



Parish of Ramsgate and Minster

The 3rd Sunday of Lent (B) – 7th March 2021

My Dear People!

The Holy Father this week is in the region of Mesopotamia now the modern-day country of Iraq. He will meet with the beleaguered Christians there who used to amount to 1 & 2 million and now since the American invasion and the horrific conquests of ISIS have mostly fled leaving a few hundred thousand. These Christians are the heirs to one of the biggest and earliest Christian Churches of antiquity, the Assyrian Church of the East. Geographical isolation and political expediency distanced them from Rome, and they were labelled ‘Nestorians’. They were the first Christians to penetrate Asia reaching as far as China. Some are in union with Rome (Chaldeans.) With them there are other remarkable communities of Armenians, Melkites and Syriac Rite Christians, some also in union with Rome. Sadly, Pope John Paul II on his last big pilgrimage in the year of the Millennium sorely wanted to include Iraq (notably Ur where Abraham was born) on his tour. Because of fears of Saddam Hussein, it was cancelled. I often wonder if his presence might have changed history as the subsequent invasion, based on the weapons of mass destruction which were never found utterly destroyed the country and since then there has never been peace. At the heart of this continual violence is the antipathy between the Sunni and Shia followers of Islam. The overflowing vicious fanaticism has imperiled the Christian, Yezidi and Mandaean minorities. The Pope will visit the Shia Ayatollah so pray that some good can come out of all of this!

The Holy Father has also decreed this time to be the ‘Year of St. Joseph’. Do you have a devotion to him? The great St. Teresa (as opposed to The Little Flower), said that in all of her dramas of reforming the Carmelites in Spain she had never known a time in all of those hard challenges that she was not helped by St. Joseph. In fact, she said, she could write a whole book demonstrating the various favours she had received through this great saint. However, she goes on, “I am a busy woman, and I don’t have time to write a book, so you try him for yourself!” Let us therefore renew our devotion to this great saint, and with his intercession and that of Our Lady pray that Covid can be conquered!

God Bless you all.

Fr. Christopher and on behalf of Fr. Simon & Fr. Leszek

Mass Times and Intentions for the week commencing: 7th March 2021:

	St. Ethelbert’s	St. Augustine’s
Sunday – 7th March 21 3rd Sunday of Lent	10.00am Elvira Lind RIP 12.00noon (Polish)	8.30am People of the Parish 12.00noon (Sung Latin) Joe & Marita Kelly & Family G.E. 5.00pm. (Ordinariate) The Hamill Family living and deceased.
Monday – 8th March 21 Feria	9.30am Eileen McCaughan – for her serious spinal illness.	12.00noon Owen Williams - Anniversary
Tuesday – 9th March 21 Feria	9.30am Patricia Smalley - Wellbeing	12.00noon Virginia Nedd-Wells
Wednesday – 10th March 21 Feria	9.30am (Latin) Fr. Bernard Davenport RIP	12.00noon John & Veronica Carnell
Thursday – 11th March 21 Feria	9.30am George & Annie Thompson RIP	12.00noon Patricia Smalley - Birthday
Friday – 12th March 21 Feria	9.30am Protection of Reena, Dona & Thobis Cruze from all evil. 6.00pm (Polish)	12.00noon Suzanne Marie Winter
Saturday – 13th March 21 Feria	9.30am Maurice Garnet Court RIP 5.30pm People of the Parish.	12.00noon Holy Souls November List

Prayer Candles for the week commencing 7th March 2021: Patricia Smalley, Eileen McCaughan.

Next Sunday is Laetare Sunday.

St. Ethelbert's Church: Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament at 8.30am, followed by The Rosary at 9.10am and Mass at 9.30am (Monday to Friday). Saturday The Rosary is at 9.10am, followed by Mass at 9.30am. First Saturday of the month, 15minutes of Prayer & Devotion to Our Lady, following the 9.30am Mass. Confessions on Saturday at 10.15am & 5.00pm and Sunday at 9.30am. **Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 7.15pm.**

Mass in Polish on Sundays at 12.00noon and on Friday evenings at 6.00pm. **During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross in Polish at 6.30pm following Mass.**

St. Augustine's Shrine: Open for Mass daily at 12.00noon. Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays 12.30 – 3.00pm and on Saturdays open for private prayer from 12.30 – 3.00pm. **PLEASE NOTE: The Shrine will only be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 12.30 – 3.00pm.** Confessions during 12.00noon Mass on Sundays and before/after daily Mass by request. **Stations of the Cross at 11.30am (in Church) on Fridays during Lent before the noon Mass.**

See the weekly Mass Schedule for changes.

Do you know any Catholics near you? Because of lockdown some people have fallen through the cracks. Especially as Fr. Christopher is new there may be people who have not been contacted by the Parish. If you can let us know the names and telephone numbers of these people then at least the Priests can phone and maintain contact in that way.

If you are in hospital:

Coronavirus has changed visits to hospitals in quite dramatic ways, impacting upon Catholic priests visiting Catholic patients. If you are admitted to hospital and require a priest to visit you need to inform the ward you are a Catholic and wish to be visited by a priest. You then need to get your family to contact the priest to let him know you are in hospital. This does not necessarily mean you will receive Holy Communion on a regular basis but it should ensure if you require the Sacrament of the Sick you will be able to receive this sacrament.

Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Provision for Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital - In order for us to provide support to our Roman Catholic patients and their families - Please refer them via email to us: chaplains@gstt.nhs.uk or jake.dicto@gstt.nhs.uk

Parents requiring Baptism for their child to contact Fr. Christopher, Fr. Simon, or Fr. Leszek and discuss Baptismal Preparation in the current situation.

ST. ETHELBERT'S PARISH – NEW CLASS - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021

Dear Parents, please send an email to ramsgate@rcaos.org.uk to request an application form from St. Ethelbert's Church for First Holy Communion classes. Please return the completed form by email to the email address above. We are hoping to begin the children's classes in late Spring/early Summer. Due to COVID, any celebration of First Communion is unlikely to take place in May or June as in previous years and could be delayed until September as was the case for last year.

POSTPONED FIRST COMMUNION 2020 CLASS – RESTART

Dear Parents, please request personally to the catechists that you still wish to restart your child's First Communion classes in the Spring (at the earliest). Thank you.

CONFIRMATION 2021

If you are in Years 7, 8, 9,10 or 11 and would like to join our Confirmation Programme in 2021, please apply for an Application Form either call Mrs Smalley on 01843 865737 or collect a Form at the back of Church.

Message from Mr S.D. Marshall, Headteacher, St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School and Nursery.

Dear all, I am currently trying to recruit more Foundation Governors. I am also going to start recruiting Parent Governors. Please find the link below for the advert. If you know of anyone in the community who would be interested then please pass on this advert. Any questions then please pass onto me.

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=84729>

Marriage & Family Life Kent: Some of your parishioners may need some spiritual uplifting in this time of grieving ... included the link below, on 'Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ' by Elizabeth Partridge who runs a retreat at Aylesford Priory with Fr Francis Kemsley, which can be shared with anyone who needs to see it.

The videos are on the Carmelite Province YouTube Channel

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEmVj2dVdpguJaP47LzrGtdAbaRZAxSef>

Marriage Preparation: Contact your Priest if you are planning to get married and preparation can be completed online with Marriage and Family Life Kent. Preparation courses are STILL happening but in an **online** format until we can meet couples in person again. Couples can contact mflkent@rcaos.org.uk. The Marriage Preparation courses run by the Kent Team in 2021 will take the following format: All Friday evenings: Online course 7pm - 9pm, Saturday January - March: Online course 10am – 3pm, hopefully April onwards: courses at venues 10am – 4.30pm

‘Building a better Marriage’: A day in which married couples can explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable in-sights into their communication and the call of the Church to the married. Sat 13th March, 2021 -Online course -10am till 1pm -£10 per couple (suggested donation) **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**. Contact Carole Batty 07983524727 or email: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

Kent Pastoral Care – MFL Team: We all want to support those who mourn so the MFL Bereavement Team wish to extend an invitation to parishioners who are already experienced ‘befrienders’ and have experience in listening and supporting people who have lost a loved one. Would they be interested in joining a training weekend to support those who have experienced bereavement, with a view to train others i.e. a training weekend for trainers? This training will take place over the weekend of April 24th /25th 2021. Please contact your Priest with your name, and contact details in writing/email if you would like to be considered.

Explore Youth Panel – Join our Youth Panel and be a voice for young people and young adults in our work. If you are interested, please contact: www.explorereationships.org.uk/youth-panel

Laura Wyness is organising an Easter Raffle more details to follow. If anyone is able to donate prizes please contact Laura or leave a message in the Office. Thank you to those who have already donated and promised prizes.

Please remember in your prayers all the recent deceased: Fr. Christopher’s cousin, Glenn in Texas who had Covid, Stephen Williams-Jones, Ann Ryan, Margaret Hampson, John Stephen Platt, George Gabbett, James Regan, Elvira Lind, Vilia Grilli, Christopher Sokolowski, Marek Wiolek, Annie Larks, Jeremiah Lyons, Thomas Varley, Sally Watts, Betty Morgan, Marguerite Byers, Jackie Daley and Mary Bowler who have died recently and for their dear families and friends who mourn them.

Please remember in your prayers Mrs Smalley who is in hospital, Eileen McCaughan who has a very serious spinal operation in the National Hospital on Monday and Fr. John Slater who is now back in Westgate in a nursing home.

We pray for the sick: M. Clark, N. Wall, Kathy Carr, M. Marjoam, A. Fell, E. Finn, E. Smalley, Clem O’Brien, D. Hall, T. Webster, M. DuFau, E. Evans, H. Russell, M. Walley, J. Hall, B. Mallon, Denis McClosky, A. Gosling, Mary Austen, Kathy Knobbs, Olive & Tom Carney, Malvern Owen, Frank Tierney, A. Lucas, Bridget Davis, Vicky & Kevin Nicholas, Josephine Calway, Sylvia Quinn, Susanna King, Rose Coldwell, Pat Vanscalina, Lydia Horneff, Adrienne Taylor, Doreen Browning, Sr. Aelred, Valerie & Michael Godden, Mary Dowd, Eileen McCaughan, Jef Silva, Jane Sellon, Kathleen Freeman, Roz Lennon, Steve Lawlor, Eileen Crowley, Yan Kelly, Steve Kelly, Fr. John Slater, Rena Gathercole, Norma McAllister, Paul Duncan Frew, Linda Adsett, Robin Feline, Patricia Smalley.

Message from the Bishop’s Conference for England & Wales: Prayer for the Nation - As part of our desire to stay faithful to daily patterns of prayer, we are encouraged to come together at 6pm every day to pray - pray privately, pray together at home, pray without ceasing.

In this Year dedicated to St. Joseph, the Mill Hill Missionaries are preparing for the Feast of St. Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask God’s blessing on their Society’s missionary outreach and for the intentions of all those who support their work. If you would like to join in from home, for the first time this year, Masses from St. Joseph’s Church will be available to follow on **Zoom** and **YouTube** via the parish website: stjosephsparish.co.uk and the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena, where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet. You can join in by praying the daily Novena prayer, which will be in your Novena prayer leaflet. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a printed

Novena prayer leaflet. Please write to the **Novena Director, 41 Victoria Road, Liverpool, L37 1LW**, or email novenamhm@gmail.com.

The government has confirmed that collective worship can continue in churches following strict guidelines. This decision applies across all tiers of COVID-19 restrictions in England. “This decision reflects the importance of the right of all people to express their faith in worship, but more importantly, it is an acknowledgement of the active collaboration the church has had with public officials in developing COVID-secure protocols in our churches. As we move forward, it is incumbent on all who come to worship God in our churches to play their part in keeping themselves and others safe by following all of the guidance that has been prepared”. This involves: the wearing of face coverings appropriately, covering the mouth and nose, at all times in church; social distancing; using gel to cleanse hands entering and leaving the church; following the one-way system and completing the track & trace system with your name, how many in your group and either a contact phone number/email/your address. **It is important that all these details are shown on the track and trace sheet.**

Please be aware that at funerals attendance is restricted to 30 people. Before attending a funeral, please confirm with those arranging the funeral that you can be included in that number and track and trace details recorded.

Parish Priest: Fr. Christopher Basden
Shrine Administrator: Fr. Simon Heans
(office@augustineshrine.co.uk)
Polish Chaplain: Fr. Leszek Kłos
Deacon: Rev. Peter Brown
Safeguarding Officer: Kate Morgan
Ss Ethelbert & Gertrude Parish Church, Presbytery & Office: 72 Hereson Road CT11 7DS (01843 592071)
ramsgate@rcaos.org.uk
Shrine of St Augustine & National Pugin Centre:
St Augustine's Road CT11 9NY
Website: www.saintethelberts.com & www.augustine-pugin.org.uk

Follow the parish on: [facebook.com/stethelbertsramsgate](https://www.facebook.com/stethelbertsramsgate)
or on **Twitter:** @catholicramsmin

Follow St Augustine's on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram:
@AugustinePugin or on **YouTube:** /staugustinesramsgate

St. Ethelbert's School: Dane Park Road CT11 7LS (01843 585555)

The Divine Retreat Centre: St. Augustine's Road CT11 9PA (01843 586904)

St. Mildred's Priory, Minster Abbey CT12 4HF (01843 821254)