

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

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) – PAGE 262

Sunday 26th April 2026

**Fourth Sunday of Easter/World Day of Prayer for
Vocations to the Priesthood**

- 08.30 Mass for Robert and Dora Turner RIP
No First Holy Communion Session
- 10.30 Confirmation Mass (Canon Victor)/Mass for
Deceased Members of de Silva Family
(Josephine)/Anne Brady RIP (Manning) (Fr M/Fr L)
No Children's Liturgy
- 17.30 Mass (Fr L)

**Second Collection for the Priestly Training Fund.
Birthdays and Anniversaries.**

Monday 27th April 2026

Feria

No Mass

Tuesday 28th April 2026

**Saint Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr/
Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest**

- 09.00 Mass (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 29th April 2026

**Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena,
Virgin & Doctor of the Church & Patron of Europe**
A Happy Feast Day to all at Saint Catherine's School

- 09.00 Mass for Santaninha Da Costa RIP (Antao) (Fr L)
followed by the Rosary

Thursday 30th April 2026

Saint Pius V, Pope

- 09.00 Mass (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Friday 1st May 2026

**Saint Joseph the Worker/A Day of Prayer for God's
Blessing on Human Work/First Friday**

- 09.00 Mass for Andrew Clancy RIP (Parnell) (Fr M)
Adoration until 10.00am
Confessions straight after the Blessed
Sacrament is Exposed

Saturday 2nd May 2026

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church.
First Saturday**

- 10.00 Mass followed by the Rosary (Fr L)
Confessions

Sunday 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter/Safeguarding Sunday

- 08.30 Mass for Mary Paul (Kelly) (Fr M)
- 10.00 First Holy Communion Session
- 10.30 Mass for Atmore Family Intention (Fr L)
Children's Liturgy
Refreshments in hall after Mass
- 17.30 Mass (Fr L)

(Saints Philip and James, Apostles)

Confirmation Mass: Today we welcome Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for our SE Area, who will confirm 14 of our young people from our parish at the 10.30am Mass. We welcome the candidates and their families and, of course, you, our parishioners. Please keep them in your prayers, they are: James, William, Oliver, Aidan, Phoebe, Jaiden, Tochukwu, Dillyn, Serena, Nithuli, Eleanore, Mattia, Chaira and Kimia. There will be light refreshments in the hall after the Mass. We only celebrate Confirmation every two years so today is special.

We also thank Brenda for the beautiful flower arrangements and John Fitzpatrick for taking photos during the Mass. We would like to thank our catechists: Lena, Maria and Cath, who have given up their Thursday evenings to run the classes and provide hot chocolate! 😊 Finally, we would like to thank Fr Luke for his input and faithfulness to the meetings.

Please note: No photos are to be taken by any other person during this Mass, other than our photographer John. Families will have the opportunity after the service to take their own photos, if they wish. This is in line with GDPR procedures. We thank you for adhering to this.

Today we have a Second Collection for Priest Training Fund:

The priesthood has always been at the heart of the Church. Today we pray for vocations and support the Priest Training Fund, which forms men for service across our parishes, schools, hospitals, and communities. We currently have 9 seminarians, each costing around £30,000 per year over six years of formation. Your generosity helps make their calling possible.

Donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF

Call: 020 7960 2504 (weekdays, 9am-5pm)

Donation envelopes will be on the benches for you to use. They contain interesting stories from three of our Seminarians.



Leave a lasting legacy to the Church: Please consider remembering our church or the Priesthood in your Will.

Find out more: www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/leave-a-legacy. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Congratulations to Frederick Nicholas Mythen-Smith who was baptised on Easter Saturday.

Congratulations to Mary Ann Anderson who was received into the Catholic Church, was confirmed and made her First Holy Communion last weekend. Mary had been receiving preparation from Fr Michael for several months. Her daughter Sophia is part of our First Communion group.

Rita Zaremba's Funeral Mass: Will be on Tuesday 12th May at 11.00am followed by 12.30pm at Eltham Crematorium. Refreshments in St John Vianney hall afterwards. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

May is Mary's month and we will celebrate the Crowning of Our Lady on Sunday 10th May at 10.30 Mass. We ask the children to bring a few flowers for our Mother Mary.

First Holy Communions: These will take place over two weekends, Sundays 21st and 28th June at 10.30am Mass. We ask that you continue to keep in your prayers the following children and their families: Sophia, Amy, Jidenna, Odera, Sienna, Aria, Kameron, Alfie, Cissy, Camile, Stanley, Noah, Chinelo, Gerrard, Kerem, Senanayaka, Lincoln, Joshua and Skye.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Eileen Poulston, Katie Bingley, Fr Gareth Bowen, Mary Paul, John Yates, 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, 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

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

Next Sunday is Safeguarding Sunday: We are still awaiting some literature from the Diocese office. In the meantime, we would like to remind parishioners to be aware of the importance of safeguarding in our parish. Our safeguarding officers are Cath Bird and Lena Pett and their contact numbers are on the top of the newsletter. Please do look at our noticeboard in the safeguarding section to refresh your memory in the procedures for raising a concern.

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.

St John Vianney's Parish Day – Sunday 24th May 2026 after 11.00am Mass

Some of you may not be aware that every year we hold a Parish Day to celebrate the consecration of the Church of St John Vianney. Usually this is at the beginning of May, however, this year, as in another year, we are holding it on Pentecost Sunday. 10.30am Mass that day will be 11.00am instead. The day brings all our parishioners together, to sit and have natter and catch up on news, but also to "break bread" with one another and shared food. We ask parishioners to bring along something to eat that others can enjoy too. This may be a traditional dish, or if not, we ask for donations of cold meats, finger foods, sausage rolls, the usual buffet-type food. Refreshments will be available on the day, however, please bring your own alcohol if you wish to drink wine etc...

Help is needed setting up the day before, on the day itself laying out the donated food, and clearing up after the event. Food will not be served until both Fr Michael and Fr Luke have said Grace in the hall, so please be patient if you're tummy is rumbling! 😊

It would also be nice to have activities for some of our young children to take part in and we're appealing for parents to get involved with this. We have various games, i.e. Connect Four, Snakes and Ladders etc., but it would be nice to maybe have some other activities too.

On the noticeboard in the church is list for you to add your name and contact details and ways in which you'd like to help. Please do get involved. Parishioners were very kind in supporting our Christmas Fayre, so let's get together again to make Our Parish Day a great success.

In respect of the Mass at 11.00am, if you would like to read a bidding prayer in your native language, please let Cath know at Bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk. Our bidding prayers are usually for the Pope, peace in the world, the sick of our parish and prayers to Our Lady. As this is Pentecost Sunday, calling on the gift of the Holy Spirit would be a lovely prayer to write too. You only need to write a few lines. Don't be shy, give it a try.

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. Thank you for supporting this.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, 11th July, 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 As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

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

Rosary For Life. Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife. Pray the Rosary. Encounter Christ. Defend life.