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TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) (PAGE 149)

Sunday 12th October 2025

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time/
Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families**

- 08.30 Mass for Parishioners (Fr M)
 10.30 Mass for Martin Gordon (Birthday) (Fr L)
 Children's Liturgy/Refreshments after Mass
 17.30 Mass for Gerard Lambe RIP (Anniv) (Family) (Fr M)

Fourth and Final National Mass Count

Monday 13th October 2025

Feast of Saint Edward the Confessor, King

No Mass

Tuesday 14th October 2025

Saint Callistus, Pope & Martyr

- 09.00 Mass for John Burns RIP (Birthday) (Judith) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 15th October 2025

**Saint Teresa of Jesus (of Avila),
Virgin & Doctor of the Church**

- 09.00 Mass for Anthony Da Costa RIP (Anniv) (Antao) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary
 13.30 Funeral Mass for Jenny Lewer at St Patrick's Church, Bearsted followed by Cremation at Charing at 3.30pm (Fr M)

Thursday 16th October 2025

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

- 09.00 Mass (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Friday 17th October 2025

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

- 09.00 Mass for Mary McGinty RIP (Bird) (Fr M)
 Adoration until 10.00am
 Confessions straight after the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed

Saturday 18th October 2025

Feast of Saint Luke, Evangelist

- 10.00 Mass for Douglas Peter Tovey RIP (Foundation) (Fr L)
 Confessions
 10.00 Day of Retreat for Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (St Stephen's, Welling)

Happy Feast Day to Father Luke

Sunday 19th October 2025

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**World Mission Day & Prayer for the Evangelisation
of the World/ Church Action on Poverty Sunday**

- 08.30 Mass in Thanksgiving (M&S Pereira) (Fr L)
 10.30 Mass for Mick & Sylvie's 65th Wedding Anniversary (Carolan) & Catarina Martins RIP (Anniv) (José) (Fr M)
 Children's Liturgy/Refreshments after Mass
 17.30 Mass (Fr L)

Second Collection for Missio

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Today is Prisoners' Sunday: This is a day of National Prayer for Prisoners, their families and children. In this jubilee year, we have the opportunity to remember those impacted by the criminal justice system. Pope Francis started this year of hope by opening five jubilee doors. The second was opened at Rebibbia Prison in Rome, where Pope Francis reminded us that we each can be prisoners in our own way. He spoke to the prisoners about the need to have hope in their hearts and not leave them closed. Throughout Pope Francis' papacy, he reminded us of God's love and mercy, and he showed this by visiting those in Rebibbia Prison and washing the feet of prisoners. This Prisoners' Sunday, we remember this legacy of Pope Francis, and his reminder of Jesus's words, "I was in prison, and you came to visit me".

Next Sunday, there is a Second Collection for Missio: Missio is the Church's official organ for the support of foreign missions. The collection taken on World Mission Sunday goes in its entirety to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missio works through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need. The money goes directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories: local church directly helping local church.

Rest in Peace: Caroline 'Cari' White, Viv Keate's eldest daughter, who died suddenly on Wednesday. Viv is a member of our choir and her son-in-law Mark, Caroline's husband, died suddenly earlier this year. Our condolences go to Viv and her family. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Rest in Peace: Alan Collins of Martin Dene who died recently in Maples Care Home. Our sympathy to his wife Janet and family. His funeral will be at Eltham Crematorium on Monday 20th October at 1.45pm. May he rest in peace and rise in glory

Congratulations to Amy Victoria Greenwell who was baptised, confirmed and made her First Holy Communion last weekend. Amy had been receiving instruction from Fr Michael for the past four months of so as well as coming to Mass on Sundays at 8.30am. She chose Saint Therese as her Confirmation name.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary: Perhaps families can pray the rosary at home and teach the children the meaning of the beads. Also, Fr Luke leads the rosary after he says Mass during the week. You would be most welcome to join him.

Thank you for your Harvest Sunday donations: Please continue to bring in items for the Manna Centre as listed on the noticeboard. You have a few weeks to still donate.

Baptism Buddy: Fr Michael needs a baptism buddy for Saturday 25th October. Please either tell him or email the office. Thank you.

Parish Census Form: For those of you who missed last Sunday's request to complete a 2025 Census Form, we ask that you fill one in from the porch and put it either in the collection, or hand to Fr Michael or Fr Luke. Thank you.

Housekeeper Vacancy: Thank you to those parishioners who have shown interest in this position. We will be contacting you all shortly. Cath

National Mass Count: Today is the last Sunday where we ask those taking the Offertory to count the number of parishioners attending each Mass.

CONFIRMATION 2026: This will take place on Sunday 26th April at 10.30am Mass. Registration and classes will start after Christmas. Please check newsletter for updates.

Toddler Prayer Time: Does your toddler like to pray or want to learn how to pray? If so, please join Mrs McClumpha and Benny the Prayer Bear every Wednesday 2.40-3.00pm, at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Sheldon Road, Bexleyheath.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Meta James, Tracey James, Baby Teddy, Tom C, Susan, Adelina Braganza, Stelian, Claire Wansbury, 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, 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:

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

Welcomers 2026! After nearly two decades as welcomers at 10:30 Mass, some of our welcoming team will be stepping down from the role in the New Year. We are therefore asking for more volunteers to consider joining the team in this important role. Our parish continues to grow and an active and vibrant welcoming team will contribute greatly to the successful running of the parish. If you are interested, please feel free to speak to any of the current welcoming team before or after Mass. Thank you.

Day of Retreat for Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Saturday 18th October 2025: Registration from 9.30am with teas/coffees in the parish hall. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church to confirm your attendance.

PROGRAMME OF THE DAY: 10:00-10.40: *Welcome & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar, Southeast 10.45am: *Discipleship of Hope* – Canon Edward Perera, Dean of Bexley 11.30am: Q&A 11.45am: Break 12 noon: *Virtual Missionary – How the Church can thrive in the digital space* – Father Antony Megalan Sellam, Dean of Lewisham 12.45pm: Q&A 1pm: Lunch – Bring your own packed lunch 1.30pm: *Liturgy of Witness* – Father Stephen Wymer, Dean of Bromley 2.15pm: Q&A 2.30pm. *Mass 18th October Homily* – Father Richard Plunkett, Dean of Greenwich.

Open Mornings at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Long Lane: Tuesday 30th October 2025/Tuesday 11th November 2025/Tuesday 18th November 2025/Tuesday 2nd December 2025/Tuesday 9th December 2025 – 9.00am/Tuesday 13th January 2026. **Timings are 9.30am-10.30am for each date.**

Girlguiding Bexleyheath are delighted to be back in St John Vianney Hall: Rainbows (aged 4-7): **Wednesdays from 5-6pm** – short waiting list (1st Watling Rainbows) Brownies (aged 7-10): **Mondays from 6-7:30pm** – spaces for immediate start (1st Watling Brownies). Guides (aged 10-14): **Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm** – spaces for immediate start (2nd Watling Guides).

Girlguiding groups provide exciting opportunities for your daughter to develop leadership skills, essential life skills, nurture friendships and have brilliant adventures! All with affordable membership fees.

Sign up online via the Girlguiding website: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/>

QUIZ NIGHT: Join us for a fun quiz night on Saturday 8th November! **Venue:** St John Vianney Church Hall **Times:** Arrive at 7pm for prompt 7:30 start **Entry:** £5 per person, pay on the door. **Teams:** Bring a team of up to 8 people or join a team. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Any queries contact johnward1957@live.co.uk

CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT ST JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER – 12.00PM TO 2.00PM



Come along and join the festivities at St John Vianney as we get in the mood for Christmas with our fayre. To do this we need donations for our stalls including fancy goods, toiletries, bottles (alcohol and soft drinks), bric-a-brac, good toys & games, home-made cakes etc. Celine, our resident photographer, will also be there. Her family photos make great Christmas presents. Refreshments will be tea, coffee, squash and possibly some mulled wine. As we don't have a Food Hygiene Rating, we are unable to serve hot food. As usual your

help is essential, and I would be grateful for anytime you could offer in setting up on the Friday 28th November in the afternoon or running a stall on the day. Please contact me on 07989 156111 or email the Parish Office on Bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk if you would like to get involved. Please do come along and join in on this social occasion and maybe pick up a bargain at the same time. Looking forward to hearing from you. Cath ☺

Please leave donations for the fayre in the porch “marked fayre”, so as not to confuse with the Manna Centre donations.

Celebrating Cultural & Ethnic Identities in Our Parishes – Free Webinar: Join the Archdiocese of Southwark's Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion for a free webinar exploring how cultural and ethnic identities can be celebrated within our parishes. Thursday 16th October 7:00-8:45pm.

What to expect: Reflections on the Archdiocese's ongoing story of inclusion, plus real stories from parishes. A lively panel discussion with clergy and parish/chaplaincy reps. Practical tools and next steps for your parish/ministry.

Join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/QJ5vL4nURTmnHUIAa2BiKA>

All are welcome – parishioners, clergy, chaplaincy teams and ministry leaders. For more information contact Caritas Southwark at caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk