

<i>MASSES:-</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>	6.00pm	Joseph Sydney Tambyapin – anniv.	
	<i>SUNDAY</i>	9.00am	Caetano DeMenezes’s intention	
		11.00am	Parishioners	
		6.30pm	Kay Owens (school)	
<i>MON</i>	8.15am	Holy souls		
	10.30am	Marivi Perello-Drake - birthday		
<i>TUE</i>	9.30am	Lena Rozario - Martin		
<i>WED</i>	8.15am	Canon Frank Harrington		ASH
14th	10.30am	Mérita Russell (Cooke/McKenna)		WEDNESDAY
	8.00pm	Obiekwe & Florence Ejike & Eji Nwobodo		
<i>THU</i>	9.30am	Thanksgiving (Roopnarine)		
<i>FRI</i>	9.30am	Thanksgiving (Roopnarine)	<i>Exposition after Mass</i>	
	3.00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>		
	7.00pm	Holy souls	<i>Exposition after Mass</i>	
<i>SAT</i>	10.30am	Amanda Coutinho (Magnificent 8)		
	11.00 – 11.30am and 4.00 – 4.30pm	Confessions		
	6.00pm	Dec’d mem. Farren family (Ward)		
<i>SUN</i>	9.00am	Parishioners		1 st Sunday of Lent (B)
18th	11.00am	Simon Menezes		
	4.00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>		
	6.30pm	Holy souls		

The Season of Lent starts on Wednesday. In his letter today Archbishop Peter invites us to face the inner darkness, which feels like a loss of faith, and the constant temptations to selfishness, fear and negativity. The message of Lent is a message of hope and trust in the Lord, and the medicines prescribed are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Especially prayer. Lent is a time to have courage, and make the effort to open our hearts to the love of God. As Pope Francis said, “whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.”

New!!! Youth Club in St Stephen’s Parish Hall **today 7.30pm – 9pm** for school years 6 & above. £1 entry. Badminton, table tennis, football and other games & activities on offer. Refreshments available. Please come along and join in. For more information please contact Ollie Coker 07754 620274.

Prayer and Praise with Exposition will follow the 7pm Mass on Friday 23 February. The plan is to hold this on a monthly basis.

Women's World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 2nd March at 1.45pm at St. John's Church in Danson Lane, Welling DA16 2BO. Refreshments afterwards and parking available. You will be finished in time to pick up children from school. All are welcome.

The Confirmation Course begins in two weeks’ time with the meeting for parents and candidates at 5pm in the parish hall, on Sun 25th. If you are in year 9 or above and you wish to be confirmed in your Catholic Faith, please write to Fr Jim, saying why you want to be confirmed. Classes will be before the Sunday evening Mass at 5pm starting in March. The course includes a retreat at St Vincent’s in Whitstable in April. Bishop Patrick Lynch will be confirming young people on Sat 23rd June at 6pm Mass.

Children’s Liturgy: In order for this to be part of the 9am Mass we will need just **2** more volunteers. If you would like to join the rota (once a month) or to find out more about how the group runs please contact Fr Jim or Lorraine in the office. Full training and support will be given.

Day of Reflection for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist on Sat 10th March in St Stephen's Parish Hall 10.30am – 4pm. First conference: *'The Church venerates the Scripture as she venerates the body of the Lord'*. Followed by Confession and Eucharistic Adoration. Second Conference: *'The Eucharist as fulfillment of the Scriptures'*. Mass with Bishop Patrick Lynch at 3pm. To book call CCF 020 8672 7684 or email office@ccftootingbec.org.uk. Please bring a packed lunch. See leaflets & poster.

Many Thanks for last Sunday's collection which came to £1240.58. The second collection scheduled for this weekend *'Poor Parishes'* has been rearranged to next weekend (17th/18th Feb) with the permission of the diocese. There is a Gift Aid envelope for this collection and subscribers should be able to find it in the box near 25th Feb.

The Pilgrim newspaper for our diocese is out now 50p. Available in the porch

The Three Pillars of Lent is a course at the Centre for Catholic Formation, at 21 Tooting Bec Road. There will be three sessions starting at 7.30pm: 20 February - *Prayer* with Sebastian Morello. 6 March - *Fasting* with Mark Nash. 13 March - *Almsgiving* with Pierpaolo Finaldi. Info: www.ccftootingbec.org.uk

St. Stephen's Play Group for 0-5s is seeking volunteers of any age (over 18). We are a much loved play group, providing a fun and friendly space for all. We run from 1pm-2:30pm every Tuesday and would welcome assistance in setting up, preparing some fruit for the children, making tea and simply being a kind and friendly face to all who come. Even if you are only able to offer 30mins, every other week, or one in four do please get in touch. Contact Laura on coachcook@live.co.uk or phone 07825295560

Food Bank: We need; sponge puddings, tinned fish & shampoo. We do **not** need any more pasta, soup, beans or porridge. Many thanks for your continued & valued support. Donations in the box in the porch.

Simply Perfect will be selling First Holy Communion wear & accessories including gifts & cards in the hall on Sunday 4th March 9.30am – 12pm. See poster & leaflets or go to www.firstcommunionwear.com

Quiz Night with Ploughman's Supper in aid of Life Charity on Saturday 17th February 7.30 - 10pm at St Anselm's Parish Centre, 89 West Hill, Dartford DA1 5AT. Licenced Bar and Raffle. £8 per person (Teams of up to 8) All money raised will go to the Dartford Life House which provides Mother & Baby Supported Accommodation. Contact Rebecca Luton 07956 111909.

Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Tudway Road, Kidbrooke, require an *Early Years Practitioner* to join them as soon as possible. Full Job description and application form available on <http://www.holyfamily.greenwich.sch.uk/vacancies/> or 020 8856 2708. Closing date for 2nd March 2018

St Thomas More Catholic Comprehensive, Footscray Road, Eltham, are recruiting seasonal *Exam Invigilators* to provide an efficient and effective invigilation support service to the school examination section and ensure the integrity of its examinations in accordance with exam board rules and regulations. For more details or an application pack please contact kjennings@stmcomprehensive.org

Knitting: This term the Rangers have decided they would like to learn how to knit. If you have any knitting needles or wool, preferable thick and coloured, you can donate we would be very grateful. Please speak to Suzanne or leave wool & needles in the church porch - labeled for Rangers. Thank you

Free Family Crepes & Craft Day Tuesday 13th February 10am – 1.30pm at Learning & Enterprise College Bexley, Brampton Rd, Bexleyheath. For details of this & other free events & workshops please pick up a leaflet from the table in the porch or go to www.lecb.ac.uk or call 020 3045 5176.

More Dates for your Diary

12th & 26th Feb: Line Dancing in the parish hall 1.45pm £4pp. All welcome

13th Feb: Zumba Class at 6pm in the parish hall £5pp. All welcome (Every Tuesday)

15th Feb: Play Duplicate Bridge in St Stephen's small hall 11.30am – 2pm. £3 to play. All welcome (Every Thurs)

20th 21st Feb: Film Night: *Bl John Henry Newman* in St John Fisher Bexley Church Hall, admission free. 7.30pm

23rd Feb: CAFOD Family Fast Day

2nd – 3rd Mar: 24-hour Eucharistic Adoration in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in St Mary of the Cray's Church, Crayford.

4th Mar: Parish Coffee Morning after 9am Mass in the small hall. All welcome for a cuppa & chat.

5th Mar: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting in the small hall 8.15pm – All welcome

24th Mar: Film Night & Social: *The King's Speech* in St John Fisher Bexley Church Hall

29th Apr: International Day at St Stephens's 11am Mass followed by a Bring & Share Lunch