 **Parish Priest:** Fr Behruz Rafat **Telephone** 01580 762785 Mobile: 07903 986646

**Address:** The Presbytery, 47 Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6LL.

**Parish E-mail** behruzrafat@rcaos.org.uk **Parish Website:** www.standrewstenterden.org

**Deacon:** Rev. Jolyon Vickers **Telephone:** 01580 766449 **Email:** jolyonvickers@rcaos.org.uk **Hire of Parish Hall:** Lesley McCarthy 07791 949652 **E-mail:** tenterdenparishcentre@rcaos.org.uk

**Newsletter Editor:** Patricia Sargent 01233 850963 **E-mail:** sargentpat51@gmail.com

**Newsletter for the week commencing 12th February 2023**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**Entrance antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

**First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15: 15-20**

**Psalm 118 Response: They are happy who follow God’s law!**

**Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 2: 6-10**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37**

**Communion antiphon: God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.**

**Father Behr writes:**

 Dear Parishioners

**Renewed in Hope**

An online retreat for Lent 2023, introduced by Archbishop John Wilson, led by members of the Spirituality Commission.

If you are interested, please register online.

The material consists of a link to a YouTube video about 15 minutes long, with the Archbishop, the retreat giver Christopher Chapman and someone offering a personal testimony. There are also notes and ideas for prayer and reflection.

<https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope>

Theme from St Paul’s letter to the Romans

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may

abound with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  [Romans 15: 13]

Fr Behr

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased: Jean Dora Gillam RIP**

**Those ill or infirm:** Jane McKinnon, June Munton, Maureen Escott Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Alice Todd, Irene Le Forestiere, Eva Lamden, Nighean Lloyd-Thomas, Vincent Lacki, Alfred Webbe-Wood, Anita Cencio, Peter Murphy, Kathleen Ross-Taylor, Anthony Burke, Anne Thomas, Vincent Burns, Geraldine Walsh and Joan Bidwell.

The Funeral and Burial of **Jean Dora Gillam RIP, has now been changed and confirmed as Tuesday 28th February at 10:30 at Saint Margaret’s, Bethersden.**

**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Children’s Liturgy**

Lorraine is leading Children’s Liturgy at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson starts on Sunday 5 March.

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| **This week’s services (11th – 18th February), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 11th February****Our Lady of Lourdes**World Day of the Sick | No Public Mass10.30 -11am Confession6pm Vigil Mass*Joy Guy RIP (Maureen Saunders)* **Reader: Kathy** |
| **Sunday 12th February****Sixth Sunday (A)** | 10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Suzanne**12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Monday 13th Feb**Feria | 10am Mass *Mark and Anna* |
| **Tuesday 14th Feb**Sts Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishops | 10am Mass *Peter (Derek) Johnson RIP* |
| **Wednesday 15th Feb**Feria | 10am Service of the Word and Holy Communion |
| **Thursday 16th Feb**Feria | 9am-10am Adoration10am Mass *Paul Read RIP* |
| **Friday 17th Feb**Feria | 10am Mass *Mass for Peace*10.30 – 11.30am Adoration |
| **Saturday 18th Feb**The Blessed Virgin Mary | 10.30 -11am Confession6pm Vigil Mass *Muscat Family RIP* **Reader: Pat** |
| **Sunday 19th Feb****Seventh Sunday (A)** | No public Mass am10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Rachel**12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Flowers: for 19th February - Kathy** |
| **Cleaners: for 18th/19th February – Liz & David** |

**Churches Together in Tenterden**

**2023 Lent Lunches and Course**

We will be using Zion Baptist Church this year as our venue starting on Friday February 24th at 12 Midday.

A light ploughman’s style lunch with Coffee or Tea will be served at a cost of £5 with “profits” going to Christian Aid, who along with CAFOD and other charities are part of the Disasters Emergency Committee.

Volunteers to help set up, serve and clear up are asked to please arrive at Zion each Friday to prepare the food at 11:30 am.

The Lent Course will run for five sessions, using the book “Lentwise” (Spiritual Essentials for Real Life) by Paula Gooder. Copies of the book will be available to purchase. Cost approximately £9.00. Please let Jolyon know if you would like a copy.

The course sessions will be led by a team drawn from Churches Together in Tenterden.

This will begin on Friday February 24th, straight after the Lent lunch from 1pm to 2:30pm and normally repeated the following Wednesday evening in St. Mildred’s Church, Tenterden from 7pm until 8:30pm.

Please note that the course cannot take place on Friday 3rd March due to the World Day of Prayer, so session 2 will be held for the first time on Wednesday 8th March and repeated on Friday 10th March.

Thereafter, the pattern of Wednesday, repeated on Friday, continues until the end of the course on Friday 31st March. The sessions are as follows:

1. Friday 24th Feb and Wed 1st March – Compass: Finding Direction

2. Wed 8th March and Friday 10th March – Nourishment: Keeping Going

3. Wed 15th March and Friday 17th March – Light: Gaining Wisdom

4. Wed 22nd March and Friday 24th March – Shelter: Finding Security

5. Wed 29th March and Friday 31st March – Water: Enjoying Refreshment

**GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER:**This new ONLINE course, has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and Sycamore. It is a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang. Growing in Faith Together consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for: **married couples**to enrich their friendship and love; **engaged couples**who have **completed their marriage preparation course**and want to continue exploring their faith together.

The **LENTEN course**runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning **28 Feb 2023**and continuing on **MAR 7, 14, 21, 28 & 4 APRIL 2023.**To **register**click on the link below:
Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk)

**Sycamore is Back**

Starting on Monday 13 February after the 10am Mass we will be joined by parishioners from Rye parish with Deacon Simon South. More details about this exciting course next week.

**Memory Lane**

Saturday 25 February 2pm

You will all remember the wonderful montage of music and film that Bryan Masters produced for the Late Queen’s Jubilee. Now Bryan has put together a Gentle Stroll down Memory Lane. Nostalgic music from the  60’s and 70’s, 80’s and a fun quiz. Please put the date in your diary

**UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS** If you have any unwanted or unsuitable Christmas gifts, don’t put them in the back of a cupboard and forget them: we can give them a good home. Please bring them down so that we can use them as raffle prizes at our social events. Somebody else might really love your unwanted gift! Unfortunately, we cannot accept electrical items or toys unless boxed or carrying the appropriate fire-safety label. Thank you.

**Fire Drill 18 February**

Rob Batt has organised a Fire Drill at the end of the 6pm Mass on 18 February.  There will be a drill after the 10am Sunday Mass in due course

**Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ Weekend"** If you are mourning after the death of a loved one this weekend may be for you.

Aylesford Priory **24 - 26th March 2023** Cost £230 single, £210 shared. Please tel: 01622 717272 or email: reception@thefriars.org.uk

**Used Printer Cartridges**

The sharp-eyed amongst you may have noticed a big box in the porch labelled 'Recycle Your Ink Cartridges Here'. I am hoping that those parishioners who have computer printers will bring their used cartridges to the church and put them in said box. The company who collects them will then make a donation to the Santa Maria Education Fund (SMEF) which is based in Paraguay. The fund was started some years ago by Margaret Hepplethwaite to foster the education of many of the poor children who live in and around Santa Maria and it has become very successful albeit with limited numbers of children due to lack of funds available. Many of the children go on to university and some even to the U.K. but at least all the pupils get an education that would otherwise be denied them.
So, please, do your bit to help the SMEF and bring us your 'empties' - unfortunately this only applies to makers cartridges and not refills, at the moment. Further information from **Brian Lawrence**.

**CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal**

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD’s Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.