



Parochial Administrator	Fr Thaddeus Nwokeji
Presbytery Address	38 Charlotte Place, Margate CT9 1LP
Telephone	01843 220825
Parish Email address	margate@rcaos.org.uk
Parish Website	www.margatecatholic.org
Parish Primary School	St Gregory's Catholic Primary School Nash Road, Margate CT9 4BU Tel: 01843 221896
Deanery School	Ursuline College, 225 Canterbury Road Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8LX Tel: 01843 834431
Diocesan Website	www.rcsouthwark.co.uk



24th December 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Ss Austin & Gregory 9.00am

Intention: Fr Thaddeus Nwokeji

Christmas blessings

Requested by: The Parish

St Anne's 11.00am Mass

Intention: Sr Mary Ita O'Riordan (+)

Requested by: Eileen McNiff

Ss Austin & Gregory 6.00pm

Mass of the Vigil of the Nativity

Intention: Eileen & Jack Daly (+)

Requested by: Jeane McDonnell

Monday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord

Ss Austin & Gregory 9.00am

Intention: Peter Mulvihill (+) Anni

Requested by: Sheila Mulvihill

St Anne's 10.00am

Intention: The People of the Parish

Tuesday 26th December

Saint Stephen, Deacon, the first Martyr, Feast

NO MASS OR SERVICES TODAY

Wednesday 27th December

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist, Feast

Ss Austin & Gregory 10.00am Mass

Intention: Mrs Bobby Kulasinghe (+)

Requested by: Bernie O'Grady

Thursday 28th December

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs, Feast

NO MASS OR SERVICES TODAY

Friday 29th December

Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop & Martyr, Feast

NO MASS OR SERVICES TODAY

Saturday 30th December

Sixth day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Ss Austin & Gregory: 5.00pm Mass

Vigil Mass of the Sunday

Intention: The People of the Parish

CHRISTMAS – STORY OF UNIMAGINABLE LOVE

The story of the birth of Jesus Christ, though it has been told for more than 2000 years continues to inspire. No doubt, Jesus was born as the Promised Messiah, the Saviour and the Redeemer of God's people, he was born to suffer and to die.

Beloved People of God, the story of his birth brings hope and gives joy. The simplicity of his birth, the chosen and the accepted vulnerability of the all-powerful God, speaks of unimaginable love. We must not forget this story – the story of God's sacrificial generosity. This story comes alive whenever and wherever love is demonstrated, and kindness is shown, and care is given. It comes alive whenever and wherever charity is in action.

We are all invited into this open-ended story. We are all branches of this same 'Tree'. God is our source and sustenance. It is about how we continue with the writing and telling of this same story of love through our lives and in the lives of others. It is about how others will continue after us to further this story based on what we have impacted on them, what we made them see, how we made them feel or not. This story of Christmas - God's Story - needs not be distorted. It is the story of Emmanuel – the God who is with us!

MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

I use this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for the various ways, places and times that you have lived out this story of unimaginable love, sacrifice and generosity, throughout the year that is coming to an end, here in the parish and beyond.

I thank you especially for your gifts to me as parishioners – the Christmas offering. I appreciate the many cards, the heartfelt prayers, the kind words and private gifts therein. They are all sources of encouragement.

May God bless and reward you more than you dare to ask and beyond your imagination. May God meet you at the various points of your need.

I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND AN AMAZING NEW YEAR!!

Fr. Ted

All to Jesus - Through Mary our Mother

TIMES OF SERVICES IN JANUARY 2024

SATURDAY – 5.00pm – Vigil Mass for Sunday - St Austin & Gregory

SUNDAY – 9.00am – St Austin & Gregory, Margate

11.00am – St Anne's, Cliftonville

WEDNESDAY – 10.00am – St Austin & Gregory, Margate

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTIE

2nd JUNE 2024

Course will begin on Saturday 24th February

**Application forms now available
at the back of the church**

We commend to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, all those in our parish who are unwell, or who are in nursing and care homes, in hospitals and the housebound, remembering especially:

Clare Hastings, Molly Dunne, Brenda Tuffrey;

Wesley John Whatford, Cathy Simmons;

Protection reasons, individuals must explicitly agree to their names to be mentioned in our Newsletter. Please let the parish office know in writing if either your name or the names of your relatives and friends should appear on our sick list. Thank you

Cash Collection Sunday 3rd December 2023

St Anne's		Ss Austin & Gregory
Loose Plate	£ 126.95	£167.90
Gift Aid	<u>£ 80.40</u>	<u>£ 38.70</u>
	£207.35	£206.60

The above totals do not include the total received by Standing Order
Thank you for your continued support of the Parish

PARISH PRAYER GROUP MEETINGS

THURSDAY 28th DECEMBER

ST ANNE'S CHURCH HALL

**6.45pm for a prompt start at 7.00pm
Ending at 8.00pm approximately**

Please note:

**There will be no Exposition after the 9.00am
and 11.00am Masses on 31st December**

We wish Fr Ted a happy and holy Christmas and send our best wishes and prayers for him as he returns home.

We welcome Fr Philip Gilbert who will celebrate Mass for us all each weekend and also on Wednesdays, at 10.00am at St Austin & Gregory, Margate.

Our Food Bank team wish to thank the following for their very generous donations to the Food Bank. This provided many 'treats' to go in the Christmas Parcels and brought joy to all who received them. Thank you all so much.

St Gregory's School
Ursuline College
St John's Church
New Life Church
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs
Holy Family Parish, Birchington
Morrisons Supermarket
Thanet Earth

A message from the Parish Pastoral Council

It's that time of year again when we are able, as a parish and a family, and as individuals to show our appreciation for our own very dear friend, Father Ted. As we all may know, priests in the Archdiocese rely on Christmas and Easter offerings to support themselves for the year. As this holy season begins, we should be as generous as possible with our Christmas offerings to Fr Ted.

He does so much for us, with unstinting devotion and love, day in and day out, so now we can show our love by digging deep for our Christmas donation towards this yearly collection. Times are hard for everyone but I know your generosity can be relied on.

Thank you and God bless

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT INFORMATION – All NatWest Accounts

St Austin & Gregory, Margate. Account Name: RCAS Margate, Account Number 52026388, Sort Code 60-14-05

St Anne's, Cliftonville. Bank: Account Name: RCAS Cliftonville, Account Number 09872213, Sort Code 60-06-01

St Austin & Gregory, Poor Fund Account. Account Name: Poor Fund Account Margate. Account Number 52026353 Sort Code 60-14-05