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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY (YEAR C) (PAGE 130)

Sunday 31st August

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 08.30 Mass for Private Family intentions (Antao) (Fr M)
 10.30 Mass for Natalie Delvaille-Sills (Birthday) (Carolan) (Fr L)
 17.30 Mass for Henry Page (Birthday) (Fr M)

Celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries

Monday 1st September

**Saint Edmund Arrowsmith, Priest & Martyr/
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**

No Mass

Tuesday 2nd September

Feria

- 09.00 Mass for Donald & family (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 3rd September

**Feast of Saint Gregory the Great,
Pope and Doctor of the Church**

- 09.00 Mass (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary

Thursday 4th September

Saint Cuthbert, Bishop

- 09.00 Mass for Welfare of Ken Atmore (Family) (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary

Friday 5th September

**Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)
First Friday**

- 09.00 Mass for Spiritual Healing & Strength
 for Jasmin Pereira (Fr M)
 Adoration until 10.00am
 Confessions straight after the Blessed
 Sacrament is Exposed

Saturday 6th September

The Blessed Virgin Mary

- 10.00 Mass for Inner Healing of Josephine (Da Silva) (Fr L)
 Confessions
 March for Life (London)

Sunday 7th September

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 08.30 Mass for Stephen Stewart RIP (Martin) (Fr L)
 10.30 Mass for Peggy Sullivan RIP (Raymond) (Fr M)
 Children's Liturgy resumes today
 Refreshments resume in the hall after Mass
 17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation – Monday 1st

September – Saturday 4th October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi):

This day is inspired by Pope Francis' landmark encyclical 'Laudato Si', which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth.

A prayer: "Living God, you call us to be good stewards of this earthly home, strengthen us to care for your creation; forgive us when, through our greed and indifference we abuse its beauty and damage its potential. Empower us, through your Spirit to so nurture and love the world, that all creation sings to your glory."

Congratulations to Orlaith Rose Crotty (aged 10) who was baptised last Saturday.

Welcome back: Having had a restful summer, we look forward to resuming the following:

- 7th September – Choir at 10.30am Mass
 7th September – Children's Liturgy
 7th September – Refreshments after 10.30am Mass

Monday 8th is the Feast of the Birthday of Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fr Luke will say Mass at 9.00am this day, followed by the Rosary.

Schools restarting: Please keep in your prayers all the children who are returning to their primary and secondary schools and those starting for the first time. We also pray for our young adults who are beginning sixth form or moving away to experience life at university. We also remember all the staff who make this possible in each of these venues, from the caretakers to the headteachers.

We especially pray for St Thomas More Primary School as they commence their new academic year and look forward to welcoming pupils throughout this time.

Harvest Sunday – 28th September: All donations will be going to the Manna Centre, Melior Street, SE1. Items needed are tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, corned beef, tinned luncheon meats, tea, coffee, squash, soup, breakfast cereals, to name but a few. Please look at the noticeboard for the full list of items. Men's clothing is also needed too, plus some miscellaneous items too.

Parishioners have until the end of October to bring the items in. Please leave donations in the porch by the foodbank box. With grateful thanks for your support.

CAFOD: Response in Gaza: Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk. Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

Grief in Loss Weekend – Friday 10th - Sunday 12th October at The Friars, Aylesford: See poster in porch for more information/bookings or email: reception@thefriars.org.uk or telephone 01622 717272.

Free Yoga for Unpaid Carers: Counselling Matters Bexley is hosting free yoga classes for unpaid carers in Bexley, every Wednesday evening. 7.30pm – 8.30pm in our church hall. Suitable for all abilities. Please contact Marie Roast (marier.cmb@gmail.com) if you would like to join the class. (See poster for more information).

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Meta James, Tracey James, Baby Teddy, Tom C, Susan, Adelina Braganza, Liam Gerety, 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, 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, Little Buster Sprules, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury, Josephine da Silva and Roy Miller.

Hiring of Hall: Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Receiving the newsletter online: In order to reduce paper wastage, if you would like to have our weekly newsletter emailed to you, please contact the parish office bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk and it will be sent to you weekly.

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

Food Bank Items: We are very grateful for the donations that you have been making to support our local food banks. Items needed are pasta, rice, sauces, tinned meat and fish, long life milk, cereals, toilet rolls, basically, everyday items you put in your shopping trolley. **No** fresh food items though. Donations can be left in our green box marked "food bank" in the porch. Thank you once again.

Readers' Rota for September-October 2025 is now ready to collect. Copies are in the porch.

Racial Justice Sunday Mass will be taking place on 1st February 2026 at St George's Cathedral.

Annual Missio Red Box Collection: If you have a Missio Red Box, please can you bring it in for emptying. Please hand your box into the Sacristy to Fr Michael or Fr Luke by 28th September at the latest. Please ensure your name is clearly marked on the box. Please Do Not leave the boxes in the porch.

When the boxes have been emptied, I will leave them on the table in the back of the church to be collected.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donations, please contact Missio via telephone on 020 7821 9755 or email at info@missio.org.uk; they can send you a Gift Aid Declaration form to sign. Alternatively, please speak to me.

If you no longer want a Red Box, leave a note with your box when you hand it in and I will remove your name from the list. Thank you. God Bless. Abby

Is God calling you to become a Permanent Deacon? From the earliest of day of the Church men have been called to serve as ministers of the Word, of the Altar, and of Charity. To be a Deacon is to serve your community, could this be you? Talk to your family and talk to your Parish Priest, there is more information the diocesan website: rcaos.org.uk/The Diaconate or contact Ian Black@rcaos.org.uk (see poster, leaflets and prayer cards in porch)

Join March for Life UK on Saturday 6th September in London! The right to life underpins every other right we have and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Abortion denies the most vulnerable in our society their most basic right, the right to life, which is why this year's theme is 'Human Rights for All Humans'. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event where we recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion. Find out more at marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk

Message from Rob Hills our SPUC Representative: 'Clause 2 of the Crime and Policing Bill removing women from criminal law in relation to ending their own pregnancies has been voted on by the Commons and has now passed to the Lords as Clause 191. Please visit www.spuc.org.uk and use the tool to contact a lord. A standard letter will be sent to you which you should personalise. You can then email this or post it (preferred). The address is the same for all Lords – House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW. You can contact as many Lords as you like so keep tapping the button.

Stop assisted suicide – action needed! The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12th September. Right To Life UK has launched an EasyAction tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill.

Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide – it takes just 30 seconds!

Marriage help: Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th October. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

Marriage Care Volunteers needed: Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation that helps couples form and sustain healthy marriages and provides support in times of relationship difficulty. It has been operating for nearly 80 years and we are keen to try and find more volunteers to help with this important work. There are various ways in which volunteers can become involved, as outlined under the Get Involved section of our website marriagecare.org.uk. We are currently looking for Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Full training is provided for this role, which mostly delivers courses online to couples across the country. There are other ways of supporting our work too, for example by helping with our communications and administration or being on the reception at our centre in Blackheath for one or two evenings a month. For more information please email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk or the local centre co-ordinator: Tony.Lawrence@marriagecare.org.

Hospital Chaplaincy Volunteers – is this for you? The chaplaincy at Queen Elizabeth Hospital is currently looking to recruit more volunteers to visit patients on the wards. If you are interested in knowing more, please email Rev Emmanuel at ekormi@nhs.net, or call the Chaplaincy on 020 8836 6831. Gwen Chiosso from St Stephen's parish in Welling has written an article about her experience which can be found here: <http://www.saintstephens.co.uk/blog/hospital-chaplaincy-volunteering/#more-1395>