

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY
21 HEATHFIELD ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT DA6 8NP

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) – PAGE 170

Sunday 22nd March 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent
 08.30 Mass for Ken Atmore RIP (Kelly) (Fr M)
 10.00 First Communion Session
 10.30 Mass for Mary McGinty RIP (Family) (Fr L)
 Children’s Liturgy
 Altar Servers’ practice after Mass for Palm Sunday
 Refreshments in the hall
 17.30 Mass for Private Intentions (Seema & Jobin)
 (Fr M)

Second Collection for Poor Parishes
Monday 23rd March 2026 **Feria of Lent**
No Mass
Tuesday 24th March 2026 **Feria of Lent**

(Saint Oscar Romero)
 09.00 Mass for David McCarthy-Biggs (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary
 20.00 Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 25th March 2026
The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.
(Saint Margaret Clitherow, Martyr)
 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary

Thursday 26th March 2026 **Feria of Lent**
 09.00 Mass for Nap Pereira RIP (Fr L)
 followed by the Rosary
 19.00 Confirmation Session

Friday 27th March 2026 **Feria of Lent**
 09.00 Mass for Rose Mendes RIP (D’Costa) (Fr M)
 Adoration until 10.00am
 Confessions straight after the Blessed
 Sacrament is Exposed

Saturday 28th March 2026 **Feria of Lent**
 10.00 Mass for Wellbeing of Noreen Smith (Hensman)
 (Fr L)
 Confessions



CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR @ 1.00AM

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 29th March 2026
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Palms will be blessed at all Masses
 08.30 Mass for Patricia Roberts RIP (Guilbert) (Fr M)
 10.15 Please gather in the Hall
No First Communion session
 10.30 Solemn Mass with blessing of palms and
 procession to the church (Fr L)
 Mass for Paul De Souza RIP (D’Costa) (Fr M)
 Children’s Liturgy
 Refreshments in the hall
 17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)

Birthdays and Anniversaries.
Retiring Collection for Easter flowers.

The Sunday’s Gospel: Today we hear the story of the Raising of Lazarus from the dead, a foretaste of Our Lord’s dying and rising. In Baptism we die to our old life of sin and are raised to new life in the waters.

Today there is a Second Collection for Poor Parishes: formerly the Needs of the Diocese collection, this collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese.

Palm Sunday is celebrated next Sunday: It is our entrance into Holy Week. We will bless and distribute palms at all the Masses. Parishioners should gather in the hall at 10.15 for the 10.30 Mass. We will proclaim the Gospel of the Entry into Jerusalem and process through the back door of the hall to enter the church gates and so process into church. The little children will greet us with bells and other instruments. At every Mass we will proclaim the Passion according to Saint Matthew in three parts. Please take the part of the crowd. We stand for this but please sit down if you get tired.

Children’s Way of the Cross: On Good Friday at 10.00am there will be “Children’s Stations of the Cross”. This is an important act during Lent, and parents are encouraged to bring their children to this. If any child would like to be a reader during this, please put your name on the list on the noticeboard. If you are volunteering, please ensure you are at church by 9.45am.

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. Lillies will be included in our Easter flowers.

What’s on during Lent?

Stations of the Cross: Every Tuesday: 20.00
Please sign up to help over Holy Week: We still have many empty spaces for Welcomers, Readers, Ems etc. Please consider helping.

Altar Servers:
 Practice for Holy Week: Wednesday 1st April at 6.00pm
 Practice for Easter Vigil: Holy Saturday 4th April at 11.00am
 Please add your names to the lists in your room

Cleaning the church for Easter: Can you please spare a couple of hours on Wednesday 1st April at 9.30am to help make St John Vianney Church shine for Easter? We have Mass that day at 9.00am. All parishioners are welcome.

Good Friday: Children’s Stations of the Cross at 10.00am. We encourage all children, especially First Holy Communion and Confirmation children and parents to come along and take part. Evening Stations at 7.30pm

Decorating our Church: Help is needed on Holy Saturday 4th April at 12.00noon 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 2 hours.

Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday 5th April after 10.30am. £1.00 entry per child. (Cash only)

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

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Katie Bingley, Rita Zaremba, Fr Gareth Bowen, Mary Paul, John Yates, Meta James, Tracey James, Baby Teddy, John Smith, 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: 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. **Payment online:** **Account No:** 21089620 **Sort Code:** 51-70-14 **Account Name:** RCAS Bexleyheath

Gift Aid boxes: For parishioners who have signed up to Gift Aid and requested the little envelopes, your boxes are in the porch for you to collect.

Please consider having our weekly newsletter emailed to you every week. Email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Deanery Lenten Penitential Services with Individual Confessions: **St. Thomas More**, Bostall Park: Sunday 22nd March at 12 noon: **Our Lady of the Rosary**, Blackfen: Friday 27th March at 7pm: **St. John Fisher**, Bexley: Tuesday 31st March at 7.30pm: **Our Lady of the Angels**, Erith: Wednesday 1st April at 7pm: **St. Mary of the Crays Church Hall:** Saturday 28th March at 1pm.

SAVE THE DATE: We shall be celebrating our Parish Day on Pentecost Sunday 24th May. More information will follow after Easter.

Mass Offerings: Please do consider having a Mass said, possibly for a loved one or maybe as an Easter gift. 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. You can email the request to the parish, bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk and make the payment via BACS (details under Offertory Donations) advising if you're a gift aider or not. Alternatively, write your intention on the envelope in the porch "Mass Offering" and include the money. The cost is usually £10.00 per Mass. Thank you in advance.

Please continue to keep in your prayers the following children:

First Holy Communion children: Sophia, Amy, Jidenna, Odera, Sienna, Aria, Kameron, Alfie, Cissy, Camile, Stanley, Noah, Chinelo, Gerrard, Kerem, Senanayaka, Lincoln, Joshua and Skye.

Confirmation Candidates: James, William, Oliver, Aidan, Phoebe, Jaiden, Tochukwu, Dillyn, Serena, Nithuli, Eleanore, Mattia, Chiara, and Kimia.

Please do sign up to become a prayer partner.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes: I warmly invite you to join me on this year's Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 21st to 28th August 2026. A pilgrimage is a great opportunity to refresh and renew our relationship with the Lord Jesus, with the help of Our Lady's prayers. I have also found it a blessing to be able to accompany and to be inspired by other pilgrims, some of whom are sick, elderly or disabled.

Details for booking travel and accommodation can be found at <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

We also ask pilgrims to complete a form with details, including medical requirements (if any) at

<https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026>

For more information, please contact Canon Edward Perera (edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk) or Deacon John Fogarty (johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk) or myself, Bishop Paul Hendricks (paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk)

Donations for Local Foodbanks: Items needed are cereal, sugar, tea, coffee, UHT milk, toilet rolls, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, soup etc. We've also been made aware that hats and gloves are in urgent need too, so if you could supply these also, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting this.

Bexley Winter Shelter Drop-In Centre Donations: Thank you for all your support with donations. We now need new men's boxer shorts (Medium and Large) and also ladies knickers (size 10,12 & 14). Please leave donations in the porch for me to collect. Thank you. Cath

Marriage and Family Life Events in 2026: Please look at information on noticeboard for events being held during 2026.

Parish Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Sunday 5th April after 10.30 Mass- £1.00 entry per child

We are once again asking for donations of Easter Eggs (big and small) for our hunt taking place on Easter Sunday after 10.30 Mass. Our First Holy Communion parents and Confirmation Candidates are getting involved in organising this and helping on the day too. If you'd like to join us, please speak to Cath or email the parish office bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Please leave donations of eggs in the porch behind the Mass book trolley. Thank you.



Help for Fr Michael: Is anyone free to help Fr Micheal with lifts to appointments please, as it's not always possible for Cath to be available? It may be taking him to the dentist in Sandford Road, Crook Log Surgery in Clarence Road or Queen Mary's Hospital for a blood test. If you feel you might be able to help, please either speak to Fr Michael or email the parish office: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Easter Posters: The Knights of St Columbas will be handing out Easter Posters after each Mass this Sunday and next Sunday.

Holy Week Booklet: Copies of this are available for you to collect in the porch.