Today is the call of discipleship: ‘Come and see.’ We are here, ready to share the table of Jesus, but also in need to set out afresh in the commitment of discipleship. This invitation is for us a call to begin an adult relationship of discipleship and then let it grow over the coming months through prayer, sharing, and Christian action. Each of us is called to be a disciple of the Lord. What does discipleship demand of each of us? We need time for the best things in life to come to fruition. Love grows in marriage, friendship, and family over many years. It has significant moments but often it cannot be rushed. Jesus’ disciples were invited to stay with him the rest of that day to get to know him. How well do I know Jesus? How much do I know about him? These are two different types of knowledge, like I can know everything about a person and not know the person. Jesus is one who does not force himself on people – he asks, ‘what do you want?’ He looks into people and sees more to them, like he did with Peter and gave him a new name. He saw faithfulness in Peter even though others would see weakness.

They follow behind Jesus, interested to know where he lives and Jesus in turn invites them to ‘Come and see.’ It becomes clear that this invitation is actually a call to discipleship, to embark on a journey of faith during which they will come to a greater understanding of who Jesus is and what it means to be with him. The Disciples stayed with him for a long time and he does not seem to hurry them. Those who responded to Jesus’ call sensed that there was something different about this Teacher, though they did not yet understand what following him would require of them. When we read a gospel story, what is new in that story about Jesus? The gospel is always new. It is like a treasure chest bringing out new aspects of the truth of Jesus each time we read it. In prayer Jesus has time for each of us. The Lord is not in a hurry with us in any way except to love us.

This Sunday the Church celebrates Peace Sunday, when we are asked to explore the theme chosen by Pope Francis: ‘A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace.’ Many religious traditions have accounts of the origin of human beings and their relationship with the Creator, with nature and with their fellow men and women. In the Bible, the Book of Genesis shows from its very first pages the importance of care or protection in God’s plan for humanity. It highlights the relationship between man (‘adam) and the earth (‘adamah), and among ourselves as brothers and sisters. In the biblical account of creation, God entrusts the garden “planted in Eden” (cf. Gen 2:8) to Adam’s care, to “tilt it and keep it” (Gen 2:15). This entails making the earth productive, while at the same time protecting it and preserving its capacity to support life. The verbs “tilt” and “keep” describe Adam’s relationship to his garden home, but also the trust God placed in him by making him master and guardian of all creation.

The birth of Cain and Abel begins a history of brothers and sisters, whose relationship is understood – even by Cain, however mistakenly – in terms of protection or “keeping”. After killing his brother Abel, Cain answers God’s question by saying; “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (Gen 4:9) [3] Cain, like all of us, was called to be “his brother’s keeper”. “These ancient stories, full of symbolism, bear witness to a conviction which we today share, that everything is interconnected, and that genuine care for our own lives and our relationship with nature is inseparable from fraternity, justice and faithfulness to others”. God the Creator, a model of care. (…) Jesus’ life and ministry represent the supreme revelation of the Father’s love for humanity (cf. Jn 3:16). (…) At the culmination of his mission, Jesus gave the ultimate proof of his care for us by offering himself on the cross to set us free from the slavery of sin and death. By the sacrificial gift of his life, he opened for us the path of love. To each of us he says, “Follow me; go and do likewise” (cf. Lk 10:37). The spiritual and corporal works of mercy were at the heart of charity as practised by the early Church. The diakonia of the Church’s origins, enriched by the reflection of the Fathers and enlivened over the centuries by the active charity of many luminous witnesses to the faith, became the beating heart of the Church’s social doctrine. This doctrine is offered to all people of good will as a precious patrimony of principles, criteria and proposals that can serve as a “grammar” of care: commitment to promoting the dignity of each human person, solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, the pursuit of the common good and concern for protection of creation.

The culture of care thus calls for a common, supportive and inclusive commitment to protecting and promoting the dignity and good of all, a willingness to show care and compassion, to work for reconciliation and healing, and to advance mutual respect and acceptance. As such, it represents a privileged path to peace. “In many parts of the world, there is a need for paths of peace to heal open wounds. There is also a need for peacemakers, men and women prepared to work boldly and creatively to initiate processes of healing and renewed encounter”.

EXCERPTS FROM POPE’S MESSAGE FOR THE 54TH WORLD DAY OF PEACE
WEEKDAY CLOSURE Please note, that during the week from Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd January St Teresa’s Church will have to stay shut due to the necessary health and safety work in preparation for roof replacement. WEEKDAY MASSES AVAILABLE ONLINE, MASS ON WEEKENDS AS NORMAL and OPEN FOR PUBLIC (including Saturday Vigil Mass)

Please note, that the Masses and devotions will be still offered at normal times and available online, and the Church will be carefully cleaned and sanitised for the services with the congregation over the weekends. We are hoping to get back to normal from Monday 25th January.

CHURCH GUIDELINES

Until further notice the Church WILL REMAIN OPEN FOR MASSES ONLY. The Regulations do not allow any socialising and travelling unless for work or emergency reasons, or for communal worship events. The national T&T system is in place, or you can use our online system to tell us you are coming.

For MASS TIMES see next page.

• Please mind, that you must not attend with or socialise with anyone outside of your household or support bubble while you are there, unless a legal exemption applies.

• Face coverings should continue to be worn in churches. Please note, that those exempt from wearing a mask, must present a valid proof of exemption to be able to enter the church.

• Singing is still not permitted, but can be led by solo singers or a small singing group.

St Teresa’s church building has 78 allocated seats for households or individuals which gives max. 146 people capacity. St Ambrose, Wye has 20 zones available for households or individuals.

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE UPDATE EVERY TIME BEFORE COMING

CHURCH BUILDING PROGRAMME UPDATE

This week safety netting will be going up inside the main Church. We are waiting on the final design for the truss lighting for both the Church and Church hall. All of the Zinc roofing has arrived in the UK and we have taken initial delivery so the main church roof can be removed by demolition team. The zinc roof will start to be put on the Church Hall and you should see the new window lights shortly! The Spire is in good order and we shall test cleaning it. The Project is working inside budget! When the roof starts to be removed please wrap up warm. The noise levels will increase from traffic, but it will only be for a shorter time than planned as the contractor hopes to complete the roofing early - May/June

THANK YOU to our stewards who have taken names and directed parishioners to their seats, and then cleaned the church. Without their willing assistance our Church would remain shut.

MASS COLLECTIONS Thank you to all who pay their collection money by Standing Order and to the many people who have recently signed up or set up a standing order, as well as those who have made their donation any other way. It is through your thoughtfulness and generosity that we will stay afloat.

OFFERINGS & COLLECTIONS The tap & pay machines may be used for contactless payments. There are two boxes attached to the walls at the back of the church for offering envelopes and cash.

PLEASE SUPPORT US! We have launched Just Giving on our Parish website for our Roof Fund. If you are a taxpayer please Gift Aid as this will automatically increase the amount we receive: for every £1 you donate the Government adds 25p so if you give £100 it becomes £125. It is a simple process just requiring your name and address. You can then pay by bank transfer, Google pay, debit card, or Pay Pal. Thank you for supporting St Teresa’s Church in this important project.

EASY FUNDRAISING Did you know that whenever you buy anything online-from your weekly shop to your annual holiday-you could be raising free donations for St Teresa of Avila Church Roof Fund with easy fundraising. There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation-including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S-and it won’t cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. It is so easy - just click on the easy fundraising link on our parish website and follow the instructions. Every time you shop online go to easy fundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping. After you have checked out, the retailer will make a donation to St Teresa of Avila Church Ashford Roof Fund at no extra cost to you whatsoever. If you are buying gifts/presents from Amazon please use log in to EasyFundraising.org.uk and enter Amazon in the search for a retailer box. The St Teresa of Avila Ashford Roof Fund will then receive a donation of up to 1.5% of whatever you spend. Many Thanks.

BOOKING A MASS. Mass Intentions can be celebrated for deceased members of family or friends, thanksgiving, anniversaries, vocations, for the sick and any other particular need in the world. There is no fixed offering for Masses to be said. If you would like a Mass said please let the OFFICE know and now you can DONATE ONLINE. The office now offers contactless or electronic payments for Mass intentions and other transactions. Please pop in and see Louise if this is your preferred payment method. Please note that the contactless machine in the porch is purely for roof donations not for Booking Masses.

SUNDAY MISSAL We have a supply of New Sunday Missals in the Office (cost £18.99). If you would like to purchase one please see Louise in the Parish Office.
SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Tony Hayden RIP
2. Carmen & John Wedding Anniversary

5.30pm  **Vigil**  Adam Lenko greg.

SUNDAY 17TH JANUARY  **SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (B) PEACE SUNDAY**
8.00am  People of the Parish
9.15am  **Wye**  Fern Munt RIP
10.30am  **LIVE**  Adam Lenko greg.
12.00pm  **LIVE**  Mass in Polish: Sebastian Krezel RIP

MONDAY 18TH JANUARY
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Doreen Kunaka RIP
2. Adam Lenko greg.
3. Ruby Daley

7.00pm  **LIVE**  Prayers for the end of the pandemic (Rosary)

TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Adam Lenko greg
2. Catherine Bennett

WEDNESDAY 20TH JANUARY  **SAINT FABIAN**
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Adam Lenko greg.
2. For the soul of Teresita RIP
3. Maureen Farmer

7.00pm  **LIVE**  Prayers for the end of the pandemic (St Teresa’s Devotion)

THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY  **SAINT AGNES**
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Adam Lenko greg

FRIDAY 22ND JANUARY
10.00am  **LIVE**  1. Adam Lenko greg.
2. Thanksgiving for the graces received Almira

7.00pm  **LIVE**  Prayers for the end of the pandemic (Divine Mercy Chaplet)

SATURDAY 23RD JANUARY
10.00am  **LIVE**  Adam Lenko greg.
4.00pm  **Baptism**  Oscar John Nica
5.30pm  **Vigil**  People of the Parish

SUNDAY 24TH JANUARY  **THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (B) THE WORD OF GOD**
8.00am  Adam Lenko greg.
9.15am  **Wye**  Denis & Terry McCarthy RIP
10.30am  **LIVE**  Deceased Members of the Nicholl Family
12.00pm  **LIVE**  Mass in Polish: Private Intention

**Live-streamed services:** Monday - Saturday Masses at 10.00am will be live streamed NO attendance by Parishioners at the weekday Masses. Sunday 10.30am and 7.00pm devotions. Please, subscribe to our St Teresa’s Catholic Church, Ashford YouTube Channel.

**CONFESSIONS:** only on request

**UPDATE:** We are finally underway with our roof replacement and extension. GPF Lewis is the principal contractor and took over the site on the 9th November. The work is due to be completed with handover on 20th July 2021. We are compiling presentations and updates via the website and in the Church. We have contracted quiet working during the week between 10-11am to allow for private prayer and our regular masses when we return. You will see scaffolding being erected and securing that the church is watertight this will be up by Christmas. Thank you for all your support you have shown.
**ST TERESA of AVILA CHURCH & PRESBYTERY**

4 MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD TN24 8TX
WEB: www.st-teresas-ashford.org.uk EMAIL: ashford@rcaos.org.uk
TEL: 01233 624771

**ST AMBROSE CHURCH, ST AMBROSE GREEN, OXENTURN ROAD, WYE, ASHFORD TN25 5AG**

**SUNDAY READINGS**

17th January 2021: Second Sunday Ord. Time (B) Peace Sunday
1 Samuel 3:3-10,19; Psalm 39(40); 1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20; John 1: 35-42.

24th January 2021: Third Sunday Ord. Time (B)
Jonah 3: 1-5,10; Psalm 24 (25); 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

**LAST SUNDAY’S OFFERTORY: £ 1,164.49 (INCLUDING STANDING ORDERS)**

We are very grateful for all your support, especially throughout the time of pandemic

**ALL COUNTERS: ROTA SUSPENDED**

**THE OFFICE** will be closed this week and will re-open on Friday (22nd) from 9am-2.00pm

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**THE SICK**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE SICK:**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:**
Tony Hagan
NORA HOLLANDS Requiem Mass Friday 5th February at 10.00am
FRANK STYZZYK Funeral Service Wednesday 10th February at 11.00am followed by burial at Hinxhill Cemetery.

**ANTHONY HAYDEN** Funeral Service Friday 12th February at 12noon followed by burial at Bybrook

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**ST TERESA’S PRIMARY SCHOOL, QUANTOCK DRIVE** (01233) 622797 WEB: www.st-teresas.kent.sch.uk

**ST ANSELM’S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY** (01227) 826200 WEB: www.stanselmscanterbury.org.uk