



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

26 DEEPDENE ROAD, WELLING, KENT DA16 3QL ☒ Telephone: 020 8303 4422

Parish Priest: Canon Edward Perera

website: www.saintstephens.co.uk Email: welling@rcaos.org.uk

Secretary: Mrs. Lorraine Harris. email: adminparish@saintstephens.co.uk

School St. Stephen's Primary School, Ruskin Avenue, Welling, Kent. DA16 3QG

Telephone: 020 8303 9738

26th Sunday (Year B)

Saturday 25th September

5pm People of the Parish

Sunday 26th September

9.30am Preethi Lobo—birthday

11.30am 90th Birthday—Thanksgiving

Mon 27th St Vincent de Paul

7pm SVP

Tues 28th Feria

10am Kieran Coutinho—thanksgiving
birthday

Wed 29th Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

7pm John Dignam RIP

Thurs 30th St Jerome

10am Cyril Fernandes RIP

Fri 1st October St Therese of Lisieux

10am Mary Gallagher

27th Sunday (Year B)

Saturday 2nd October

5pm People of the Parish

Sunday 3rd October

9.30am Living & Deceased Members of the
Parish

11.30am Lorna D'Costa—Birthday

**Please remember in your prayers the sick and
housebound; at home, in hospital or in
residential care.**

DONATIONS

As the sharing of a collection bag is not permitted during Mass there will be a collection basket at the entrance and exit doors of the church to put your donation in. Any donation you are able to make will be greatly appreciated at this time to help support our church & parish. Thank you.

You can post your donation in a sealed envelope through the presbytery letterbox at anytime, place your donation in the basket in church or you can make an online donation—as a 'one-off' payment or set up a standing order to make regular weekly or monthly donations. Please consider signing up to our Gift Aid scheme. Contact the church office for more details.

Our bank details are as follows;

NatWest Bank

Sort Code: 51-70-14

Account No. 39013332

Account Name: RC Archdiocese of Southwark St
Stephens Catholic Church Welling

Please use your name as a reference (gift aiders please add your envelope number). Thank you.

To give online using your debit / credit card go to <https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=236> Making a donation here is simple and quick. Enter the amount you would like to give and enter your card debit / credit details—you also have the option to gift aid your donation & any future donations you make using this card online or in church will also be gift aided (if eligible).

PayPal Donate Button on St Stephen's website—go to www.saintstephens.co.uk and click on the PayPal donate button on the left of the page. Donations can be made as a 'one off' or regular monthly payments and will go directly to St Stephen's Church.

JustGiving: Parishioners who wish to support the parish may also do so online via justgiving.com/campaign/parishsupport. Please note that parishioners need to reference their donation with the full parish name and location.

Celebration of Mass:

At St Stephen's, we will continue to celebrate Mass socially distanced and face coverings are to be worn. Hand sanitisers should be used entering and leaving church and the 'one-way' in and out system will be in use. As long as the *NHS Test, Track and Trace* system is in operation, we will continue to make available the means for people to sign in when attending Mass using the NHS app and scanning the QR code or completing a *Track & Trace* card. It will be kept secure and will be destroyed 21 days after the Mass you have attended. A copy of the card is attached to this newsletter which you can print and complete at home to bring with you when you come to Mass. One card per individual or household group. Cards will be available in the porch at each Mass (please bring your own pen) and must be completed. *Please note a card is required to be completed for each Mass you attend.* There will be no toilet facilities open in church or the hall.

We ask everyone to respect and follow the guidance for the celebration of Mass in our church and for your cooperation and understanding so we can keep the church a safe environment for all. Many thanks to all our stewards.

Guidance for the Celebration of Mass.

This guidance has been issued by the Bishops Conference of England and Wales for the celebration of Mass.

On 19th July, the current legislative powers which assist the mitigations against the covid-19 virus transmission will be rescinded by HM Government. Even without this legislation in place, the Church in England and Wales will be adopting a cautious approach to capacity and activity within our churches. All places of worship will have to consider the prevailing local conditions for the virus. Special consideration is to be given to rates at which people are being vaccinated in the locality, the prevalence of new variants of the virus, the local rates of hospital admissions and any local public health advice.

The Communion Rite:

The priest shows to the congregation the Host and says audibly – “The Body of Christ” and the “Blood of Christ” – and the people respond –Amen. The priest will receive Holy Communion under both kinds using his own Host and Chalice. The priest will hold a reverent silence before the Prayer after Communion, giving the Blessing and dismissal. As the people have already acclaimed the presence of the Lord, at the Priest's Communion, the distribution to the congregation of Holy Communion will be in silence with no dialogue between minister and communicant. Communion must be given in the hand only, with the communicant standing, avoiding any physical contact. People should wait in their pews until instructed to move forward in an orderly manner pew by pew by the steward, aware of the social distancing. Once you have received communion please leave the church via the side door (through the small hall) as directed by the steward. Do not return to the pew. Please use the hand sanitiser. At the end of the celebration the priest should return to the Sacristy. The Church should be closed immediately after Mass in order to clean the space and parishioners encouraged to return home.

Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis:

Supporting parishes in terms of evangelisation, catechesis and formation, is the work of the *Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis* which celebrated its first anniversary this month (September 2021). If you would like to find out more on the courses, resources and support they offer please visit the website <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk>; follow them on various social media platforms @aecsouthwark or subscribe to their free monthly newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/heWjml>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aecsouthwark>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aecsouthwark>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aecsouthwark/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/aecsouthwark>

NHS TRACK AND TRACE "To manage the risk of the virus re-emerging." <i>Attending public worship in the Archdiocese of Southwark</i>	
NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	
DATE:	TIME OF MASS:
<small><i>This information is being collected at the direction of the UK Government. It will be kept secure and will be destroyed 21 days after the act of public worship.</i></small>	

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Columban Fathers Mission Appeal

Fr Pat O'Beirne will be visiting St Stephen's at all Masses next weekend - 2nd & 3rd October 2021.

www.columbans.co.uk

The Cry of the Poor - Study Day for the

Season of Creation: A study day on Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* on 'fraternity and social friendship' will be live-streamed from 11am to 12.30pm on Saturday 2nd October. The study day, entitled 'The Cry of the Poor', is organised from Gidea Park parish, and the speaker is Fr Ashley Beck, expert on Catholic Social Teaching. The event is free of charge and no registration is necessary. The encyclical is a challenge to see the implications of faith in Christ in the face of the widespread xenophobia and discrimination prevalent in our society and in so many parts of the world. To access the livestream, go to www.whatgoodnews.org where the previous study day 'The Cry of Creation' (exploring *Laudato si'*) is also available.

Red Box Holders: Please would you bring your box to be emptied and counted. Please put it on the table at the back of the church or you could take it to the Presbytery. We will get it back to you as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

The Evangelium Online Course from the AEC is a full refresher and overview of the Catholic faith led by Fr Marcus Holden (co-author of Evangelium). Each session is 'live' with opportunities for discussion and questions. There are optional follow-up activities and further reading links provided and a certificate of completion is given by the Agency. To register for this FREE course, beginning 26th September please visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/evangeliumonlinecourse21-22>

St Catherine's Catholic School for Girls

Open Evening for prospective students & parents on *Thursday 7th October 2021* 5pm to 8pm – Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7QJ. You are welcome to visit the school for a tour. Mrs. Thompson, Headteacher, will be doing two presentations at 5.10pm and 7.30pm. Please visit the school website for further information <http://www.stccg.co.uk/>

The Bible Timeline Course: Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this FREE OF CHARGE, world-wide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts Wed 29th September 2021. Eight Wednesday sessions (7pm-8:40pm). Info & Registration: www.comeandsee.org

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this *Family Fast Day* you can help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

Donate online through the CAFOD website, by using a CAFOD envelope (available in church today) or scanning the QR code on the poster in the porch. You can also easily give via text. Text **CAFOD10** to **70580** to donate £10* - enough to equip a volunteer firefighter with tools to prevent fires in the rainforest. Or choose to give any whole amount between £1 and £20 by texting CAFOD, followed by the amount you would like to donate, to 70580. Donate online at <http://www.cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis> or telephone 0303 303 3030. CAFOD envelopes can be returned directly to CAFOD – collection envelopes are freepost and pre-addressed. Or place your envelope in the collection baskets in the entrance porch or by the exit door of church. Please complete the Gift Aid form to increase the value of your donation by 25p for every £1 you give – at no extra cost to you! This extra 25 per cent makes a big difference and means that CAFOD are able to support local experts with additional funding. In the last year alone CAFOD has raised just over three million through Gift aid donations from supporters.

*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you will be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you would like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text CAFODNOINFO to 70580. For more information, please see Privacy Policy: www.cafod.org.uk/privacy

Donations to St Stephen's Church: Online, Contactless and Chip & Pin

In an increasingly cashless society, we are able to respond to new ways in which people can donate to St Stephen's.

We are pleased to announce that we have installed **2 Digital Collection Plates** situated at the back of the church which parishioners can use whenever you come into church. Making a donation is simple and quick. Press one of the donation values e.g. £5, £10, £15, £20, £50 or Other Amount. Tap your card or phone on the card reader. For donations greater than £45, the card must be inserted at the top of the card reader with the chip facing downwards, enter your pin number and press the green arrow to confirm your donation. After tapping / inserting your card, the card reader will beep, and a blue light will show up, and screen will read payment approved. Your donation can be gift aided. The donor can complete a digital Gift Aid Declaration on the Digital Collection Plate screen and all future donations you make using this card will automatically be recorded—online and/ or in church. A Gift Aid Declaration is required when using the Digital Collection Plate for the first time even if you are registered for Gift Aid at St Stephen's. Once you have registered for Gift Aid you will receive a 'thank you' email with a copy of your Gift Aid Declaration.

You will also be able to contribute to 2nd Collections. Just choose the fund you wish to donate to and the amount you wish to donate.

To give online go to <https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=236> or go the parish website www.saintstephens.co.uk and click on the **Donate with Dona** button on the home page. Making a donation here is also simple and quick. Enter the amount you would like to give and enter your card details. If you would like to gift aid your donation please click on the 'yes' button and enter your name, address and email address. Any future donations you make using this card online or in church will also be gift aided (if eligible).

Reminder: To enable the church to claim the gift aid on your donation when using your debit / credit card (online or in church) you must register by entering your name, address and email address.

Once registered, all future online and in church card payments will be gift aided (as long as you use the same payment card). *A suggestion to save you time in church* – you can make a small donation online (eg £1) and register your details so that when you tap your card in church you are already registered and therefore do not have to enter your details again. If you do not have an email address but would like to use the contactless / online



donation device please contact the church office. All major payment methods accepted:

Please note that gift aid envelopes (past dated and current), loose cash, standing orders, 'one off' or regular online payments, cheques (payable to *St Stephen's RC Church*), PayPal and Justgiving donations are all welcomed at St Stephen's.

If you have any questions regarding online, contactless and Chip & Pin payments please speak to Canon Edward or contact the church office.

NEW: One-Off Gift Aid Envelope: Please find at the back of church one-off Gift Aid envelopes. These envelopes can be used for different funds / options and can be used for both Gift Aid and Non-Gift Aid donations. You can choose to make the gift a one-off Gift Aid donation or sign up to on-going Gift Aid. Mass intention details can be included on the envelope. Visitors / guests to St Stephen's are encouraged to use an envelope if they wish to make a donation.

Please take an envelope to make a donation to;

Parish Offertory

Poor Box

General Church Income

Church Building Fund

Clergy Support Fund

Priest Training Fund

Christmas / Easter Offering

Mass Offering - If you wish to use the envelope for a Mass Offering, please do not tick a box but write the intention or name of the person on the lines provided so we can clearly identify the intent of your gift.