

## Special dates– March 2008

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week witnessing the events of the Passion of Christ, His death on the Cross and glorious resurrection at Easter. The Chrism Mass is at the Cathedral on Maundy Thursday. All the priests of the Diocese renew their commitment, the Holy Oils are blessed to go to the parishes for the Mass of the Last Supper in the evening. Good Friday and Holy Saturday are the continuation of that same Mass. The three days and Sunday form The Triduum. The Easter Vigil starts in darkness to herald the 'light of Christ' especially for those being received into the Church. The 'Exsultet' and 'Alleliua' is sung again.

- 1<sup>st</sup> St David
- 15<sup>th</sup> St Joseph (*transferred [St Patrick not celebrated]*)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Palm and Passion Sunday (A)
- 20<sup>th</sup> **Maundy Thursday** *Mass of Chrism and Last Supper*
- 21<sup>st</sup> **Good Friday** *liturgy of the Passion Fast & Abstinence*
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Saturday *NO Mass, fast if possible till the Vigil*  
After Dusk **Easter Vigil** Mass & ceremonies of new fire,  
Rite of Initiation, renewal of baptismal vows
- 23<sup>rd</sup> **Easter Sunday** The Resurrection of the Lord
- 31<sup>st</sup> **The Annunciation**

## *What is.....*

### ***The Octave of Easter***

The eight days following Easter Sunday are regarded as Easter itself, each day being a Feast Day of the Lord celebrating the Resurrection. The joy continues until Pentecost placed fifty days after Easter (Passover) in the Jewish Calendar. Fifty is the number of years to a Jubilee year, which marked restoration of property and freedom to slaves.

Number 9, March 2008

“The

# ***Deanery Notices***

**For Bexley”**

***Newsletter of events in RC Deanery of Bexley***

***Archdiocese of Southwark***

Easter can only be earlier by one day. This year is the earliest for over 400 years. As Spring starts it is a fitting moment to celebrate the greatest sign of our new birth or 'being born again'. The humiliation of the Cross of Jesus Christ becomes the victory over sin and death through the Resurrection. God has intervened in our life, time and history to free us from death and slavery to sin.

### **Parishes in Bexley Deanery**

St John Fisher Bexley 01322 524813

stjfisher@btinternet.com

www.freewebs.com/stjohnfisherchurch

St John Vianney Bexleyheath 020 83031957

parish@stjv.org.uk www.stjohnvianney-bexleyheath.org

Our Lady of the Rosary Blackfen 020 83002697

rosary@freeuk.com www.rosary.freeuk.com

St Thomas More Bostal Park 020 83032189

St Mary of the Crays Old Road Crayford 01322 523492

www.rc.net/southwark/stmarycrays

Our Lady of the Angels Bexley Road Erith 01322 402060

Fax 01322 402061 ola@btinternet.com

www.our-lady-of-angels.org.uk

St Lawrence of Canterbury Sidcup 020 83002480

Fax 020 8308 9880 stlawrence@hotmail.co.uk

www.rc.net/uk/southwark/stlawrence

St Stephen's Deepdene Road Welling 020 83034422

www.saintstephens.co.uk

**Mass to Celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage**

**Aylesford Priory Bank Holiday Monday 26 May 3pm**

**Are you celebrating a significant Anniversary?**

**Be it 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, or even 60<sup>th</sup>, the new venue means you can make a day out with the family.**

**Give names to your Parish Priest as soon as possible so the Archbishop can send an invitation.**

**Celebrate Love Seminar**

**Two-day non-residential weekend at Aylesford on 7-8 June for married couples. Consists of workshops and presentations. Details Ray Partridge 01303 873835**

**Deanery Penance Service for Lent  
at Our Lady of the Angels Erith  
Tuesday 18 March at 7.30 pm**

**WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**“God’s Wisdom Providing New Understanding”**

**Friday 7 March**

**1.45pm at Emmanuel Church Granville Road Sidcup  
with Mrs Mavis Hughesden**

**8pm at St Lawrence of Canterbury Main Road Sidcup  
with Mrs Hilary Brown**

**8pm at St Mary of the Crays Old Rd Crayford  
with Rev Christina Cunnington**

*email Items to deaneryemail-news@yahoo.co.uk*

***Deanery Days of Recollection  
For Extraordinary Ministers at Sidcup on  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
And for Readers at Erith on  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
Watch for flyers with times in due course***

*fax 0208 850 0566 or write to Deanery News*

*OLR 330a Burnt Oak Lane*

*DA15 8LW*

*by 15th of month prior to publication*

***See on the Web***

***Prounione.urbe.it for articles and documents from  
the Franciscans of the Atonement. An excellent history of  
their foundation by Fr Paul Wattson who started the Week  
of Prayer for Christian Unity***

***RC Diocese of Southwark for calendar, news,  
Directory, groups. Agencies and links to parishes***