



Last Saturday's Easter Fayre was a huge success, even with the chilly weather and a surprise flurry of snow! A heartfelt thank you to our fantastic SBA committee, all parents and staff who organised, ran stalls and supported the event. Your generosity raised nearly £2,500 – an amazing achievement that will benefit all our children.

We began Holy Week with a moving Stations of the Cross liturgy, beautifully led by St. Francis Class. Year 6 pupils posed reflective questions at each station helping us to consider the challenges Jesus faced and reminding us that God walks beside us in our own lives.



St. Simon Stock and St. Therese classes delivered a spectacular Passion Play to the whole school and over a hundred parents and grandparents. The children's confidence, talents and enthusiasm were clear for all to see. Thank you to everyone involved - our amazing children, the hard work and dedication of our teaching staff and the support of our parents for making this such a special and memorable moment.

Congratulations to all the children who received certificates during our 'Gifts from God' Celebration Assembly. It was wonderful to hear about the ways you are living out our School Values through your kindness, behaviour and learning.

Our week ended with a special Lenten craft and play session for pre-schoolers, led by some of our Pupil Chaplains. It was lovely to see so many young children, parents, grandparents and childminders join us for this event.

This Easter, Pope Leo encourages us to "walk in the light of love." Let us all be a living light by sharing joy with others.

We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Easter holiday. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 20th April.

Mrs McAlpine

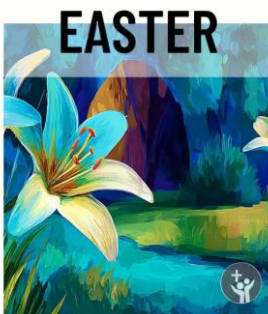
Family Lenten Prayer

Open our hearts to your word, O Lord, that we may be renewed
Open our hands to receive and to give, that we may be replenished
Open our minds to the silence of Your presence, that we may be refreshed – Amen



Sunday 5th April 2026

Easter Sunday



John 20: 1-9

"Holy Week is a time to give Jesus our hearts. On the cross He gave us all of His love!" St. Teresa of Calcutta

Prayer of the Month April

We pray for priests going through times of crisis in their vocation; may they receive the accompaniment they need, and may their communities support them with understanding and prayer.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 3rd April-17th April
Easter Break

Wednesday 22nd April
Year 2 and Year 3 Road Safety

Thursday 23rd April
Unwanted clothes collection
9.10am 'Sleep' Coffee/tea morning with
Educational Psychologist Team

Friday 24th April
Tag Day £1 donation
School Disco Years 1-6

Thursday 30th April
1st Swimming session for Year 5

Tuesday 5th May
1.30pm Crowning of Our Lady Mass

Tuesday 12th May
Year 5 Fort Amhurst Trip

Monday 11th May – Friday 15th May
KS2 SATS WEEK (school office closed mornings)

Wednesday 20th May
Year R Vision Screening

Thursday 21st May
Mini Youth Games -Tag Rugby Event

Friday 22nd May
Last day of Term

School Term Dates Holiday Booking

**Schools are not permitted to authorise holidays
in school time.**

Please see the term dates below to help you
plan your holiday.

Easter Break
Friday 3rd April to Friday 17th April

Late Spring Break
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Summer Term Ends
Tuesday 21st July

Future Inset Days
Monday 23rd February 2026
Monday 29th June 2026



St. Benedict's Catholic Primary



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Our school is committed to safeguarding all members of our community

We have a detailed Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and work hard to ensure that this is followed.

If you have a concern about a young person in school and believe that they may be suffering or are at risk of harm or abuse you should report it to the Designated Safeguarding Lead:

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL):

Sarah McAlpine (Headteacher)



DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DDSL):

Becky Howell



Assistant
Headteacher

Claire Read



Assistant
Headteacher

Jayne Stuart



SENDCO



SAFEGUARDING GOVERNOR:

Lisa Brett



**Worried about something you
have seen or heard?
Not sure what to do?**

Please come and talk to us.

Missio Boxes

Please collect up any loose change for the
Missio boxes. The filled boxes can be
returned to school after the Easter break.



Attendance Winners Last Week

1st Year 3 - 99.7%

2nd Year 6 - 98.8%

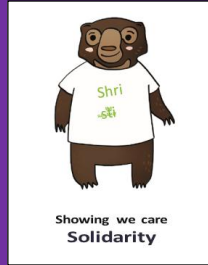
3rd Year 4 - 96.3%



Lenten Projects

Year R Lenten Project – Solidarity

Year 1 Lenten Project – Human Dignity



Promoting and nurturing an insect garden.

We collected items for the foodbank.

Year 2 Lenten Project – Distributive Justice

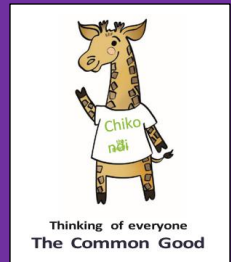


Year 3 Lenten Project – Stewardship



Litter picking: we want to look after and care for God's planet and be great Stewards of the Earth.

Year 4 Lenten Project- The Common Good



We designed and made Easter cards for our local neighbours.

Year 5 Lenten Project- Participation



'Penny Plant'

Year 6 Lenten Project- Solidarity



The Big Lent Walk

'Gifts from God' Assembly



Easter Fayre



Pre-School Play & Craft Session



Passion Play



Lunchtime Clubs



Science Club



Geography Club



Neighbour Complaints

We have received a number of complaints from neighbours about parents/carers parking over their dropped kerbs and blocking their driveways so they are unable to get their vehicles out. Please be considerate when parking your car.

- Do not block neighbours driveways
- Do not trespass on the neighbours gardens
- Do not block the pavements so people need to walk in the road to get past

If there are no spaces, please park further away and walk the extra distance.



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -
more funds for
your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

23 APRIL
THURSDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

MedwayGo

FREE ACTIVITIES DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

[Click here for information](#)

Catapults – Know the law

Catapults can be classed as offensive weapons.

If you **carry one in public** without a reasonable excuse, you could face up to **four years in prison**.



If you use it to **threaten** or **injure someone**, or **damage property**, the penalties could be even higher.

Is it worth it?

Remember – A criminal record can change your life.

- You may not be offered a college or university place.
- Getting a job will be more difficult.
- It can even prevent you from travelling to some countries.



Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact
In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999
If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our telephone service 18000.
Or text us on 999 if you're pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.
www.kent.police.uk

EASTER SPORTS CAMP

Tuesday 7th April - Friday 17th April 2026
08:30AM - 15:30PM
Year 1 - 7 (ages 5-12)
Fairview Community Primary School,
Drewery Drive,
Wigmore, Gillingham
ME8 0NU

ACTIVITIES :

- Dodgeball
- Football
- Structured Free Play
- Handball
- Strike & Field Games
- Tagging Games
- Basketball / Netball
- Mini Golf FRIDAY
- & Much more!

£25
Per Day

Discounts & support available

BOOK HERE!!

<https://idpe-sport.classforkids.io/camp/167>

jamiew@idpesport.co.uk
[@idpesportkent](https://www.instagram.com/idpesportkent)
[ID PE & Sport - Kent](https://www.facebook.com/IDPE&Sport-Kent)

MedwayGo

Free spaces available via MedwayGo.
*Eligibility required.

Monday 13th April
to
Thursday 16th April

09:00am - 15:00pm

BOOK HERE!!



<https://eequ.org/book/id-multi-sports-camp-at-fairview-gillingham-with-id-pe-and-sport-kent-25731>

EASTER SPORTS CAMP

Tuesday 7th April - Thursday 16th April 2026
08:30AM - 15:30PM
Year 1 - 7 (ages 5-12)
Maudene Primary School,
Swallows Rise,
Walderslade, Chatham
ME5 7QB

ACTIVITIES :

- Dodgeball
- Football
- Structured Free Play
- Handball
- Strike & Field Games
- Tagging Games
- Basketball / Netball
- Mini Golf FRIDAY
- & Much more!

£25
Per Day

Discounts & support available

BOOK HERE!!

<https://idpe-sport.classforkids.io/camp/168>

jamiew@idpesport.co.uk
[@idpesportkent](https://www.instagram.com/idpesportkent)
[ID PE & Sport - Kent](https://www.facebook.com/IDPE&Sport-Kent)

MedwayGo

Free spaces available via MedwayGo.
*Eligibility required.

Monday 13th April
to
Thursday 16th April

09:00am - 15:00pm

BOOK HERE!!



<https://eequ.org/book/id-multi-sports-camp-at-maudene-chatham-with-id-pe-and-sport-kent-25736>

UTILITA football festival

A FREE FUN-FOR-ALL FESTIVAL, INCLUSIVE OF A FIRST TEAM OPEN TRAINING SESSION, FOOTBALL AND NON-FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO ENJOY

THURSDAY 16TH APRIL
MEMS PRIESTFIELD STADIUM
11.15AM - 3PM

OPEN TRAINING SESSION
 PENALTY SHOOTOUT
 NERF GUNS
 FIRST TEAM SIGNING STATION
 EFL TROPHIES
 MEET TOMMY
 PANINI SWAP STATION
 FOOTBALL DARTS
 PRIZES TO BE WON
 AND MUCH MORE!



Parish News



St Simon Stock RC Church Walderslade

Blackwood Rd. Walderslade ME5 8NF

THE EASTER TRIDUUM 2026



HOLY MONDAY TO HOLY WEDNESDAY

Holy Mass is celebrated at 10am

Reconciliation Service
on Tuesday 31st March at 7pm
(Fr. Joseph, Denis, Bart, Pawel)

MAUNDY THURSDAY 2ND APRIL



8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY 3RD APRIL

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Stations of the Cross
for Children



3.00pm The Celebration of the
Passion of The Lord
7.45 pm Stations of the Cross -
led by Knights of St Columba

HOLY SATURDAY 4TH APRIL

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Legion of Mary
11.00am Easter Blessing
of the Food in Polish
2.00pm Anointing of the Sick with Oil of
Catechumen
8.00 pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY 5TH APRIL

Holy Masses will be celebrated at
9.00am Easter Mass
11.00am Easter Mass

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises
replaces the Creed.



Alleluia! Christ is Risen,
He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

The Collection at all the Masses is for
the priest of the parish. Thank you
very much for your generosity

Commentary:

The Mass of the Lord's supper
includes the Washing of Feet and is
followed by Watch before the Altar of
Repose until 11pm.

Good Friday is a day of obligatory
fasting and abstinence.

- Fasting (for those aged 18 to 59)
means eating one full meal and
smaller collations that do not
equate to a full meal, and
avoiding snacks.
- Abstinence also means not
eating meat, including soups
and gravies made from meat.
We should also abstain from
things like alcohol.

For the celebration of the passion
of our Lord:

The Liturgy of the Word includes
the Passion according to Saint
John. The Good Friday Collection
is the Papal Collection for Holy
Places of Palestine. The Places
connected with Our Lord's Passion
have always been centres of
veneration and pilgrimage. This
special collection is sent to their
upkeep, and to help maintain
Christian schooling in the area.

Holy Saturday

The Mass of the Vigil has four
parts:

- Blessing of the Fire and
Preparation of the Candle
- The Liturgy of the Word
- Baptismal liturgy
- The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Please fast if possible until the
Easter celebration. On this day, the
Church waits at the Lord's tomb in
prayer and fasting, reflecting on
Christ's Passion and Death and on
His descent into Hell, and awaiting
His Resurrection.



29th March 2026



Passion (Palm) Sunday A

Welcome everyone to the big week of our salvation. We have begun Holy Week and we now accompany Jesus in his last days. Today we witness him enter his Holy City humbly, and yet triumphantly for those with eyes to see. Today we carry our palms and we will keep them in our homes during the coming year. Many Catholics will place them behind the Crucifix which is hung in a place of honour in the home. Whenever we look at those palms we will recall Christ riding on his donkey making his entry into the city which would be the place where he would inaugurate the Kingdom of God and open the gates of heaven. This is brought home to us in a very concrete way in our celebration of the Eucharist where time past, present and future come together on our altar. Mass sheets will be available for each celebration (Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday) at the back of the church.

Also, I thought I would share with you some of the details of the upcoming Feast of St Simon Stock Weekend. We plan to make a parish pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory on Sunday the 10th May after 11am Mass. Those who do not plan to walk are invited to meet us at the Friars where we will pray together as a parish. There will be the normal 6pm Mass at the Church on the evening of the 16th of May. On Sunday, 17th May, I will combine the 9.00am & 11.00am Mass, to a joint Mass at 10.00am. This will give us the opportunity to commence the Celebration on the Church Field earlier than normal. The one Mass will also help to foster Parish togetherness. I would very much like the Sunday Mass especially the homily, to include contributions from individuals from within the congregation, who are able to speak about their St Simon Stock experience, memories, and what our Church means to them. This can be someone who has been attending the Church for a long or short time, it's the message that they convey which is important. Anyone who wishes to do this, speak with me or Deacon Martin for further details. There will be a BBQ, and the opportunity for everyone to bring food and drink, so please put the dates in your diary, further details will be supplied in due course. Fr Joseph

Fr Joseph Donkor, 5, Bleakwood Road, Walderslade, Kent. ME5 8NF. Email: josephdonkor@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Martin Smith: martinsmith@rcaos.org.uk
Please note: Parish Office is located in the new church extension
Tel: 01634 862910. Mob: 07305 831925. Website: www.stsimonwalderslade.co.uk
Email: walderslade@rcaos.org.uk Parish Secretary: Mrs Josie Ryder
Primary schools: St Benedict's Mrs. S. L. McAlpine 01634 669700
St Thomas More Mrs. P Le Breton 01634 864701