

**PRESBYTERY**  
37 Frindsbury Road,  
Strood, ME2 4JA  
01634717582

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Fr Thomas Lynch

**SYRO-MALABAR CHAPLAIN**  
Fr Shinoj Francis

**PARISH SECRETARY**  
Anna West  
strood@rcaos.org.uk

**PARISH DEACON**  
Rev. John Letley  
07958 677299

**PARISH SISTER**  
Sr. Augustine Day  
01474 569565

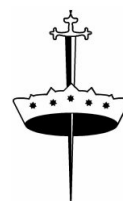
**SAFEGUARDING**  
Monica O'Brian  
stroodsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

**PARISH WEBSITE**  
www.englishmartyrsrccstrood.org



# ENGLISH MARTYRS' STROOD

FEBRUARY – MONTH DEDICATED  
TO THE HOLY FAMILY



## ✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE WEEK – 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

### SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

#### ✠ FIFTH SUNDAY

8.30 am Said Mass  
10.30 am Sung Mass

MISSAL PG. 796

*Dennis John Hills RIP*  
*Bogdan Mysiak RIP*

### MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup>

#### SAINT SCHOLASTICA

*No public Mass today*

### TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>

#### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

8:30am Exposition  
9.30am Mass

*Diane Trollope RIP*

### WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>

#### FERIA

8:30am Exposition  
9.30am Mass

*Sally Malone RIP*

### THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>

#### FERIA

12.00 noon Funeral Mass of Jadwiga Stawowska

### FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup>

#### SAINRS CYRIL, MONK AND METHODIUS

(FRIDAY ABSTINENCE)

8:30am Exposition  
9.30am Mass  
6.00 pm Holy Hour

*Jean Mabel Jarman RIP*

### SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

#### THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.30 am Latin Mass  
10.00am Exposition  
6.00 pm Vigil Mass

*Eileen Gallagher RIP*

*Arthur and Kathleen Pearl RIP*

### SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>

#### ✠ SIXTH SUNDAY

8.30 am Said Mass  
10.30 am Sung Mass

*Bernadette Foster*

*People of the Parish*

### DONATIONS

Nat West Bank  
Sort code: 60-21-02  
Account number: 55082904  
Account Name: RCAS Strood

*This parish is part of the RCAOS registered  
Charity Number 1173050*

*Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

### ENGLISH MARTYRS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headmistress Ms Catherine Thacker  
Frindsbury Road, Strood  
ME2 4JA  
01634 718964

*A member of Kent Catholic Schools Partnership*

### LAST WEEK

**ATTENDANCE**  
362

**COLLECTION**  
GIFT AID £316.37  
NON-GIFT AID £415.00

**TOTAL £731.37**

<b>Confessions</b>	Saturdays at 10.15 am – 10.45 am and 5 pm 5.30pm.
<b>Adoration</b>	Saturday 10 am -12 noon and 1hour before every weekday mass.
<b>Parish groups</b> (held in the John Fisher Room unless otherwise stated)	
<b>Monday</b>	Mothers Prayers (monthly) at 7pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Legion of Mary at 7 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Coffee Club after morning mass
<b>Thursday</b>	Padre Pio Prayer Group first Thursday at 7 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Mother and toddler's group at 9am (term time) Parish Hall Youth Club – first Friday of the month at 6.15 pm (term time)
<b>Saturday</b>	Knights of St Columba, first Saturday of the month at 7 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	Tea and Coffee first Sunday at 11.30 am in the Parish Hall

## Spiritual Thought

On Friday this week we celebrate in the church the feast of St. Cyril and St. Methodius. These were two monks who were sent from Rome to spread the gospel amongst the Slavs of Eastern Europe.

They were both born in Greece, but were sent to Great Moravia (a huge geographical area including parts of Poland, Hungary, Germany, Russia and Slovakia). For this mission they devised a new alphabet with which to translate the Gospels and the prayers of the church.

Their mission was very successful, they were ordained priest by Pope Adrian in Rome, where Cyril founded a Greek monastery, Methodius was sent back to his holy mission and was greeted with further success.

The alphabet they created became called "Cyrillic" after St. Cyril. Included in this alphabet were crosses, circles and triangles – the letters themselves spoke of Jesus, the eternity of God, and the Most Holy Trinity. This language is now called Old Church Slavonic, and is used to pray in the Eastern Liturgy of Russian and Ukraine.

Our words our heard by God, our words are used to describe God also – let us ask God, through the prayers of these great saints, to sanctify our mouth and language to speak well and to speak to Him.

### Masses this week

Please note, there **will not be Holy Mass in the church on Monday and Thursday morning**. There will however be Holy Mass **on Tuesday morning at 9:30am**.

### Marriage preparation courses

Marriage care is providing two **Marriage preparation courses** for couples who are getting married this year. The first course is **on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March** and the second is on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June**. Both courses will be held at **English Martyrs Catholic Primary School Hall**. Please contact **0800 389 3801** to book a place or further details.

### Pilgrimage to Lourdes

**Friday 11th July - Friday 18th July**- Flying from Southend airport to Lourdes, returning to Southend.

Prices to follow shortly.

Please contact **Rod on 01634 221881** for further details.

### Assisted Suicide

All parishioners are invited to a special talk on **Thursday 13th February at 7.30pm at St Michael's parish hall, Chatham**. The speaker is Dr. Cajetan Skowronski.

On **Monday 10th February** please pray and fast for the end of **abortion and euthanasia** in this country. For **information 020 7723 1740**. Please Invite others to join us on the day

<https://www.facebook.com/events/618329970650531>

## Notice from the Gallagher Family

The funeral Mass of **Mrs. Eileen Gallagher RIP** will be celebrated on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 11.30am at English Martyrs Church**. Mass will be followed by her burial at Strood Cemetery. There will be a Reception at the **Inn on the Lake, DA12 3HB**, to celebrate Eileen's life. **You are very welcome to attend any or all parts of the day.**

### Funeral services

The funeral Mass of **Jadwiga Stawowska** will be celebrated on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 12noon**, followed by burial at **1:30pm at Strood Cemetery**. Her vigil will begin at 4pm the night before.

The funeral Mass of **Eileen Gallagher** will be celebrated on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 11.30am**, followed by her burial at Strood Cemetery.

We sadly announce the death of **John Foster**, husband of Ann, who died at home suddenly in the early hours of **3<sup>rd</sup> February**. Please remember to pray for his soul, and the comfort of his family.

### Building a Better Marriage (BABM) – Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

To celebrate Jubilee 2025 one day **Building a Better Marriage events** will be held during 2025. The day starts at 9.30am and finishes at 4.30pm and is free to attend. To join please contact Carole on 07983 524 727 or email: [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk):

15 March - Our Lady Queen of Peace, East Sheen

12 April – St Mary Church, Croydon West

28 June – St Raphael Church, Kingston Upon Thames

5 July - St Thomas More, Dulwich

13 September – Southwark Cathedral, London

4 October – Holy Cross, Catford

1 November – St James the Great, Petts Wood

### A Day With Mary

A Day with Mary is taking place at **Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 1 March 2025 (9.45am to 5.00pm)**. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

### Marriage Week resources

Section - <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week/>

Bishop's Message

- <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-message-for-marriage-week>

Novena - <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/novena-for-marriage-week-2025>

Prayer - <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-prayer/>

2024 materials - <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>

**Our sick parishioners and friends:** Barbara Borthwick, John Paul Stoke, Betty Jones, Cathrin La Page, Lauren Allan, Tony Carroll, Sylvia Kemp, Billy Thomas, Marie Fassions, Samantha Candeggi-D'Alonzo, Joe-Joe Dockrell, Carol Masey, Eileen Wells, Jenson Lambeth, Neo Taylor, Kathy Mogg, Anna Gawlik, Joanna Tidmarsh, Shane McNeelan, Helen and Arthur Annal, Claire Baron, Rod Black, Michael New.

**Of your charity – please pray for those who have died recently:** William Avis, Bessie Avis, Murial Kinsella, Nuala Robinson, Brigit Collins, Victor Kirby, Margaret Boyle, : Roy Glower, John Jo O'Kane, Martha Fitzpatrick, Luis Caruana, Albert Streten, John Warne, Phyllis Dodgston, Daniel Murphy, Mary Calnon, Mary Ford, John Say, Margaret Yeo, Myra Davies, Edward Burke-Masters, Sally Malone, Joseph Holmes, Isabel Thomas, John McGill, Jean Jarman.