

CONFESSIONS Saturday after morning mass until 11:15am and
before the vigil mass from 5:30-6:15pm

ST ANTONY'S CHURCH FOREST GATE

Third Sunday of Lent A - 12th March 2023

MASS INTENTIONS 11th–19th March 2023

Sat 11th March 2023	6.30pm	(Vigil) People of the Parish
Sunday 12th March 2023 Third Sunday of Lent A	8.30am	Caroline Francis RIP
	10.00am	Sesamma Fernando
	12 Noon	Antony Mendis & Family Thanksgiving
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
	7.30pm	Mass
Monday 13th Feria	7.45am	Seamus & Mary Intentions
	10.00am	Fletcher Family Thanksgiving Rita Rajakariar RIP
Tuesday 14th Feria	7.45am	Iliana Fernandes Intentions John, Helen & Dina Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Pauline Reay RIP
	8.00pm	St Antony's Novena
Wednesday 15th Feria	7.45am	John & Eileen Maughan Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Daniel Charles
Thursday 16th Feria	7.45am	Martin & Theresa Mongan Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Requiem Robert Commodore
Friday 17th St Patrick	7.45am	Caroline Francis RIP Major Reginald Perry
	10.00am	Patrick Gomes RIP
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 18th Feria	10.00am	Mildred Meyn Joseph Huan Tian Sung RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 19th March 2023 Fourth Sunday of Lent A (Laetare Sunday)	8.30am	Julieta Belsonda RIP
	10.00am	David Christmas RIP
	12 Noon	Anne Akotibe & Family Thanksgiving
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
	7.30pm	Mass

Our **First Reading** this week is from *Exodus 17:3-7*: God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

Our **Responsorial Psalm** is taken from *Psalms 95*: Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

The **Second Reading** is *Romans 5:1-2,5-8*: Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

This Sunday's **Gospel Reading** is from *John 4:5-42*: Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.

The dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "*How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?*" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law.

The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship. After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him.

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people.

The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

Address: 56 St Antony's Road, Forest Gate E.7. 9QB,

Email: forestgate@dioceseofbrentwood.org,

Website: www.stantonysforestgate.com

Parish Administrator: Marie Browne Tel: 020 8472 0433 :

Parish Youth Co-ordinator: Catherine Wallis-Hughes Tele: 07807348223.

St Antony's School: -T.020 8552 3670

Housing Issues - Know your Rights?

*Worried about eviction, rent going up, mould in your house.
Join the London Renters Union for training about your Housing Rights
on Sunday 12th March 2-4pm
at St Margaret's Church, Barking Road, Canning Town
Training will be in English and Portuguese
See poster or pick up a flyer at back of the church for more details*

St Patrick's Day—Friday 17th March

St Patrick's Day celebration at the Red House,
(St Antony's Catholic Club) Upton Ave, E7 9PN

Drinks and food after 10am Mass and music from midday

Open all Day

Any donations of food or raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated.

“Caritas Diocese of Brentwood is inviting people from the night of March 31st 2023 (9pm) to the morning of April 1st (8:30am), to join this year's Sponsored Sleepout in one of our four locations; Lexden, Forest Gate, Hornchurch, and Southend. The sleepout will assist in raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout and to register please email sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org”

Robert Commodore RIP — Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert Commodore. Requiem Mass will be held in St Antony's Church on Thursday 16th March 10am. Please remember his family and friends in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace. Amen.

FSA meeting Wednesday 15th March 4pm St Francis Hall.

The next Baptismal Preparation Course will be on Saturday 1st April 2023 which begins at 12.00 Noon promptly in St Francis Hall. Parents who wish to have their children Baptised must attend the Baptismal Preparation course. You will be asked to provide a copy of your Baptismal certificate and also your Godparents Baptismal Certificate which must include details of Confirmation.

We pray for the SICK of our Parish, Families & Friends— and all at home or in hospital, and all who care for our sick.

WORLD YOUTH DAY WITH THE COMMUNITY OF ST JOHN

When: 29th July—8th August 2023

Who: Catholics aged 18-35

Where: Lisbon, Portugal

Price: £750* (including train and coach travel from the UK) / £450 without travel

Aim: To be refreshed & renewed in our faith through meeting other young Catholics for prayer and friendship:

Contact: Catherine Wallis-Hughes / Fr Philip-Thomas
stantonysyouthproject@gmail.com / brphilipthomas@stjean.com

Tel: +447807348223

***Travel price may rise after 9th April**

Have you ever considered becoming a Foundation Governor?

VACANCY: St Antony's Catholic Primary School Foundation Governor

Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop of Brentwood Diocese to serve as his representatives on the governing body of Catholic schools. This is to ensure that the Church's Vision and Mission are upheld. Foundation Governors must be practicing Catholics.

St Antony's Catholic Primary School's Governing body is looking for people with a mixture of skills, expertise and experience drawn from a wide range of professions and backgrounds such as Education, Finance, Legal, HR, Community and Youth Organising and Communications. Training will be provided to those appointed to support all governors with effectively fulfilling this very important role.

If you would like to know more and for a Governor's Interest Form contact:
toyin.gbomede@st-antonys-jun.newham.sch.uk

GIFT AID BOXES—We are fast approaching the end of the tax year and will be issuing new Gift Aid boxes very soon.

If you are a member of the Parish Gift Aid Scheme and

- You no longer pay tax please contact the parish office, so we can amend our records.
- You must be a UK tax payer to be in the Parish Gift Aid Scheme.
- If any of your contact details have changed, ie name, address, telephone number, and you have not let us know.
- **PLEASE contact the parish office of any changes as soon as possible if anything changes it is very important that the information we hold is correct and up to date, forestgate@dioceseofbrentwood.org**

**Thank you for your generosity £1008.34 was collected for
CAFOD/Lent Fast Day**

Thank you for your continued support

- **online donations link:** <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/donations/saop>
- **Donations can be made parish web-site www.stantonysforestgate.com**
- Payment direct into the parish bank account using online banking
- **Catholic Church Forest Gate St Antonys: Acc No: 11390953 /Sort Code: 40-13-22**
- **Contactless using QR Codes located around the Church**