

# St Simon Stock Catholic Church, Ashford South

Priest in Charge: Fr. Jose Anchanickal Sebastian, Brookfield Road, Ashford, Kent. TN23 4EU tel: 01233622399

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Hire of St. Simon's Hall: email - [hallhire@outlook.com](mailto:hallhire@outlook.com); Phone 07955323211

Parish School: St. Simon of England Primary School, Noakes Meadow, Ashford, TN23 4RB. 01233 623199 Headteacher - Helen Bryant

## PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU

### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026, Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)**

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life**

8.00am Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite

10.30am Mass (Frances and Pasquale

Intrieri RIP)

6.30pm Mass (The people of the parish)

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April, Feria**

No Mass

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr**

10.00am Mass

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe**

6.05pm Recitation of Holy Rosary

6.30pm Mass followed by Adoration until

7.30pm

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April, St. Pius V, Pope**

10.00am Mass (Baker family intentions)

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May, St. Joseph the Worker**

**Day of prayer for God's blessing on human work**

**First Friday**

10.00am Mass followed by Adoration until noon

7.30pm Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite

followed by Adoration

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

10.00am Mass

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026, Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)**

8.00am Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite

10.30am Mass (Birthday thanksgiving

Chimjika Ebenebe)

6.30pm Mass (The people of the parish)

**A MESSAGE FROM FR. JOSE** - Dear family members and friends, The very famous image of Jesus as Good Shepherd is of great hope and confidence for us. Jesus speaks about the difference between a shepherd and a thief. The shepherd enters through the door and the sheep hear his voice and follow him. The thief is the one who enters the sheepfold through some other way. The thief enters to steal, kill and destroy. But Jesus as the good shepherd has come to give life and that in abundance. There are some people who come to us pretending to help us and guide us. But they are like wolves in sheep's skin. Let us try to identify the true shepherds and false ones and follow only the true one who lays his life for the sheep as Jesus did. Amen

**MAY PROCESSION NEXT SUNDAY** - following the 10.30am Mass next Sunday we will have our annual ceremony of the crowning of the statue of Our Lady with procession round the grounds of the church.

**ROSARY IN MAY** - the month of May is especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady and so there will be daily Recitation of the Rosary, each evening, in front of the Grotto; on Wednesday's and Sunday's at 6.05pm prior to the evening Mass and on all other days at 7.00pm. Please try to come to support this parish devotion.

**TODAY IS GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - SUPPORT OUR FUTURE PRIESTS** - The priesthood has always been at the heart of the Church. This Good Shepherd Sunday, we pray for vocations and support the Priest Training Fund, which forms men for service across our parishes, schools, hospitals, and communities. We currently have 9 seminarians, each costing around £30,000 per year over six years of formation. Your generosity helps make their calling possible.

Donate online: [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF) Call: 020 7960 2504 (weekdays, 9am-5pm) Or use the envelopes at the back of church if you are not in the Gift Aid scheme and wish to Gift Aid your offering.

**ROSARY FOR LIFE** - Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit [rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife](http://rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife). **Pray the Rosary. Encounter Christ. Defend life.**

**FRANCES FINN RIP** - please pray for the soul of Frances Finn who died on Wednesday morning aged 99 years. We pray also for all her family that they may be given comfort at this sad time. Funeral arrangements will be announced soon. May she rest in peace.

**INTERNATIONAL MASS 10.30AM PENTECOST SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY** - this is an opportunity for us to come together to celebrate and thank God for the Catholic faith shared among the many nationalities that make up our parish family here at St. Simon's. After the Mass we will gather in the church hall to share food and friendship. Anyone who would like to be involved in help plan the day, to help set up the hall, volunteer as singers, readers, or supplying food or drink for the shared lunch please put your name on the sheet on the noticeboard or see Titus or Thereza after Mass.

**COLLECTIONS** - Last week - £499.13 (£92.80 Gift Aid + £198.33 loose plate and machine + £208 standing order. Thank you. Second collection today - Priest Training Fund (Ecclesiastical Education).

### **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast down to hell Satan and all other evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

### **CONFESSIONS**

After 10am Mass  
Saturday and on request

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Please pray for:

Francesca Baker,  
Emma Baker,  
Tricia Coppin,  
Luke Fellowes,  
George McQuillan,  
Agnes

Perinpanayagam,  
Raymond

Trumpfheller,  
Gerard Quinn,  
Pulkeria Msoka,  
Susannah John,  
Emma Broad,  
Peter Vokes,

Dorothy Wiseman,

Ken Gwam  
Frankie Lanzino,  
Maria McCarthy,  
Zita Wilkinson,  
Marie Columb

Maureen Woods  
Beryl Swaffer

Guy Beresford  
Maria Lanzino

John Butcher  
Terry Kemp

Cathy Gravina  
Peter Wraight

Steve Hudson  
Baby Oliver