PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY - THANET

Dear Parishioners,
As I mentioned last weekend, our Archbishop, the Most Rev. John Wilson, has appointed me as Sub-Dean of St George's Cathedral – Southwark, London, with effect from 6th April 2026. I will continue in my recently appointed role as the Archdiocesan Higher Education Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, and will compliment this role with additional duties as Chaplain to Goldsmiths, University of London. As such, I will be residing at the Clergy House attached to the Cathedral.

I will be replaced in the parish by Fr Jackson Sebastian, who is currently the Sub-Dean at St George's Cathedral. I hope you will offer him the same support and love you have offered me. His appointment also begins on 6th April.

My last Mass here will be on Easter Sunday, 5th April 2026. Until then everything continues as usual in the parish, and I look forward to these, my final days with you, although I know it may be emotional for some of you and for myself.

Thank you for all you have done for me and for all we have achieved together. My time here has been a blessing for myself and my ministry.

Yours in Jesus and Our Blessed Mother,
Father Joseph Owusu-Ansah

Presentation of our Parish Catechumens and Candidates for Reception

It is a joy that this Easter six adults will become Catholic in our parish. Four will be baptised and two who were baptised Anglicans will be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. They will all also receive the other Sacraments of Initiations of First Holy Communion and Confirmation as Mother Church stipulates.

This First Saturday of Lent, we all go to the seat of our Archdiocese, St . George's Cathedral, for the Rite of Election. It is such a joyful occasion where all those becoming Catholic in the Archdiocese that year gather together with their sponsors, priests and the Archbishop. Each of their names is called out. The numbers increase each year; the Lord keeps calling us. They will receive the Sacraments as per the tradition of the Church at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, 4th April 2026

Please find their names below and pray for each of them by name, and for their families and sponsors:
Colin Brown, Tatyana Dabanovic, Michele Whittlesea, Riley Andrews, Darren Prince and Jade Andrews.

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

GIFT, which was launched a month ago in our parish, is a process of accompanying our young families to equip them to make their homes the 'domestic church'. The second session will be this **Sunday, 1st March 2026,** immediately after the 10:30am Mass. It will start at 11:30am and finish by 12:30pm. Light lunch will be provided.

Spiritual Exercises during Lent

The parish has provided a range of devotions and formation sessions to aid our spiritual renewal during this holy season. There is something for everyone irrespective of your weekly schedule. **Please turn over to find out more**.

Parish Priest: Father Joseph Owusu-Ansah /thanet@rcaos.org.uk /01843 841549
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Saturday 21st February
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Vigil 6pm
Matthew Mappilai, RIP

Sunday 22nd February
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Mass 8.30am

Mass 10.30am
Richard Dickinson - Wellbeing

Tuesday 24th February
Feria

Mass 6pm

Wednesday 25th February
Feria

Mass 10am

Thursday 26th February
Feria

Mass 8am
Christina Collins, RIP

Friday 27th February
Feria

Mass 10am
People of the Parish

Saturday 28th February
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Vigil 6pm

Sunday 1st March
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Mass 8.30am

Mass 10.30am

Confession
(Sacrament of Reconciliation)
Sundays 8.00 am - 8.25 am & 9.30 am - 10.10 am

Please speak to the priest in person or email/phone the office to make an arrangement outside of these times

Stations of the Cross and Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday during Lent, there will be an opportunity to attend Stations of the Cross, traditional to Lent, after Mass at 10am. We also encourage you in this Lenten season to come to spend time with Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, at Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:15am.

Mass on Tuesday 6pm and Thursday 8am

If you are working during the day, why not consider coming along to Mass at 6pm on Tuesday or Thursday at 8am. Please also consider coming along to our evening sessions which are: Bible Study, Faith Sharing and the Chosen TV series. If you cannot attend in person,

The God who Speaks - Parish Bible Study

The sessions are evert Thursday from 7:15pm to 8:15pm. We explore the Gospel reading for the following Sunday.

Online Lenten Bible Study

Come & See Catholic Formation Ministries are hosting an online Lenten bible study, where Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions.
Six consecutive Tuesdays: 24 Feb | 03 Mar | 10 Mar | 17 Mar | 24 Mar (7-8:15pm).
Free of Charge and LIVE on YouTube. Registration: comeandsee.org/lent26

Faith Sharing Group

The faith sharing group will meet every Tuesday, starting from Tuesday 24th in the parish hall, at 7:00 pm. We will watch some of the popular films portraying the Life of Jesus. Tea and coffee will be available. All are welcome to attend.

The Chosen TV Series - Friday Evenings

Last year, during Lent, we ran a series of evenings where parishioners met together to watch the ground-breaking drama series on the life of Jesus Christ, called The Chosen. We will once again be showing the series in the hall, accompanied by drinks and snacks on Friday evenings at 7pm. **All are welcome to come together and relax**.

Church Open: Pop in for a Quiet Time

This Lent during your free time, why don't you pop into our church, which is open during the day, for a quiet time away from the busyness of the world around us.

Chris' Winter Warmer

If you would like some company, some cake or a chat in these cold winter months, please join Chris at her home on Thursday 26th February at 11am. If you would like to know more, she can be reached on 07773 576795.

Second Collection Next Week: Empowering Vulnerable Children Uganda Appeal

This charity provides a future, through education, for some of the poorest children in the world. Judi Fawcett, Founder and Trustee, will give a brief presentation after the 10:30am Mass about their work. For further information about EVC please go to their website at Home - EVC Uganda.

CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 27th February

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions - such as flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Pick up a CAFOD envelope at the back of the church to bless others with your support, donate online at **cafod.org.uk/envelope** or call **0303 303 3030.** Text **CAFODLENT TO 70085** to donate £10.

Collections Last Weekend

Collection Plate: £340.65 of which £127.00 was Gift Aided
Digital Collection Plate: £35.00 of which £35.00 was Gift Aided
Standing Orders: £205.00 of which £205.00 was Gift Aided

200 Club Draw

1st Prize:	Mary Crow	£141.25
2nd Prize:	Joseph Egan	£56.50
3rd Prize:	Ginny Hathaway	£28.20

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