

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We hope you enjoy your time at St James' and we look forward to seeing you again next week.

Thank you for your offerings last week £1,356. Mass attendance 693.	
20th April	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
	11.30am Swieconka – Polish service
Easter Vigil Mass	8pm Anthony Olivelle RIP (Foundation Mass)
Easter Sunday	Mass for Children
	9.15am People of the Parish
	11am Franki Durbin RIP & Ryan Family (L Henderson)
Monday 22nd April	Monday within the Octave of Easter
	9.30am Stephen Lawrence RIP (J&P Group)
Tuesday 23rd April	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
	9.30am Margaret & Kenneth Jackson RIP (Jackson Family)
Wednesday 24th April	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
	9.30am Franki Durbin RIP (Ford Family)
	10.45am Eucharist Adoration
Thursday 25th April	Thursday within the Octave of Easter
	9.30a Maria Anhe Pontes RIP (DS Delf)
Friday 26th April	Friday within the Octave of Easter
	9.30am Mary & Hugh O'Donnell RIP (D Marshall)
27th April	Second Sunday Of Easter
(Saturday Vigil)	6pm Thanksgiving (L Da Cunha & Family)
Sunday 28th April	9.15am Selma Cotta 80th Birthday Celebration (Cotta Family)
	11am People of the Parish
Monday 29th April	Saint Catherine of Siena
	9.30am Deceased Members of the CWL (CWL)
Tuesday 30th April	Saint George
	9.30am Margaret Fennessy RIP (Mulroy Family)

Wednesday 1st May	Feria 9.30am David Hawins RIP (Hawkins Family) Richard Nelligan RIP (Nelligan Family)
Thursday 2nd May Please note change of time	Saint Athanasius Mass at St James' School – Yr 4 Mass. All Welcome. 9am Casilda Rebello RIP (E&G Rebello)
Friday 3rd May (Please note change of time)	Saints Philip & James 10am Requiem Mass for Robert Galvin RIP 7.30pm Eucharist Adoration
4th May Saturday Vigil Sunday 5th May	Third Sunday of Easter 6pm Mr & Mrs VK Clark RIP (J Clark) 9.15am People of the Parish 11am Lily O'Connor RIP (Scott Family)

Confessions are heard on Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm, or by appointment.

Morning Prayer takes place Monday – Friday at 9.10am. All are welcome to attend.

Easter Collection

The collection at the Masses over the Easter weekend are your personal offerings for your Parish Priest. Second Collection on the weekend of 28th April is for St George's Cathedral.

Pondering the Word (*Lectio Divina*) - A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, here in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary – Every day after Mass there is rosary. All are welcome

Fr David writes...

As I was watching with disbelief the burning of Notre Dame in Paris on television on Monday night, my heart sunk with grief. There were images of people, young and old, staring in shock and others were singing the Ave Maria which sounded to me, like a people lamenting. On TV, it looked like an apocalyptic scene. Being glued to the TV and also social media, I was trying to understand what this scene had triggered in me. Without any shadow of doubt, Notre Dame in Paris goes beyond an architectural gem. It is not just a building. This particular cathedral rivalled only by St Peter's in the Vatican, symbolises Christianity and Catholicism. It encapsulates a narrative of faith. I cannot start to imagine the millions of pilgrims and tourists who had to visit Notre Dame. Through Victor Hugo's book of The Hunchback of Notre Dame it captured the imagination of both believers and those with no faith at all. It's also a National cultural treasure for France in its glorious history. All of this and much more was being eradicated in front of our eyes. And we felt helpless. The destiny of the Cathedral was in the

hands of the brave and courageous firemen and fate. We only prayed and hoped that it would not be completely destroyed. For me and for so many people who had visited this beautiful cathedral, it also became personal. We had said prayers there. We had felt we were in a sacred special place. Our candles were there praying for our intentions and the intentions of those we love. So many prayers, so many tears, so many burdens were expressed. A place is not just mortar and stone. A place has its own energy and spirit imbued by those who inhabit it. Next day, we woke up with a sigh of relief as the news announced to us that the Cathedral was not completely destroyed. Amidst one of the photos that I still have on my phone is the beautiful picture of the Pieta' under the big cross behind the main altar still standing surrounded by debris. For me it became a metaphor that will stick in my mind and heart forever.

In the midst of so much pain and suffering we are experiencing both on a personal level and also on the global and Church arena, sometimes our only way of dealing with it is through being still, owning and being in shock. Sometimes I do feel overwhelmed by the many atrocities and natural phenomenon that are happening around us. The migration and refugee issue – people escaping because of political and economic needs. The many natural disasters, some the result of climate change, that we witness on our News Channels in the privacy of our homes and consequently the problems of housing, suffering and grief that they leave behind. Sometimes I wonder how people can move forward after such a tragedy. The awful situation of clerical sexual abuse within our Church which has scandalised and shocked us in questioning everything.

Amidst all this debris what keeps us going? My intuition and faith tell me that what keeps us going is the Narrative which we are going to remember once again this week. It's the narrative of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. This week we remember what we, as human beings, are capable of because of our own brokenness and sin. Deep down we are frightened to be challenged. Deep down we love our status quo especially those who are comfortable. Deep down we have the ability to put the blame for our unhappiness on someone or a group who is weak. Deep down we want to always have simplistic answers to the big questions of life. So when someone like Jesus comes forward and tries to open our eyes, discomfort us by what he says and does, our behaviour will either be one of humility in receiving even if it hurts us, or else we are ready to be so enraged as to try to undermine him and eventually throw him out of our way. "Leave us in peace" attitude.

Jesus knew that ultimately because of challenging the powerful in his community, he would end up dead. Hanging on a cross is not the symbol of weakness. The cross is the symbol of someone who was so courageous and mad, that he believed the journey for the truth was worth the sacrifice on the cross. The cross is the ultimate sign of love. A love that is stronger than death. Associated with the Sun, a phoenix obtains new life by arising from the ashes of its predecessor. In such a way, new life is generated by Jesus because of his death. We in 2019, have inherited this life because of what Jesus went through more than two thousand years ago. This Passion, Death and Resurrection narrative keeps on happening in our world today. This keeps us going in life. The hope that ultimately All will be well. Sometimes this demands heroic acts from us. I just hope that Notre Dame will arise once again from its ashes and keeps on generating to future generations the Sacred Beautiful Place that it has been to many previous generations before us. I wish you and your families a blessed and Happy Easter!

"Drop-In" Evening Surgeries – The next drop in surgery with Fr David will be on **Tuesday 30th April between 5pm-7pm**. No appointment needed.

Evangelisation Pillar

Eucharist Adoration – Be Still in the Presence of the Lord. Your time set aside in your hectic life – wasting time in silence with God. Takes place for an hour **each Wednesday** shortly after the Morning Mass and the Wednesday Café starting at 10.45am and finishing with Benediction at 11.45am and on the first Friday of the month from 7.30pm till 9.00pm. **The next will be this Friday 3rd May. All are welcome for all or part of this time of Adoration ending with Benediction.**

Confirmation 2019

The ninth preparation session is on Tuesday 23rd April from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

Holy Communion 2019

The tenth preparation session is on Saturday 27th April 4.30pm to 5.45pm.

Mass in celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage

July 13th at St George's Cathedral.

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please apply as soon possible. Get in touch with us at mfise@rcaos.org.uk so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop. Please let us have the location of your parish in the title of your email.

Ignite 19 – Parish Mission here in November!

Hello everyone,

We are really pleased to let you know about a special Mission that we are planning to hold here in the parish during **2nd-10th November** this year. Please put these dates in your diaries now!

The emphasis for the Mission is for the parish to connect more and to help us grow on our spiritual journeys. We have invited the Sion Community who specialise in parish missions to come and help us with this.

Karen Shurety from Sion will be here to tell us more **during the weekend of 11th-12th May and we're planning a light finger buffet in the Community Centre on Sunday 12th May between 12.30 and 1.30pm so you can come and find out more.**

We would really welcome some help with the buffet on 12th May so if you can help, by providing sandwiches, bread and cheese, bowls of salad, grapes and strawberries, or cakes (but no food that would need heating up please) and/or with setting up all on the morning of May 12th between 10am and 12noon, please email me as soon as possible at pam.lundy@stjamespettswood.org.

(Many hands make light work – and anyway it's fun!)

We'll be circulating further information to 'gather you in' in the coming weeks and months so please look out for more news about 'Ignite 19' - and look forward to November. Many thanks! Pam

Justice & Peace

Bromley Borough Foodbank

The message this week is that Foodbank is "desperately short of" long life milk, long life fruit juice, cold meats (ham, spam, corned beef), cooking sauces and rice, jam/marmalade/honey, coffee, toilet rolls, men's shampoo and shower gel. The list of requirements is also displayed on the collection basket in the church entrance. Thank you as always for your generosity.

Meeting this week

The Justice & Peace Group will meet in the Community Centre on Wednesday 24 April at 7.45pm. All parishioners are very welcome to attend.

Global Healing event Tuesday 30 April

All parishioners and friends are invited to watch a film in the Community Centre about the Care for Our Common Home. The film was produced at the request of the Bishops of England and Wales. It reflects the principles of Laudato Si' and suggests how we can respond to the ecological challenges of our world, both personally and as a community of faith. The evening will start at 7.30pm, with a bring and share supper, a fun quiz, and then the film which is in three parts. There will be a short discussion after each part, and we will finish at 9.30pm. We hope that people of all ages will come, and the young are especially welcome as their views are particularly important. As for food, if you can bring something to share such as lasagne, chilli, a cultural dish, shepherd's pie, salad – but not everyone needs to – especially if you come straight from work!

Parish overseas project: an update

St James' is supporting St Catherine's Parish in the Philippines and the work led by the parish Priest Fr Joe Cremona. Our support has been primarily for two programmes. Firstly a programme for the provision of technical education for unemployed youngsters and adults in dress making and tailoring ,

electronics, electrical installation and welding. Secondly the musical education of students in local schools. In addition Fr Joe has asked us for support in helping local people in particular need. Other programmes undertaken by St Catherine's include the building of homes for homeless families, the provision of employment in agriculture on land owned by the parish, the setting up of a salon to provide training and employment in hairdressing and manicure and pedicure and the setting up of a shop and training in the repair of musical instruments.

There will be a retiring collection for St Catherine's at the Global Healing event on 30 April. This is of importance for St Catherine's as the Philippines is a country at particular risk from the effects of climate change.

Social Pillar

Children's Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, 21st April

We would like to invite the children of the Parish to an Easter egg hunt taking place **after the 9.15am Mass on Easter Sunday**. Children will be provided with a basket to collect the eggs and the cost will be £3 per child payable on the day. Let's hope the April showers stay away. If they do, the hunt will take place in the Parish garden. If not, it will be in the Community Centre.

Youth Group

The next youth group will be on Saturday 27th April, 12pm to 2.30pm

CWL Plant Sale

The CWL will be holding a plant sale after the Masses on the 1st and 2nd June.

The sale proceeds will be donated to the Anti Human Trafficking Project.

We would be grateful for donations of plants (indoor/outdoor/cuttings/seedlings etc.) for sale.

Please contact Christine on 01689 839435 or Deirdre on 0208 467 4072 if you are able to assist by donating plants or by helping on the day.

CWL Meeting

The CWL will be meeting on Monday 29th April at 7.30pm. There will be a talk from Anthony Mansi about the Canadian Red Cross quilts that were sent over from Canada during World War Two. All Welcome.

Film Night

Thank you to all who came to our Film Night last Saturday & for your generous donations for the Food Bank. The £100 raised has been converted into £5 Tesco vouchers for the Manager to offer to those most in need over the Easter break. Our next Film Night will be at 7.30pm on Saturday, 11 May, **but please note that because of licensing conditions, we are no longer permitted to advertise the titles of films being shown. Please look for notices in church or the printed copy of Briefly.** The bar will be open beforehand as usual, and a warm welcome awaits

Parent and Toddler Group

The St James' parent and toddler group has reopened on Friday afternoons between 1.30pm-3.00pm. £2.50 per family.

There will be no meeting on the 12th April. The next meeting will be on 26th April.

Liturgy Pillar

Children's Mass

We seek children to read at the monthly children's mass (9:15 am). If you are interested in proclaiming the Word of God and are either in Y4 to Y10, please contact Cheryl via email cheryl.dsouza@stjamespettswood.org. Necessary training will be provided.

Pastoral Pillar

St James The Great 'Memory Café'

Here at St James' we run a Dementia Café on the first two Tuesdays of each month from 2pm to 3.30pm in the Community Centre. If you would like to know more, please contact the Parish Office: 01689 827100. **We look forward to welcoming you.**

Helplines and Counselling Services.

A list of helplines and counselling services is available on our website, and in the church porch, for anyone who might need this.

Youth Pillar

CYM Choir – Rehearsals begin Wednesday 1st May at St James the Great Church, Petts Wood.

Following wonderful performances at Christmas and the Faith in Action Awards, the CYM choir will be meeting again to begin rehearsals on **Wednesday 1st May at 7pm at St James the Great Church Hall, Petts Wood.** All young people and adults who would like to take part in the choir are invited to come along and get involved. Details on the forthcoming summer performance will be given on 1st May. We look forward to seeing you there! (For more information email: susan.longhurst@bromleydeanery.org)

Faith in Action Award Reflective Session 3 - Saturday 11th May (3-5.45pm) - St Edmund's Church Hall

Our Faith in Action candidates in the deanery and school groups will soon come together for their third Reflective Session of the year. Over 60 young people are registered to take part in this year's award and they continue to show amazing commitment and enthusiasm to serving those in need in our parishes, schools and communities. We ask you to remember them in your prayers over the coming months.

CYM Bromley Deanery - Day of Recollection at Aylesford Priory, Sunday May 12th.

For all youth ministers and anyone interested in becoming involved in working with young people in Bromley deanery parishes, you are warmly invited to attend a 'Day of Recollection' led by Deacon Wayne of Holy Innocents' parish, Orpington. Joining other parishioners and those involved in ministry across the deanery, this event provides a much needed opportunity for spiritual reflection, discussion and collaboration. Taking place at Aylesford Priory from 9.45 am to 4.30pm, the programme for the day includes a buffet lunch and the celebration of Mass. There is a suggested non-compulsory donation of £12 towards the cost, to be donated on the day. **For queries and to reserve a place email: susan.longhurst@bromleydeanery.org ASAP.**

200 Club

Congratulations to this month's winners:

£100	Heather Fleeman	No. 128
£50	Kate Charlesworth	No. 169
£25	Jo Bromage	No. 38
£25	Austin Barradell	No. 4

Message from Flavio

I am taking part in a charity bike ride which is being organized by the Rotary Club of St Leonards-on-Sea. This year the cycle challenge takes place on **Sunday, 28th April 2019** and I will be following the shorter route of 25 miles, being totally unfit and not having used my bike since last year's event.

The monies donated by the parishioners will go to St Michaels Hospice (a care home for the terminally ill) & the Hastings Lifeboat (75%), as well as to the Knights of St Columba for good causes (25%). There will be a sponsorship form at the back of the church. Many Thanks

Polite Reminders

Parking

- The Parish disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.
- Please be aware of our neighbours in the surrounding roads, please do not block driveways, pavements or double-park your car especially on the "one way" part of Lakeswood Road by the lower car park entrance.

In Church

Please refrain from eating and drinking while you are in church.

Seeing a Chaplain if You Are Admitted to Hospital

- **Protecting personal information** (data protection) is really important when you become an inpatient in hospital.
- **So please specifically ask hospital staff to pass on your details** to the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain as soon as you are admitted if you would like a Chaplain to visit you.
- **Fr David would always be very happy** to visit you too, so please ask a relative or friend to let him know about your admission. You, or they, can email Fr David on: father.david@stjamespettswood.org, or phone the parish office on 01689 827100.

Rotas for weekend of 27th April: *Thank you for helping*

Weekend 27th April

Cleaning the Church

P Driscoll. J Rogerson, M Mitrovic, (Tuesday team – 30th April)

Wednesday Coffee 1st May

M Mulvey, M Howell

28th April 2019

Mass	Saturday 6pm (Vigil)	Sunday 9.15am	Sunday 11am
Welcomers	M Sands J Callinan	L Thomas M Howell	M Cooper K Edwards
Readers	J Johnson A Crosland	P Lowe J Ryle	Z Bajorek R Del Guercio
Ministers of Holy Communion	J Bajorek H Rothon M Cahill C Cahill C Wakefield	W David T Forde M Howell S Cotta A Ward	R Del Guercio Z Bajorek A Bunnage P Murray V Terry
Bar			A Barradell M Horner
Coffee		L Lynch S Barradell	M Harrington K Walsh

Altar Servers			
Tellers	P Cosgrave, N Longhurst		

Rotas for weekend of 4th May: *Thank you for helping*

Weekend 27th April	
Cleaning the Church	A Haylock, A Crosland, G MacManus, K Evans, F Raingeard
Wednesday Coffee 8th May	M Mulvey, S Barradell

5th May 2019			
Mass	Saturday 6pm (Vigil)	Sunday 9.15am	Sunday 11am
Welcomers	A Neal M Sands	A&L Delamain	S Barradell S Kavanagh
Readers	J Bajorek M O'Mahony	C D'Souza J Jose	R Rowan H Marvell
Ministers of Holy Communion	J Callinan R Wright T Babb B Babb P Driscoll	D Hairs K Chan A Delamain W David T Forde	T Troy N Longhurst T Willard R Mwansa P May
Bar			M Smith N Longhurst
Coffee		D Delf F Curran E Aletta	S Ingle A Huntington M Mulvey
Altar Servers			
Tellers	C Delf, M Troy		