

<i>MASSES:-</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>	6.00pm	Immaculate Heart of Mary (Marianne)	
	<i>SUNDAY</i>	8.30am	Parishioners	
		10.00am	Mary Califano – 1 st anniv.	
		11.30am	Julie Fernandes JD	
		6.30pm	Holy souls	
<i>MON</i>	8.15am	Holy souls		
	10.30am	PM & Lucy Dias		
<i>TUE</i>	10.30am	Melinda Dias JD	School Harvest Festival	
<i>WED</i>	8.15am	Holy souls		
	10.30am	Alanagh Waters		
<i>THU</i>	9.30am	Nick Pacitto		
<i>FRI</i>	9.30am	Deacon Braz Menezes	<i>Exposition after Mass</i>	St. Edward
	7.00pm	Holy souls	<i>Exposition after Mass</i>	the Confessor
<i>SAT</i>	10.30am	Holy souls		
	11.00 – 11.30am and 4.00 – 4.30pm	Confessions		
	6.00pm	Margaret McConville		
<i>SUN</i>	8.30am	Danny Wymark		28 th Sunday Year A
<i>15th</i>	10.00am	Parishioners		
	11.30am	Holy souls		
	6.30pm	Alvina Telles		

Sunday Mass Times We will be reducing the number of Sunday morning Masses at St. Stephen's to two. I am most grateful to Bishop Lynch and priests from St. Peter's, Woolwich, who helped when Fr. Romanus was on holiday; but it is increasingly difficult to find priests to cover when one of us is away. It is possible for one priest to celebrate four Sunday Masses for a while, but not five. Your views on how to make the reduction would be welcome.

First Holy Communions will be at 2pm on Sundays 13th or 20th May 2018. Classes will start in January; and you should register your child before Christmas. The best preparation is regular attendance at Sunday Mass, and prayer and example in the family.

Confirmations next year will be at 6pm Mass on Saturday 23rd June. Preparation will start in February.

Charismatic Prayer Meeting on Friday 20th October at 8.15pm in the church. All welcome.

St Stephen's 2018 Diaries are available at the back of the church (£1). Please put money in the box on the wall above the lost property shelf.

Christmas Raffle Tickets are on sale! 50p a ticket or £2.50 per book. Please take some to sell to family & friends. Monies & counterfoils to the presbytery as soon as possible in a sealed envelope please.

Christmas Bazaar Volunteers: If you would like to help in any way with making this years bazaar a success please join us for a short meeting on Thursday 12th October at 2pm in the small hall. Everyone is welcome. If you are unable to come to the meeting please write your name & contact details on the list at the back of the church & we will contact you.

Parish Christmas Bazaar is on **Sat 18th Nov** 11am – 1pm. We are appealing for *toiletries & bottles (preferably alcoholic)* to be donated during the next 2 weeks. Donations can be left at the Presbytery or in the box in the Church porch. Many thanks in advance for your donations.

Parish Christmas Meal at Aylesford: on 6th Dec. £28. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church and pay £5 non-refundable deposit in an envelope with your name on it. Menu on noticeboard

School Admission: If your child was born between 1 Sep 2013 and 31 Aug 2014 it is time to apply for a primary school place. Apply via the borough you live in. (eg. www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions if you live in Bexley). For each Catholic school on your list, you will also need to complete a Supplementary Form. Available from the borough or school websites, or school office. St Stephen's School is holding an **Open Morning** on Thurs 2nd Nov. at 9.15am. All prospective parents are most welcome.

Following last winter's successful Winter Night Shelter for "rough sleepers" the Shelter will be opening again on 3rd January until 24th/25th March 2018. Volunteers are needed to staff the three shifts; 7pm – 10.30pm, 10pm – 6.30am and 6am - 8.30am. Both new and previous volunteers need to enrol by coming along to **one** of the training meetings at Welling Baptist Church, Axminster Crescent, Welling, DA19 1HF – on Saturday 4th November 9.30am -12.30pm or Wednesday 15th November 7.30 -9.30pm or Saturday 25th November 2pm -5pm. Attendance is required for acceptance as a volunteer. Email BWNS18@outlook.com to confirm which session you will be attending. Letter on back table with more details – please take one.

Guides Fun Bingo Night: Saturday 14th October in the church hall 7.30pm. Cash prizes. Bring your own refreshments. Tickets £5: Suzanne 8306 7527. Please book in advance.

Day of Renewal at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 4th November 9.45am – 4.45pm. Praise & worship, reconciliation, testimony, healing service & Mass. Talk by David Wells 'New People – New Hearts'. See poster and leaflets for full programme of the day. More info from 07976 245685.

Quiz Night on Saturday 4th November at 7.30pm in aid of the Developing World Projects in the parish hall. Tickets are £5 each. Tables of 6-8. If you do not have enough to fill a table, come anyway and we will sort out tables for you. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Phone Mav Sloan for tickets on 020 8308 6947 or from Lorraine at the Presbytery. Please come along and support these very worthwhile projects.

Many Thanks for last Sunday's collection which came to £1259.52. The retiring collection for the expenses of the Christmas Bazaar came to £249.31. Today the second collection is for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day – tax payers please use a gift-aid envelope. Next week the second collection will be for Pact – the Catholic charity that provides support to prisoners, people with convictions, and their families

Red Box Holders: Please would all red box holders bring their boxes to be emptied on one of the following Sundays: 15th, 22nd or 29th October. Boxes should be left in the sacristy and collected from the back of the church the following week. If this is the first time you have brought your box in, please make sure your name is on the label on the bottom of the box.

Prisoners Week 8th – 14th Oct: We stand in prayer with all who carry on in hope, that they would know they are loved by God and have faith and courage to press on towards new life. Please take a leaflet from the table in the porch with daily prayers. There are a number of Pact volunteer roles in which you can support prisoners and their families, giving them the opportunity of a fresh start. Please take a leaflet for details.

New: If you would like to be involved in the possibility of hosting a **Caring for Ex-Offenders** programme in Bexley please contact Kate Foot info@transformbexleyborough.com 07712 364962

Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Kidbrooke require a *Teaching Assistant*. Full Job description and application form available on the website: <http://www.holyfamily.greenwich.sch.uk/vacancies/> or contact the school office on 020 8856 2708. Closing date for applications 13 October 2017

More Dates for your Diary

9th & 11th Oct: St Catherine's Catholic Girls' School *Open Morning* 9.30am – 12noon (Watling St, Bexleyheath)

9th & 23rd Oct: Line Dancing in the hall 1.45pm £4 All welcome.

10th 11th 12th Oct: St Columba's Catholic Boys' School *Open Morning* 9.30am (Halcot Avenue, Bexleyheath)

11th Oct: Padre Pio – Part 2 of a film of his life at 7 for 7.30pm at St. John Fisher Church Hall, Bexley

12th Oct: St Paul's Academy, Abbey Wood *Open Morning* 9.45 – 11.15am www.stpaulsacademy.org.uk

12th Oct: Bexley Deanery Developing World *Coffee Morning* after 9.30am Mass in the small hall. All welcome

14th Oct: Open Day at Christ the King 6th Form (Emmanuel, Lewisham) 9.30am – 2pm www.ctksfc.ac.uk

14th Oct: Rosary Crusade of Reparation 1.45pm Westminster Cath www.rosarycrusadeofreparation.blogspot.com

28th Oct: Deanery Day for Catechists at Our Lady of the Angels, Erith 10am - 4pm (bring a packed lunch).

28th & 29th Oct: Feast of St Jude celebrations at the National Shrine of St Jude Faversham www.stjudeshrine.org.uk