

Special dates– April 2008

The Easter Season continues as the days lighten and new growth shows. ‘The light of Christ’ shines in readings about the early Church and its Mission, Christ is risen and the promise of the Holy Spirit is expected. Alleluia reminds us of the Good News it brings.

- 13th Vocations Sunday
- 19th *Day for Extraordinary Ministers at Sidcup*
- 21st St Anselm *Diocesan Memorial*
- 23rd St George *feast Protector of England*
- 25th **St Mark** *feast*
- 28st St Peter Chanel
- 29th St Catherine of Sienna *patron of Europe*

Parishes in Bexley Deanery

St John Fisher Bexley 01322 524813 stjfisher@tiscali.co.uk

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

Note: St John Fisher Church has a new email address

Number 10, April 2008

“The

Deanery Notices

For Bexley”

Newsletter of events in RC Deanery of Bexley

Archdiocese of Southwark

The fifty days after Easter till Pentecost are kept as a time to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Then after the Ascension (now moved to Sunday 4 May), anticipating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles on the Jewish feast of Pentecost (originally the Feast of First Fruits or Weeks).

What is.....

Friday Penance

Friday penance recognises the Sacrifice of Jesus’ crucifixion. The requirement to abstain from meat was lifted as an obligation but the need and obligation to offer some form of penance remains. Some of the Bishop’s suggestions are:

- fast or abstain from meat or other food, alcohol, smoking or some amusement, perhaps giving savings to the needy:

- an effort toward family prayer, Stations of the Cross, Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament:

- try to help someone who is poor, needy, sick or lonely.

The form we adopt is a personal choice. Penance is a Christian discipline so missing a particular Friday is not a sin, though the intention to do some Friday penance remains an obligation.

Many people also keep a Wednesday fast recognising Jesus’ betrayal into the hands of the Jews.

**Mass to Celebrate the Sacrament of
Marriage**

Aylesford Priory Bank Holiday Monday 26 May 3pm

Are you celebrating a significant Anniversary?

Be it 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, or even 60th.

the venue means you can make a family day out.

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 Days of Recollection
For Extraordinary Ministers at Sidcup on
Saturday 19th April
And for Readers at Erith on
Saturday 10th 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

www.catholicchurch.org.uk

*a rich source of Catholic news, events,
liturgy and prayer, media, FAQ and Our
Faith*

www.caseresources.org.uk

*Outreach and evangelisation site offering
free downloads, resources training courses
They are developing 'Yfaith': website for
'tweenagers'*

*It will be interactive with competitions and
blogs*

www.wintershall-estate.com

*Famous for the Wintershall Passion Play
The Deanery Pastoral Council is preparing a
trip to see the play. There will be a limited
supply of places to each parish. Watch for
details.*