THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY
21 HEATHFIELD ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT DA6 8NP

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Michael Jones
Email: michaeljones@rcaos.org.uk
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Luke Malunze
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PARISH SECRETARY: CATH BIRD
(Office hours are Tuesdays and Fridays 8.30am – 4.30pm)
Parish Office Email bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk
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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:
CATH BIRD
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Safeguarding: The Archdiocese of Southwark is committed to the safety and welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Diocese co-operates fully with the CSAS, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service, which aims to help the Church become an example of best practice in the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, and develop a "culture of vigilance" to ensure that children and vulnerable adults in our care are kept safe from harm.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – PAGE 137

Sunday 4th October 2026
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time/Rosary Sunday

08.30 Mass for Gerard Lambe RIP (Family) (Fr L)
10.30 Mass for Adoración Morcillo Sánchez RIP (Anniv) & Adriana Morcillo Sánchez RIP (Anniv) (Alaminos) (Fr M)
Children's Liturgy
Refreshments in hall after Mass
17.30 Mass for the Health of Gail Chivers (Hatton) (Fr L)

Second Collection for CAFOD
Third National Mass Count

Monday 5th October 2026
Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin

No Mass

Tuesday 6th October 2026
Saint Bruno, Priest

09.00 Mass for Robert & Dora Turner RIP (Tuner) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Teach Me to Pray online sessions commence

Wednesday 7th October 2026
Our Lady of the Rosary

09.00 Mass for Prudencio Santa Rita Fernandes RIP (Sharon) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Thursday 8th October 2026 **Feria**

09.00 Mass for Effie & Linda Antao RIP (Antao)/Donald Jones RIP (Fr L) followed by the Rosary

Friday 9th October 2026
Feast of Saint John Henry Newman, Priest

09.00 Mass for Mary Ellen RIP (Lake) (Fr L)
Adoration until 10.00am
Confessions straight after the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed
12.30 Funeral Service for David Crawley RIP at Kemnal Park (Fr M)

Saturday 10th October 2026
Saint Paulinus of York, Bishop

10.00 Mass for Arnold Alpin RIP (Braganza) (Fr L) followed by the Rosary
Confessions

Sunday 11th October 2026
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time/
Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their families

08.30 Mass for Deceased Members of The Chitty Family (Fr L)
10.30 Mass for Ollie Vines RIP (Smith)
Children's Liturgy
Refreshments in hall after Mass
17.30 Mass for Narcis Faria RIP and all members of the Faria Family (Fr L)
Fourth and Final Mass Count

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Today we have a Second Collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: and attached to this week's newsletter is their donation envelope. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030

Harvest Sunday: Thank you for all your donations so far. Please remember we are collecting until the end of October, so there is plenty of time to bring in food items as well as clothing that has been requested. Please check the list on the noticeboard for the various donations that are needed. All food and clothing received will be given to the Manna Centre.



October is the month of the Holy Rosary and today we celebrate Rosary Sunday. Perhaps families can pray the rosary at home and teach the children the meaning of the beads. Also, Fr Luke leads the rosary after he says Mass during the week and on Saturdays. You would be most welcome to join him.

Third National Mass Count: We ask parishioners who are taking the collection to count the numbers attending and record them on the form in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Congratulations to our friends at Our Lady of the Angels as they celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi in this special Year of Saint Francis. They also have the **Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition and Franciscan Relics Exhibition**, taking place from now until 10th October. (see poster for more information)

Contacting Parish Office: If you need to message Cath, please ensure you email or phone the parish office bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk or 0208 303 1957 not the Safeguarding phone or email, unless it is a Safeguarding matter. Cath work's Tuesdays and Fridays in the parish office (8.30am-4.30pm).

Mass Intentions: Just a gentle reminder to ensure you put in your Mass request in plenty of time. If you leave a contact number on the envelope, Cath will contact you to advise the date if it is not the one you've requested. Currently we are quite booked up for October, with only one or two dates available. We are grateful for the Mass bookings that you do make, as it goes towards the Priests' salary.

Signing of School Forms: Now is the time of year for parents to apply for Secondary and Primary School places. If you need your form to be signed, confirming your attendance at Mass, we ask that you give it to Fr Michael or Fr Luke, when you're at Mass. You will then be contacted by the parish office, advising when you can collect it.
Please be aware that Fr Michael may not know or recognise all of you applying, so he will consult Fr Luke to seek his confirmation of your attendance. Please ensure you are honest with your attendance when completing these forms. Thank you.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Mick & Sylvie Carolan, Pat Tolhurst, Eileen Poulston, Katie Bingley, Fr Gareth Bowen, Mary Paul, John Yates, Meta James, Tracey James, Baby Teddy, Tom C, Susan, Stelian, Claire Wansbury, Alan and Rene Fisher, Baby Jemima Rita James, Fr Jeff, Shirley Angerer, Josephine Treloar, Jacqueline Downey, Steve Smith, Annie and Gerry McDonagh Snr, Gerry McDonagh Jnr and Martin McDonagh, Keith Smith, Samantha Butler, Carole, Mrs Chris Lynch, Ashleigh, Fr Michael, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Florrie Pereira, Jo O'Donnell, Nadia Sheehy, Steve Pitt, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury, Josephine da Silva and Roy Miller

Hiring of Hall: Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Electronic Newsletter: If you would like our newsletter emailed to you each week, please contact Cath at the parish office: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION: Donations for the Offertory Collection can be made in the usual way via the basket. You can also make payments via our card machine located in the porch. Using this method, you can also pay for Repository items, Second Collections and Candles too. Please remember to Gift Aid if you are tax payer. If you wish to set up a regular standing order or make a payment via BACS, please contact the parish office for bank details: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

TEACH ME TO PRAY: A five-part experimental programme on how to open ourselves to God through prayer. *Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him. 'Lord, teach us to pray'. Luke 11:1*

Online sessions are all on Tuesday evenings, starting Tuesday 6th October 2026 and continuing 13th October, 10th November and 17th November, with a One-Day Reflection in person on 5th or 12th December. Cost £25.00 booking fee including Day of Reflection. £5 for online sessions only. Bursaries are available, please contact aec@rcaos.org.uk.

For more information see poster on noticeboard in the porch or go to aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/tnpn4hqd

Organised and run by the Archdiocese of Southwark Spirituality Commission

Lectors' (Readers) & Eucharistic Ministers' Formation Day - Saturday 31st October, 10:00am–2:00pm, Capuchin Franciscan Friary, Erith DA8 1DN: Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East Area, warmly invites all Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to a Formation Day on the theme "Nourished by the Word, Sent with the Eucharist." The day will include Holy Mass, formation, discussion and Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Participants are asked to arrive by 9:45am and to bring a packed lunch. (See posters for more information)

To all our Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St John Vianney, please check your email, as Cath has sent an email inviting you and outlining the day. If you haven't been notified, please contact Cath.

Young Adult Deanery Group: For Young adults and professionals (18-35) to create a community where we can build each other up in faith, knowledge and friendship. please join us for our first introductory meeting on 22nd October 6.00pm to help build the starting direction of this new initiative. Graciously hosted at St John Vianney Parish hall 21 Heathfield Rd, Bexleyheath DA6 8NP.

Children's Liturgy: We are very lucky to run our Children's Liturgy class at 10.30 Mass every Sunday; however, more helpers are needed. We open our class with a prayer and a "Sorry Song" and then have a simplified Gospel reading and an activity.

Many children attend this, and enjoy it immensely, however, we do really need more parents to lead and assist the classes. We keep it very simple, as the age range of the children attending varies. **Please do consider offering your time.** It maybe that the rota is 1 in 4 weeks for you to help. Please speak to one of our catechists, or Cath, via the Parish Office. An enhanced DBS will be required, which our safeguarding officers will complete for you.

Please remember: If you child has made their First Holy Communion, they should remain in church for the Mass and not attend Children's Liturgy, unless it is a Catechist's child who cannot remain on their own in church.

Day with Mary: Saturday 7th November at Westminster Cathedral (see poster for more information)

Youth day at John Fisher School Purley, Saturday 17th October 11.00am- 5.30pm. Cost £5. Free Coach transport from Dartford. For 10-14 year olds. This great initiative of the Southwark youth service is a day of prayer, activities including sport, as well as lunch. We commend it to youth in the parish. To book a place turn to the diocesan website: https://scys.org.uk/youth-under-18/youth-days-10-14-years/ There is a free coach from St. Anselm's Dartford, leaving at 9.30am. Please contact Fr. Stephen Boyle by email to book it: dartford@rcaos.org.uk. You may contact him for more details about the day.

St Catherine's Catholic School in Bexleyheath is seeking to appoint a Design Technology Technician to join our vibrant, inclusive school community. Someone who loves DT, is enthusiastic, creative, versatile and well organised with a strong background in Design Technology. Please visit: https://www.stccg.co.uk/Support-Staff-Vacancies/ for more info and**St Catherine's School** is celebrating its 70th Anniversary and warmly invites all those who have an association with the school, whether Alumni (staff and students) or friends of the school, to attend a special celebration Mass and Reunion, to mark this special year. To register and see payment details, please visit this link. Tickets are £15/person and include a glass of prosecco, buffet lunch and tea/coffee. Please email chaplain@stccg.co.uk if needed. Registration closes Monday 5th October.

Christmas Fayre at St John Vianney –Saturday 28th November – 12.00pm to 2.00pm

We are planning on having the following stalls: Repository, Gift Tombola, Bottle Tombola, Fancy Goods, Bric a Brac, cake stall, as well as a Toy Stall, but we need donations from you to have these. We shall also have bacon rolls and hot soup on the day, along with the usual refreshments. Celine will also be on hand to take professional family photos, at a reasonable price.

This event cannot run without parishioners' help, so please do sign up to the list on the noticeboard if you can spare an hour or two, either setting up on the Friday 27th or running a stall on the 28th. It's an event that brings our parishioners together, young and old and knowing the importance of this, and having a place to sit and natter, whilst having a bit to eat, Celine's photos will be set up in the porch of the church, freeing up the backroom as a refreshment area.

Donations are welcome now. Please leave them in the porch, ideally labelled "Fayre". With grateful thanks.

If you have any questions, please email the parish office: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

The next Bexleyheath Ward meeting with community safety, police and Councillor Rags Sandhu will be held on: Wednesday 14th October at 7.00pm at Geddes Place, Bexleyheath, DA6 7DJ. Parking available. Every welcome to attend.