

The Presbytery, Mallard Close, Dartford, Kent, DA1 5HU UK

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**10-18 December 2016**

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Patrick Zammit **Tel: 01322 279955**  
**PERMANENT DEACON:** Rev Michael Dale  
**PARISH SCHOOL – St Anselm's** Headteacher – Mrs Laura White **Tel: 01322 225173**

Saturday	10 Dec	6.30pm	FIRST MASS of SUNDAY: Fr Alexander Nzemeke-Ruth Adaka
Sunday	11 Dec	9.00am	Thanksgiving - Bernie & Tony <b>3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)</b>
		11.00am	Loret Jacob Wilson (Birthday) - Len
		<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>SENIOR PARISHIONER'S CHRISTMAS DINNER</b>
		5.00pm	<b>FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH</b>
		6.00pm	<b>SENIOR CLUB</b> (Youth Group)
Monday	12 Dec	9.00am	Good Estate of John Frinpong - KSC
		2.00pm	- 3.00pm <b>MEDUGORJE PRAYER GROUP</b> (in the Presbytery)
Tuesday	13 Dec	9.00am	Kathleen Callinan
Wednesday	14 Dec	9.00am	Dooley Family RIP - Madge Bones & Elizabeth Nightingale
Thursday	15 Dec	9.00am	Good Estate of Dorothy Russell - Michael Russell
Friday	16 Dec	8.15am	<b>DARENT VALLEY HOSP:</b> Holy Souls
		9.00am	Special Intention - G & A
		4.15pm	- 7.00pm <b>JUNIOR CLUB</b> (Ice Skating) last one till next term
Saturday	17 Dec	10.00am	Jerzy Tusczyński RIP - Jarek Tusczyński
		6.30pm	FIRST MASS of SUNDAY: Ida & Moritz Schubiger - Rita Usher
Sunday	18 Dec	9.00am	Percival Bevan RIP - Bill Bevan <b>4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)</b>
		11.00am	<b>FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH</b>
		5.00pm	Peter (Piotr) Tusczyński RIP - Fabian & Marlena
		6.00pm	<b>SENIOR CLUB</b> (Youth Group)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Every Sat from 10.30am -11.00am and 5.45pm - 6.15pm

**DAILY EXPOSITION:** Mon to Fri 8.30am - 9.00am **TEA ROTA:** check your new rota

**CLEANING TEAMS:** 15.12.16 Team'B'(B Clark, T Hoey, Doris), 25.12.16 Team'C' (**African Community**)

**THE ART OF DYING WELL:** The Art of Dying Well is a new website that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying. Based in the Catholic Church tradition but open to all, it features real- life stories about dealing with the journey through death to eternal life. For further information take a look at [www.artofdyingwell.org](http://www.artofdyingwell.org)

**BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP- HOLY LAND:** A missionary group from Bethlehem Nativity will visit us on the weekend 17th-18th December to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of olive wood from the Holy Land to help the poor Christian families any help you could give to them it will be highly appreciated.

**BIBLE SUNDAY:** This Sunday is Bible Sunday. We are being reminded of the importance of reading and studying the sacred scriptures. This begs the question of us, When did I last read the scriptures apart from following the readings at Mass. The word of God is the word of life.

**CHILDREN:** I remind all children to bring with them the Advent Card to be signed after the Mass for all the Sundays of Advent. This is a special ADVENT DRAW.

**CHURCH LINEN:** I am looking for a volunteer to help with the Church Linen. Mrs Scowen who has looked after the Church linen has asked for a replacement. I would like to thank her for her kind services to the Church. She continues to look after the Church Repository.

**A Papal Anecdote** - Speaking about the Corporal Works of Mercy, Pope Francis said we are to open our hearts and find new ways to help meet others' needs, and warned against the trap of closing in ourselves. How we welcome the stranger will be considered at the Last Judgement. The "stranger" is often the immigrant in our midst, he noted, and in every age, immigration calls for a response for openness and solidarity. He then shared an anecdote of an elderly woman who helped an immigrant.

As the lady came across this young man who was without shoes, they began to speak and she asked him, "What are you searching for?" "Saint Peter's' to go through the Holy Door," he replied. Moved with sympathy, she thought to herself: "But how can he walk? He doesn't even have shoes. She insisted on getting him a taxi. When it arrived, the driver was hesitant to accept the passenger, as he smelled very badly, but finally agreed to take him. On the way to the Vatican, the lady and the immigrant spoke about his history, what he had lived through, the trials, the war etc. When the lady went to pay, the driver said: "No, Signora. It is I who must pay you, because you made me listen to a story that changed my heart."

In our own day, Pope Francis noted, the growing influx of refugees fleeing war, famine and dire poverty is a summons to welcome and care for these brothers and sisters. As Christians we are never to close our hearts to those in need, praying to be open to others, restoring their God-given dignity, so our lives are enriched and our societies are more peaceful.

**Last Week's Offertory:** 04.12.16 - £896.05