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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) (PAGE168)

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent/Laetare or Mid Lent  
 Sunday/Mothering Sunday**

- 08.30 Mass to Kay Hanrahan RIP (Parnell) (Fr M)
- 10.00 First Communion Session
- 10.30 Mass for Rose Mendes RIP & Paul De Souza  
 RIP & Ana Rita De Souza RIP (1 month's  
 mind) (Fr L)  
 Children's Liturgy
- 17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr M)

*We will out a daffodil to all the ladies  
 at the end of Mass.*

**Celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries.**

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March** **Feria of Lent**  
**No Mass**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** **Feria of Lent**  
 09.00 Mass for Ann Joyce RIP (Foundation) (Fr L)  
 19.00 "We Dare to Hope" Lenten Course  
 19.00 Bereavement Group (small hall)  
 20.00 Stations of the Cross

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** **Feria of Lent**  
 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)  
 13.30 Visit from Pelham Primary School

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** **Feria of Lent**  
 09.00 Mass for Lucy Pereira RIP (Foundation) (Fr L)  
 St Thomas More Primary School closes for  
 Easter holidays

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April** **Feria of Lent**  
 09.00 Mass for Bartley Sullivan RIP (Anniv) (Fr M)  
 Adoration until 10.00am  
 Confessions straight after the Blessed  
 Sacrament is exposed  
 10.00 Covering of statues

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April** **Feria of Lent**  
 10.00 Mass for Holy Souls in Purgatory (Antao)  
 (Fr L)  
 Confessions  
 10.30 "A Day of Reflection with David Wells"  
 at St Stephen's Church

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

- 08.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)  
 No First Communion Session until 27<sup>th</sup> April
- 10.30 Mass for Safe Delivery of Baby Page (Fr M)  
 Children's Liturgy continues during Lent  
 Refreshments after Mass
- 17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)

**Today there is a Pastoral Letter on Assisted Dying.**

**Today is Laetare or Rejoicing Sunday:** It marks Mid-Lent and today we wear rose vestments and can have a few flowers. It is also Mothering Sunday or Mothers' Day when we celebrate our Mums. The servers will give out daffodils to all the ladies in the church during the Notices.

**Please continue to pray** for Ana Rita De Souza whose funeral will take place at St John Vianney on 9<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am following by burial at Kemnal Park Cemetery. Parking will be available in Heathfield Road from 10.00am-12.30pm on **single yellow lines only**.

### What's on during Lent?

**19.00 "We Dare to Hope":** Every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Children's Chapel.

**20.00 Stations of the Cross:** Every Tuesday.

**We encourage parishioners:** to sign up for different roles during Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Lists are on the noticeboard.

**Help to cover statues:** We need a couple of volunteers to cover the statues in purple cloths before the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. Are you free to help on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April after Adoration finishes at 10.00am?

Why do we cover the statues? Statues and images in Catholic churches are covered during Holy Week, particularly during Passiontide, as a visual reminder of the period of penance and focus on Christ's Passion, death, and resurrection, culminating in the joyous celebration of Easter.

#### Altar Servers:

Practice for Holy Week – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm.

Practice for Easter Vigil – Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00am.

Please add your names to the lists in your room

**Good Friday:** Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.00am. We encourage all children, especially First Holy Communion children and parents to come along and take part.

**Decorating our Church:** Help is needed on Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am to prepare our church in readiness for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Services. Jobs entail removing cloths from statues, changing the backdrops etc. to gold, decorating the pillars and font, to name but a few. Also, if you have a talent for flower arranging, your services would be put to good use too! Do come along and have a cuppa and maybe a hot cross bun. Approximately 1-1/2 hours.

#### Collections during Holy Week:

Retiring collection on Palm Sunday for Easter Flowers

Retiring collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places

Easter Collections are your personal gift to Fr Michael and Fr Luke

#### Prayer for the sanctity of all human life, specifically concerning

**Assisted Suicide:** On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 9.00am Mass until 10.00am.

**Book of Remembrance:** At the back of the church by the Offertory Gifts, there is a Remembrance Book for you to add the names of your loved one so that they are remembered this Easter. It is brought up at the Offertory along with the Gifts. Lilies will be included in our Easter flowers.

**Cleaning the church for Easter:** Can you please spare a couple of hours on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am to help spruce St John Vianney Church up for Easter? We have Mass that day at 9.00am followed by Adoration until 10.00am. All parishioners are welcome.

**Congratulations** to Yazmyn Rosa Daisy Fysh and Kameron John Reuben Fysh who were baptised last weekend.

**Mass Offerings:** You may have noticed that we have had quite a few Holy Souls Mass Intentions. This is because we have quite a few vacancies now for Mass Offerings, so are now saying these Masses. It wasn't so long ago we were inundated with Masses, and not able to accommodate all the dates requested. Please remember, the Mass offering goes directly to the Priest saying the Mass and is part of their income. The more Masses we have, the greater their income. Thank you in advance. Cath

**Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers:** Annie Biggs, Stelian, Claire Wansbury, Mary McGinty, Alan and Rene Fisher, Baby Jemima Rita James, Fr Jeff, Shirley Angerer, Josephine Treloar, Jacqueline Downey, Steve Smith, Annie and Gerry McDonagh Snr, Gerry McDonagh Jnr and Martin McDonagh, Keith Smith, Samantha Butler, Carole, Dean McClumpha, Mrs Chris Lynch, Ashleigh, Fr Michael, Kathy Blakemore, Kirsty, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Sally Pain, Florrie Pereira, Fr John Ryan (former Parish Priest of Crayford), Jo O'Donnell, Matthew Butler, Nadia Sheehy, Steve Pitt, Goretti Stone, Little Buster Sprules, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury and Roy Miller.

**Hiring of Hall:** Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: [bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk)

**Receiving electronic newsletter:** Please email [bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk)

**HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION:** Donations for the Offertory Collection can be made in the usual way via the basket. Alternatively, you can donate via BACs to our bank account (details below). Payments can be made for Masses this way too. You can also make payments via our card machine, located in the porch. You can also pay for Repository items, Second Collections and Candles via this method too.

Please remember to Gift Aid if you are tax payer. Forms are situated in the porch on the lefthand side as you enter.

**Payment online: Account No:** 21089620 **Sort Code:** 51-70-14 **Account Name:** RCAS Bexleyheath

**Bereavement Group:** Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7.00pm in the small hall.

**SAVE THE DATE:** We shall be celebrating our Parish Day on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Masses will be 8.30am, **11.00am** and 5.30pm. We ask parishioners to bring along some food, maybe a native dish, to share with one another. Food will be served after 11.00am Mass. Volunteers are needed to help prepare beforehand and also assist on the day with serving the food and refreshments. Please add your name to the volunteer list on the noticeboard. Thank you in advance.

**Parish Easter Egg Hunt:** We would like to hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after 10.30am Mass but need volunteers to run it. Are there any parishioners who could help please? Maybe some young families? Please contact Cath: [bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk). We would also appreciate donations of Easter Eggs too please. If you can donate, please leave in the porch behind the Mass book trolley. Thank you.

**Gift Aid:** We still have some 2025/26 boxes which haven't been collected by parishioners in the porch.

**Food Bank Items:** It would greatly be appreciated if you could donate any food items to support our local food banks at Trinity Place and Devonshire Road. Usual items are needed, rice, tinned meat & fish, pasta and pasta sauces, long life milk, rice, etc. If you can spare some nice treats too, that would be amazing. Please leave items in food bank box in porch. Thank you.

**News from SPUC:** Please see the Lives Worth Living flyer at the back of the church. It explains why you should tell your MP to vote against assisted suicide at the third reading. To find out more please visit [www.livesworthliving.org.uk](http://www.livesworthliving.org.uk). There are also petition cards asking the UK government to adhere to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and a card – Yes to our hospices, No to assisted suicide. I will send them off on masse if you just sign. Best wishes Bexley SPUC.

**Reconciliation Service at St Stephen's, Welling – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am.** Parking available on site.

**Job Vacancies at St Catherine's Catholic Girls' School:** Currently there are vacancies for SENDco, Chaplain and Deputy Head Teacher. Please see job descriptions in the porch or alternatively see their website under "Our School", "Vacancies".

**Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, July 12<sup>th</sup> at St George's Cathedral:** If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

**"A Day of Reflection with David Wells" – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am – 3.00pm at St Stephen's Church, Welling:** Our Communion prayer reminds us to wait in joyful Hope. What is hope, what difference does it make and why are we called by Pope Francis to be *Pilgrims of Hope*? Refreshments available from 9.45am. Please bring a packed lunch.

#### **A Decree from Archbishop John**

#### **The Church of St John Vianney BEXLEYHEATH**

**is designated as a Jubilee Church in this Archdiocese of Southwark for the duration of the Jubilee Year –  
24<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

#### **Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration at The Friars, Aylesford – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **Pilgrimage – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at St John Vianney**

On this day, we shall be welcoming other parishes in our Deanery to join us for a prayer service at 1.00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. Please do keep this date in your diary.

Help will be needed in welcoming and serving the refreshments too. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help: [bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk) As there are 8 parishes in the Deanery so we are expecting quite a few Pilgrims.