Fr Tom regarding **the gift aid** donations please.

**Parish Accounts**

Please find the **parish accounts for the last years displayed in the porches.** If you have any questions please feel free to ask Fr Tom.

**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, Jenson Lambeth, Neo Taylor, Kathy Mogg, Anna Gawlik, Joanna Tidmarsh, Shane McNeelan, Eileen Gallagher, Helen and Arthur Annal, Claire Baron, Rod Black.

**Anniversaries:** Dorothy McGrath, Tom Ennis, Michael Conroy, Francis Kenny, Ernest King, Elizabeth Sharkey, Michael Baker, John Rooney, Patricia Livermore, Mona Goldsack, Bridget Smith, Daphne Beale, Josephine Doyle, Maria Farrugia, Joanna Laffan, Coralie Moore, Patricia Colgan, Patrick Gallagher.

	Total	Gift Aid	Non- Gift Aid
<b>Weekly Collection</b>	<b>£ 845.41</b>	<b>£253.55</b>	<b>£591.86</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>3154</b>		

**Spiritual Thought**

This week on Tuesday (6<sup>th</sup> August) we celebrate the glorious feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord – when taking three of his closest disciples, Jesus went up the holy mountain and his appearance changed – his Godness shone through and his glory was revealed.

We have an idea that heaven is over there, locked away, separate and far. The only way into heaven is death, so (we think) there can be nothing of heaven on earth.

But the beauty of God being born on earth is that the divide has been broken, heaven can now appear on earth (at the will of God and for his glory). Every now and then the glory of heaven is shown to prepare us for that glory, to enliven our spirits and draw us closer to that life.

We are so fortunate to know where we are aiming for, where we want to go. We want to bask in the light and glory of God in heaven eternally, and in prayer on earth as preparation for that eternity.

**Masses this Week**

Masses will be as usual, but with an **additional Mass on Tuesday at 9:30am.**

**The Evangelium 2024 conference for young Catholics**

The Evangelium 2024 conference for young Catholics aged **18-35** is less than one month away -16th - 18th August. Evangelium helps to make faithful Catholics effective for Mission. Many have met lifelong friends and spouses, joined apostolates or discovered a vocation. This year you are invited! Please note that the 'early-bird' pricing is still available.

Booking: <https://saintant.com/evangelium-conference> or call **01834 812643**. For more information please see the flyer in the porches.

**FoodBank**

Please do remember the FoodBank collections in the porches of the church. **These are collected regularly** and shared with the central distribution centre. Aside from non-perishable food, toiletries and washing products are also needed. Thank you again for your continued generosity.

**Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory**

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday **at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm.** The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call **Millie on 07957594646 for more information.**