

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**  
**20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP**  
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Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)  
Parish Office 020 8650 0970  
Monday to Friday 9 - 1pm



Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)  
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**29 September 2019**  
**26th Sunday**

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## THIS WEEKEND WE HAVE A SPEAKER AND APPEAL FROM CAFOD

### LISTEN TO THE POPE AND GRETA THUNBERG



THE SPEECH by the young Swedish climate change activist Greta Thunberg at the United Nations last week, together with her powerful glance at the man who thinks he's the leader of the free world, made a dramatic impression. The UN conference came days after the Climate change protests here last Friday (in which a number of parishioners joined) and all over the world. As Christians we show spiritual maturity and some openness to the Holy Spirit if we try and discern 'the signs of the times', to make real moral judgments about the challenges which the world faces, and we're being asked to do this rather a lot at the moment. Something I didn't really expect when I passed through the significant age barrier of 'three score years' last year was a strong sense of failure – of generational failure. If you were born in 1958 you are, I think, just at the end of the 'baby boomer' years (there is some dispute about the chronology of these labels) and my generation did enjoy great benefits compared to our predecessors. But that also means that with others we bear a responsibility for the state of the world – we are accountable to future generations. A clear message from what so many young people are saying all over the world about climate change and the future of the world is that we have been found wanting. As Christians we constantly need to look at our lives, including how we have acted as stewards of God's creation; we need to acknowledge when we have done wrong and ask forgiveness of God: such is the moral failure which is marked by indifference and complacency about the way we are treating the planet. The UN Climate change conference, and countless reports which are appearing all the time, show exactly how stupid we have been, even when scientists have been warning us for some time about how things have become. My generation bears a heavy responsibility for this, and it's a mistake to argue that people have not been, and are,

culpable. It is because of that we need to take seriously our moral responsibility for where we are now that we need to listen with humility and shame to the voices of the young – such as Greta Thurman and the thousands of school pupils who have protested in recent months against what we are doing to the planet. There is a great deal of anger which we need to acknowledge; and those of us who are older need to resist the temptation to be defensive or patronising. We need to see the anger in the light of the tradition of prophecy in Sacred Scripture; and in the light of the teachings of the Vicar of Christ.

The picture shows Greta Thurman meeting Pope Francis in Rome earlier this year. If there is one person in the world who shares her anger, and who is of course no longer young, it is the pope. These are the opening words of his 2015 encyclical about God's creation: "LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs". This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she "groans in travail". We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters'.

The passion of the Holy Father's letter is striking, and witnesses to the moral seriousness of the environmental crisis which he addresses. It's worth bearing in mind that a lot of Catholics weren't and aren't interested in the pope's priorities – there's a lot of depressing evidence of this, and some even reject his teachings. What the pope has been saying, and what Greta Thurman and so many young people are saying, should cause us all – particularly those of us who are no longer young - to examine our consciences and to give them practical and prayerful support.

## MESSAGE FROM FR STEVE

As the Dean of Bromley Deanery I attended a Council of Priests meeting at St George's Cathedral last Wednesday. Our new Archbishop, John Wilson addressed the gathering. He said he was delighted and honoured to be with us as our bishop and had been overwhelmed by the welcome and prayers he had received.

At one point he said that it was important that we know we are loved by the Lord even though we're not perfect but a work in progress. Even though on this occasion he was reminding his priests of this, it is something which applies to us all and that we should all remember.

I found this very uplifting and hope you do too.

Fr Steve

## TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

The St Edmund's priest's pre-reference forms that are required if a child wishes to transfer to a Catholic Secondary School are available from the reading slope in the porch. Please take only what you need, you can photocopy extra copies if necessary. Complete the form and put it through the presbytery door in an envelope marked for the attention of Fr Ashley.

## ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

Our parish school St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Beckenham will be holding their open mornings for parents of children due to start Reception in September 2020 at 10.30am on **7 October, 14 October and 17 December**. If you would like to attend any of these open mornings please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer on 020 8650 2355 or email at [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

## ANNUAL DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND READERS

Saturday 16 November

Bishop Thomas Grant School, Streatham

Would all Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion please put this date in their diaries. Bishop Pat encourages all of you to attend this day to renew your dedication and commitment to this ministry. There are enrolment forms on the reading slope in the porch. Please take a form and when completed post it through the Parish Office letterbox. The organiser of this day has asked that all names be forwarded by Parish Offices in one list so please do not email the organiser yourself.



We have now started a new course on Thursday evenings at 11 Village Way (opposite the church). If you would like to join us please contact Mary Deering on 020 8650 9650 of [beckenhamrcia@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenhamrcia@rcaos.org.uk). Maybe you have never been baptised as a Christian; or you would like to be confirmed; or you would simply like to know more about the Catholic Church. Refreshments are available from 7.45pm onwards and you will meet a friendly team committed to helping you make the most of the course. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mary and Cathy

## ST. EDMUND'S CATECHISM GROUP 2019-2020

The Group prepares children at non-Catholic schools for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. The course runs for two years, and children should be in Year 2 or Year 3 at school when they start. We meet monthly between 0930 and 1200 at St Mary's School, Westgate Road, usually on the second Saturday of the month. Our start-of-year Mass will be on Saturday 5 October at 1000 at St Edmund's. This will be followed by teas and coffees in No. 11 Village Way with the catechists.

The first teaching session will be on Saturday 12 October from 0930 -1200 at St Mary's school in Westgate Rd.

Registration and the payment of subscriptions for the year must be made through ChurchSuite <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.co.uk/events/r75rzjzp>

**Registration closes on Friday 11 October** and no further new admissions will be allowed until 2020. If you have any queries, please email [stedscatechismgroup@gmail.com](mailto:stedscatechismgroup@gmail.com).

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Y3 AT ST MARY'S

Sacramental preparation classes for children at St Mary's school will commence in January 2020. If your child is currently in Year 3 at the school, you will need to register them now for classes via ChurchSuite : <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.co.uk/events/yfo4doag>

Registration opens on Sunday 29 September and closes on **Saturday 19 October**. No further applications will be accepted after this date.

If you have any queries please email [beckenhamdayfhc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenhamdayfhc@rcaos.org.uk)

## NATIONAL MASS COUNT

This weekend we have the second of four counts of the number of people attending each Sunday Mass. These annual counts are done at all Catholic churches in the country over the same weekends.

## COLLECTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN LONDON

THIS weekend we have our regular collection of items for asylum seekers and refugees living at the London Catholic Worker Community House in north London. Many thanks for the generosity you have shown in the past. This is what we are looking for: tinned tomatoes, nuts, raisins, cheese, tuna, chilli sauce, rice, couscous, pulses, olive oil, cooking oil, vinegar, mayo, spices, sugar, sunflower seeds, low-fat spread, fruit juice, herbal teabags, hot chocolate, instant coffee, cereals, jam, marmalade, honey, peanut butter, chocolate spread, stock cubes, toilet paper, shampoo, liquid soap, deodorant, shaving products, body lotion, cleaning products, incense sticks, and tea-lights.

**Please NO tinned soup, tinned spaghetti, baked beans or pork.**

**This community relies entirely on donations to feed the many men it shelters. Please continue to give with your usual generosity.**

This collection is made on the last Sunday of every second month but we are happy to take donations for the Holy Trinity Food Bank at any time.

### 11.00 MASS EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

We have been experiencing problems with a shortage of Extraordinary Ministers at the 11:00 Mass.

From next Sunday, if you are available to assist with Holy Communion at Mass, would you please add your name to the list near the sacristy door.

That will help us to decide how many chalices to use.

### A TIME TO REMEMBER

Children's & Babies' Memorial Service

Sunday 13 October

All Saint's Church, Bark Hart Road, Orpington BR6 0QD

**Everybody is welcome - whatever your faith or belief**

If you want more information please phone the Chaplaincy Team on 01689 863912 or email [Kch-tr.chaplains@nhs.net](mailto:Kch-tr.chaplains@nhs.net)

### ROSARY & CUP OF TEA

The Salesian Sisters at 25 Village Way would like to invite all who can to join them for a decade of the Rosary and a cup of tea after 10am Mass on Wednesday 9 October. All are welcome.

### THE MAGIC OF ITALIAN OPERA

#### Night Under the Stars

5 November, 7.30 pm at the

Royal Festival Hall

An evening of Italian opera classics.

Andrea Hixon is arranging a block booking to this event which is in aid of 'The Passage', the homeless charity in Westminster. Please see the flyer in the porch and if you are interested in coming leave your name and a telephone number with the Parish Office.

**Ticket price is £19**

There is a box at the back of the church into which you can put petitions (until Saturday 5 October) which will be carried to Poland by our parish pilgrims.

### DEANERY YOUTH COUNCIL

19 October 12 noon - 2.30 pm

St Joseph's Church, Bromley, Upper Room

Bromley Deanery is launching an exciting new initiative called a Youth Council. This is a board of young people whose views and opinions will feed directly into the programme of youth ministry for the Deanery and will have a key role in making decisions on behalf of the young people in our parishes. The Youth Council will comprise 2 or 3 representatives from each parish, ideally aged 15yrs+. The Youth Council will meet up to three times a year - our first meeting takes place on **Saturday 19 October from 12 to 2.30pm at St Joseph's Church (Upper Room)**. This will be a fairly relaxed introductory meeting, to give us the opportunity to get to know one another, share some preliminary thoughts and pizza! So, if you would like to have your say, represent the youth in your parish as a Youth Councillor and make new friends from parishes all over the deanery, please see your parish priest or contact CYM Coordinator, Susan Longhurst, to receive a **nomination form**.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is Friday 4 October. There will be speakers from Cafod at Masses this weekend. Please take a Fast Day envelope home and return it next weekend with your Fast Day savings. Remember, if you are a UK taxpayer and fill in the Gift Aid form with the envelope, your donation will be increased by 25% at no extra cost to you. Find out more about this year's Harvest appeal from the Cafod notice-board in the porch and see how your generosity in our Lenten appeal helped Mahinur's community in Bangladesh at [Cafod.org.uk](http://Cafod.org.uk)

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

### MISSIO BOXES - A REMINDER

Please hand your box to one of the priests or to the office. When the box has been emptied it will be left in the porch for collection. Please do not leave full boxes at the back of church.



### BOOK APPRECIATION GROUP

We meet on Tuesday 1 October after 10am Mass at no11 Village Way for a chat about good reads we have enjoyed. Refreshments are available. Do join us.

### 40 YEARS A PRIEST

Fr David Gummatt

St Mary of the Crays

Saturday 5 October

Mass at noon followed by a party in the church hall.

If anyone remembers Fr David from his time at St Edmund's and wants to share in his celebrations they would be very welcome. If you can attend you are requested to email [crayford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:crayford@rcaos.org.uk) or text 07485 151159



**The Bromley Homeless Shelter**

### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION MORNING

**Saturday 5 October 9.45-11.45am**

Come along and learn how you could join our team!! Encourage others to volunteer to help homeless people this winter in Bromley. Training sessions will be held before the shelter opens.

**Bromley Town Church, 2 Ethelbert Rd, Bromley BR1 1JA**



Bromley, Lewisham & Greenwich Mind is looking for Benefits Assessment Support Service volunteers who will meet with clients, help them prepare for the assessment, attend the assessment with them and meet with them for a short follow up if required.

If you are interested, please see further details at

<https://www.blgmind.org.uk/news/job/benefits-assessment-support-service-volunteers/>



### RING FOUND

The parish office has an engagement ring that was handed in after 5.30 Mass last weekend.

Please contact the office if you have lost your ring.

## MASSES THIS WEEK

### Monday 30 Sept

8.15 am Church  
10.00 am Church  
7.30 pm 27 VW

### Saint Jerome

Sidney Morton RIP  
Olga & Laurie RIP  
Adoration

### Tuesday 1 October

8.15 am Claver  
10.00 am Church

### Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Owen Burton  
Tom Knell RIP

### Wednesday 2 October

8.15 am Claver  
10.00 am Church  
  
7.30 pm Church

### The Holy Guardian Angels

Stephanie Birjukov RIP  
All persecuted born & unborn children  
in the world  
Anthony Leonard RIP

### Thursday 3 October

8.15 am Claver  
10.00 am Church  
4.30 pm Church  
  
8.00 pm Claver

### Feria

Karl Shiels RIP  
Ints of Rae Fleming  
Reception of the body of  
John Cranstoun  
Adoration

### Friday 4 October

8.15 am Claver  
9.10 am St Mary's  
10.00 am Church  
**Mass followed by Adoration & Benediction in Lady Chapel**  
12.00 noon Church

### Saint Francis of Assisi

"Ros" Bennett RIP  
Tommy Phillips RIP  
Caroline Pearson RIP  
Requiem of John Cranstoun

### Saturday 5 October

8.15 am Claver  
10.00 am Church  
12.00 noon Church  
6.00 pm v Church

### Feria (Our Lady)

Rosemary Ekong - in thanksgiving  
Edith Ransford  
CWL Mass - Southwark Branch  
Bessie Boudville RIP

### Sunday 6 October

8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church  
11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church  
7.00 pm Church

### Twenty seventh Sunday

For the people  
George Campbell RIP  
Richard Graves RIP  
Luigi Ferrara RIP  
Michael & Christina Byrne RIP

*Confessions on Saturdays from 10.30 - 11.00 am and  
5.00pm - 5.55 pm and at other times by request.*

*Rosary is said Monday to Saturday from 9.40 am and  
Adoration is for an hour after 10.00 am Mass.*

**Readings for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Cycle 1 Psalter Wk 3**  
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4  
Psalm 94  
1 Paul to Timothy 1:6-8m 13-14  
Luke 17:5-10

## DIARY DATES

**Meditation** every Monday in no11 from 5.30 - 6.15 pm -  
except on Bank Holidays

**Open door for the bereaved** on the first Wednesday  
of every month from 10.30 am to 12 noon.

**Law Surgery** every second Monday of the month in  
no11 at 7pm

**Prayer Meeting** last Friday of the month in no 11 at  
7.30pm

## OCTOBER

Fri 4 Requiem of John Cranstoun 12 noon

Sat 26 Contemplative Saturday in no11 - 11.00am

## NOVEMBER

Sat 16 Annual day of Recollection for Readers &  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Sat 30 Contemplative Saturday in no11 - 11.00am

## DECEMBER

Sat 7 Parish Christmas Fair

Sat 21 Contemplative Saturday in no11 - 11.00am

## COLLECTION

Our collection last weekend raised £1826.88  
with a further £1825.55 from Standing Orders and  
through ChurchSuite.

Thank you kindly to all who contributed towards the 2nd collec-  
tion Seminary Chapel appeal last weekend. We raised the great  
amount of **£1460.39** that will help refurbish this place of worship  
and restore its dignity as a house of God and a house of prayer.  
Your offering is greatly appreciated as are your continued  
prayers for Seminarians and the training of Priests! Thank you  
also for the warm welcome you have given me here in  
St. Edmund's!

**Joseph**

Regrettably the Church Shop will have to remain closed  
until either repairs have been made to the security gate  
or it has been replaced.  
We are sorry for the inconvenience this is causing but we  
are sure you will continue to support the shop and the  
tireless band of helpers who staff it when it reopens.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

Planning meeting

Monday 30 September in no11 Village Way

If you would like to get involved with planning and/or  
helping out at the fair please contact Sue Owen on  
07828 132921 or at [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)  
or simply turn up at the planning meeting next Monday  
at 7.30pm

**We pray for those who have died recently:** John Cranstoun, Beverley Veronica Castle, Brian Packwood, baby Poppy, Sr Esther Fabian, Marina Douse, Andrea Lambiase, Peter Gilbert Shotton and Fr Wilfrid McGreal.

**We pray for those whose anniversaries are this week:** Marie-Louise Hylton, Christopher Tolhurst, John Heneghan, Maureen HcHugh, Vaughan Harris, Ellie Dirks, Veronica Dagger, Timothy Sullivan, Bridget Byrne, Edith Ransford and Terry Dunn.

**We pray for the sick:** Aondongu Akuha, Angela, Bernice, Emma-Jane, Carmel Cardiff, Chant, Arthur Cromwell, Christine, John Crouch, Fr John Cunningham, Ilean Curry, Giacomo Dillon, Colin Dowling, Joshua Dunford, Nicholas Dunford, Cecil Dutton, David Edwards, Ann Elmer, Felicity, Erika Gebbes, Chris Grant, Hans Halpin, Eileen Hayes, Maude Herring, Jerry Jacob, John, Bernadette McGilloway, Mary McGrath, Eddie Mitchell, Barbara Moyce, Orla O'Regan, John Quaife, Brian Russell, Peter Sanders, Mary Shipsey, Coleen Shroeder, Siobhan, Angela Stolle, Charlie Wynn and Patricia Weal.