

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

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PARISH SECRETARY: CATH BIRD
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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:
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Safeguarding: The Archdiocese of Southwark is committed to the safety and welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Diocese co-operates fully with the CSAS, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service, which aims to help the Church become an example of best practice in the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, and develop a "culture of vigilance" to ensure that children and vulnerable adults in our care are kept safe from harm.

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – PAGE 108

Sunday 26th July 2026

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/

World Day of Prayers for Grandparents and the Elderly

- 08.30 Mass for the Health & Wellbeing of Philp Gomes (Trevor)/Mass for Matthew Ball RIP (Shiu) (Fr L)
 10.30 Mass for Dorothea & Peter Birthday Blessings (Josephine) (Fr M)
 17.30 Mass for Deceased Members of the Collins Family (Deirdre) (Fr L)

Celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries

(Saints Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin)

Monday 27th July 2026

Feria

No Mass

Tuesday 28th July 2026

Feria

- 09.00 Mass for the blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to my family (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Wednesday 29th July 2026

Saints Mary, Martha and Lazarus

- 09.00 Mass for 80th Birthday of Sr Lucy Hennessy SMG (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Thursday 30th July 2026

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

- 09.00 Mass for Kathy Blakemore RIP (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Friday 31st July 2026

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

- 09.00 Mass for Deceased Members of the Moriarty Family (Collins) (Fr M)
 Adoration until 10.00am
 Confessions straight after the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed

Saturday 1st August 2026

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

- 10.00 Mass for Joanne Lincoln RIP (Hensman) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary
 Confessions

Sunday 2nd August 2026

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 08.30 Mass in Thanksgiving and honour to Saint Jude (Guilbert) (Fr M)
 10.30 Mass for Mr & Mrs JJ Treacy RIP (Fr L)
 17.30 Mass for Private Intention (Coroi) (Fr L)

JULY IS THE MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Today we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. This was started six years ago by Pope Francis to mark the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of our Blessed Lady and Grandparents to Our Lord. The theme this year is: "I will never forget you." Grandparents have an important role in church and society. They are great carers for their grandchildren and are much involved in their lives. We thank them for this. The elderly are often overlooked, especially when they are disabled or housebound. Out of sight can also mean out of mind. But they have a great deal of wisdom and have time to pray for parishioners and those in need. We should never forget them or push them to the side-lines of life.

Baptism Buddy: Fr Michael needs a buddy for Saturday 8th August at 12.30pm. Please speak to him or contact the parish office.

Thank you to all the musicians and the choir for your dedication and skill to provide us with music every Sunday at 10.30 Mass. Today is their last Sunday until September. We will miss you, but everyone deserves a rest. Once again, many thanks.

Thank you also to all our Refreshment hosts for your dedication and hospitality. Again, today is your last Sunday on duty. Sometimes a lot of people come for refreshments and sometimes only a few. It is important that we have this opportunity to meet and chat together. Once again thank you very much.

Children's Liturgy: We thank our catechists who have led the liturgy this past year. We are very grateful for their commitment and dedication. The Liturgy will resume on Sunday 6th September

Can you please help? We need a parishioner to regularly fill the candles with oil, those situated on the altar, the peace candle and the altar servers' acolytes. Please speak to either Fr Michael, Fr Luke or Cath, emailing: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk.

Kathy Blakemore's Funeral Mass will be on Thursday 13th August at 11.00am, followed by 12.30pm at Eltham Crematorium. Please continue to keep her and family members in your prayers

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

Donations for Local Foodbanks: Items urgently needed are cereal, sugar, tea, coffee, UHT milk, toilet rolls, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, soup etc. Please ensure items are in date and haven't been opened. Thank you.

First Aiders Needed Urgently: If you attend 5.30pm Mass on a Sunday, please consider undertaking this training. It's important that every Mass has a first aider. The date booked for training is 5th September.. Please contact Cath: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

"Summertime 2026" – Tuesday 11th August to Friday 14th August:

This is not just for altar servers, but for anyone who is regularly going to mass aged 11-15, who you think would appreciate good Catholic formation in a very social atmosphere. Last year we were oversubscribed, and we are a few less in numbers at the venue, so we would recommend booking a place early rather than later. We are delighted this year to be going back to the Westminster Pastoral Centre, which has amazing facilities. There is a coach laid on from St. Anselm's Dartford. Contact Fr Stephen: dartford@rcaos.org.uk or speak to Fr Michael or Fr Luke for an application form

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Mick & Sylvie Carolan, Pat Tolhurst, 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, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Florrie Pereira, Jo O'Donnell, 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

Examination Invigilators wanted for internal and external examinations at St Catherine's Catholic Girls School, Bexleyheath - supporting and guiding students calmly during the school's examination period. Please visit: <https://www.stccg.co.uk/Support-Staff-Vacancies/> for more info and link to apply.

SEMH Learning Support Assistant and DT Technician. Please visit: <https://www.stccg.co.uk/Support-Staff-Vacancies/> for more info and link to apply. Thank you.

A Day with Mary – International Symposium: 29th to 31st July 2026 (St Mary's, Wellesley Road, Croydon, CR0 2AR (See poster for more information)

Days with Mary: Saturday 1st August @ St Mary's Croydon, Saturday 15th August @ St Saviour, Lewisham, Saturday 29th August @ Church of the Good Shepherd, Downham (see posters for more information)

The St John Bosco Children's Camp: The St John Bosco Children's Camp in Brentwood Essex, is a activities camp with a Catholic ethos that runs for two weeks each summer for boys and girls. Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. Week One 25th July – 1st August or Week Two 1st – 8th August. Activities include archery, fishing, Aqua Park visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>

Fr John O'Donoghue is turning 90: Parishioners at St John Vianney Parish are invited to join Fr John O'Donoghue as he celebrates his 90th birthday on Saturday 19th September at 12 noon at Our Lady Help of Christians, Mottingham. Please contact our parish office or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk if you would like to attend and we will notify Jackie. Parishioners will need to make their own transport arrangements.

URGENT INFORMATION FROM THE DIOCESE REGARDING SCAMMERS

Dear Fathers and colleagues,

We would like to make you aware of a **new type of scam** that is now targeting individuals within our parish communities through **WhatsApp**.

Cyber criminals are increasingly using artificial intelligence (AI) to create convincing videos, voice messages and written communications while impersonating members of the clergy. Their aim is to deceive unsuspecting individuals into believing they are communicating with a priest, bishop, or other Parish representative before requesting money or donations.

Recent examples have been:

- An AI-generated video depicting the Archbishop of Westminster.
- A fake WhatsApp conversation.
- A request for a financial donation.

These examples are entirely fraudulent and have been created to persuade recipients that they are communicating with the Archbishop personally. Similar techniques could be used to impersonate any member of the clergy.

We ask that you please remain vigilant and remind your parishioners to do the same. In particular, please encourage them to:

- Never assume that a WhatsApp message or video is genuine simply because it appears to come from a member of the clergy.
- Never send money, gift cards or bank details in response to unsolicited requests received via WhatsApp or other messaging platforms.
- Always verify the identity of the sender by contacting the priest or parish directly using a known telephone number or official email address before responding to any request.
- Report any suspicious messages and the phone numbers to Action Fraud <https://www.reportfraud.police.uk/>.