



NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
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St Thomas' Shop (462896): open Sunday mornings & weekdays (Times on Shop Door)

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton. **Assistant Priest:** Father Daniel Weatherley. **Parish Deacon:** Rev. David Avery.

Also assisting: Fr. George Marsden.

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: Mr Michael Walters (01227 826200);

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Miss Lisa D'Agostini (01227 462539)

University of Kent Chaplain: Fr Peter Geldard (Telephone/Facsimile: 01227 462198 : Mobile 07970 228762)

Office open: Monday-Thursday 9am - 3pm Friday 9am - 1pm
 for all enquiries, appointments, bookings & all parish business
 (Closed for lunch between 12.15 - 1pm)



TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) John Hamilton - RIP (Tina)
Sunday 13th August - Nineteenth Sunday (A)
 8am For the People of the Parish
 9.30am Megan Bridget Rembridge - RIP (Joyce)
 11am Holy Souls
and Baptism: Keandra Goulden
 6pm Michael Orth - welfare

Monday 14th August - St Maximilian Mary Kolbe Mt 17:22-27

7.30am Jacob Family - intentions (Biji)
 12 noon Margaret Henderson - RIP (Kitt)
 6pm (Vigil) Joe Leahy - intentions (Povey)
 7-9pm Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 15th August - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM Lk 1: 39-56

NO EARLY MORNING MASS
 9.30am Ann Silcock - birthday (Silcock-Stone)
 12 noon UCM - intentions
 8pm People of the Parish

Wednesday 16th August - St Stephen of Hungary Mt 18: 15-20

7.30am Fr Gabriel McGuire CSSR (Connolly)
 10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
 12 noon Private intention (Merle)
 7-8.30pm Eucharistic Adoration in Church
NO SVP meeting TONIGHT

Thursday 17th August - Feria Mt 18: 21-19:1

7.30am Margaret Cross - RIP (Mulrey)
 12 noon Sean Clancy - intentions
Scripture Group after Mass

Friday 18th August - Feria Mt 19: 3-12

12 noon John Paul Glynn - RIP (Murphy)
Eucharistic Adoration after Mass and Benediction 1.30pm
 7.30pm Andrew Walker - birthday (Ollie)
Eucharistic Adoration until 9pm

Saturday 19th August - St John Eudes Mt19: 13-15

10.30 - 11.20 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Binoy)
 12 noon Gozie Utibe Akah-Nzeh - RIP (Constance & family)
 4.30 - 5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
 6pm (Vigil) Martin Harris - welfare (King)

Sunday 20th August - Twentieth Sunday (A)

8am People of the Parish
 9.30am David Riley - RIP (Pegg)
 11am Patrick Heren - welfare
with Baptism: Naomi MacLeod and Anaya Gilham
 6pm Private intentions of Rumbi Chiutsu

From Fr Anthony ...

On Tuesday we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven. I remember being asked by a non Christian teacher where Mary is buried. I tried to explain to him the Church teaching on the Assumption. When the course of her earthly life had finished, Mary was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven. Her body is nowhere on earth. The Assumption is the completion of Mary's redemption. It is the logical fulfilment of her conception in holiness. She was perfectly redeemed on earth so there was nothing to prevent her from enjoying the glory of heaven as soon as she departed this life. If you are ever in Jerusalem go to the Dormition Church. From earliest times there has been a church built over the traditional place, near the site of the Last Supper, where the Our Lady died, and from where she was assumed into heaven. In the crypt of the present building, under a rotunda, is a simple bier on which rests a life-size statue of Mary, fallen asleep in death. The statue is made of cherry wood and ivory. In Orthodoxy and Catholicism, as in the language of scripture, death is often called a "sleeping" or "falling asleep", and this gave the original monastery its name, the church itself is called Basilica of the Assumption (or Dormition).

Why is the assumption an important doctrine of the church? For Catholics this feast is a Holy Day of Obligation. It celebrates the praise of God expressed fully in the life of Mary. God invites us to eternal life, to enjoy the glorious new creation of his Son in body, soul and spirit. Our final hope is the resurrection of our own bodies at the end of time to exist forever in the new order of creation. The solemnity of the Assumption is our great celebration of this final hope. "Mary is a pioneer for us in faith. She was the first among us to accept Jesus Christ into her life. In her bodily Assumption, she is also the first to fully enjoy eternal life at the side of her risen Son in the glory of heaven. Where she has gone, we hope to follow." We pray in the Opening Prayer of the feast. "Grant we pray, that, always, attentive to the things that are above, we may merit to share in her glory." In France it is still a public holiday and in many parts of the world there are processions of Our Lady on this day. Also it is traditional to bless herbs on the feast of the Assumption. It would be good to pray the glorious mysteries of the Rosary on this day.

"Mary has of course entered, once for all, into heavenly glory. But that does not mean she is distant or detached from us; rather Mary accompanies us, struggles with us, sustains Christians in the fight against the forces of evil." Pope Francis

PARISH MATTERS



Calling all parents who are wishing to have their children Baptised... our next preparation meeting will be on Friday, 15th September at 9.30am

Please call the office to make sure we have your name and also please fill in a Registration Form in advance (available on our website or at the back of church)

Thank you



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018

Dear Parents of children who are in Year 3 from September you can now register your child for the 2018 First Communion programme - forms need to be in by November 19th. Forms are at the back of the church.

First Reconciliation is on Saturday 17th March 2018.

First Communion day is Sunday May 13th.

First Parents meeting is on Monday 4th December.

The first children meeting is on Sunday 14th January at 9am !

CONFIRMATION 2018

Registration Forms (for young people in Year 9 and above from September this year) are now available at the back of church.

Please talk to Fr Daniel for further information



Journey in Faith (RCIA)

Any adult who wants to know more about becoming a Catholic, or an adult who has been baptised as a Catholic but has not yet made their First Communion or not been Confirmed, might like to join our journey in faith group from October.

There are forms at the back of the church or talk to Fr Anthony or Fr Daniel

New...! Anselm Study circle

A new group to discuss in depth theological issues based on articles published in scholarly journals like *Communio* or *Concilium*. The first meeting will be 2nd October 2017 - further details to follow or contact, via email, Prof Ghazwan Butrous: G.butrous@kent.ac.uk

ANNUAL DIOCESAN DAY FOR ALL CATECHISTS - You are invited to join other Catechists from the Diocese at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 23 September 2017 for workshops and Mass. If you are interested please see poster at the back of Church or speak to Fr Anthony or Fr Daniel.

100 CLUB WINNER!

Congratulations to the following £20 winners:
 July: Chris Richmond (No. 45) and Mark Bateson (No. 46)
 Aug: Nora King (No.55) and Hannelore Hall (No. 83)

SPONSORED WALK: Celia Welch recently successfully completed her sponsored walk in aid of Headway. If you sponsored her please leave any money owed in a clearly marked envelope at the Presbytery/Office.

PRAYER VIGIL - Helpers of God's Precious Infants at Maidstone 08 Sept 2017. See poster at back of Church for Details.

THE BIBLE WEEKEND...!

The Catholic Bible School is a charity that works with people of all ages to bring the words of the Bible off the page and into our lives through Parish Workshops

We are dynamic, interactive and innovative presenters who are passionate about God, the Bible, enabling people to encounter Jesus through the Scriptures and applying this in their everyday lives

Does this interest you? We could host a Bible Weekend here at St Thomas'. Please let Fr Anthony or Fr Daniel know

MARY'S MEALS DAY, LONDON - Sunday, September 10, London Irish Centre, Camden Square. Doors open at 1.30pm go to: RSVP.UK@marysmeals.org or: 0207 221 5745

LUTHER 500 Commemoration Talks at St Peter's Methodist Church Canterbury 27 Sept to 25 Oct. Please see poster at the back of Church for details

Reminder: Young Catholic Adult Weekend @ Douai Abbey 20th -22nd Oct 2017

For young people 18-40 - Young Catholic Adults are organizing a faith and knowledge deepening weekend at Douai Abbey (Berkshire) with Lawrence Lew O.P., and Canon Poucin ICKSP.

To book:- <https://v1.bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-douai2017>

For more details:- www.youngcatholicadults.co.uk/events.htm

Book soon as places are limited! Prices start from £18.50



There will be no coffee/refreshments after 9.30 mass during the month of August. See you again on Sunday 3rd September.

We are still looking for someone to join our preparation team, every couple of months. If you can help or need more information, please contact John and Marie-Claire Renn, 01227 768848 or jrenn2012@gmail.com

Thank you from CAFOD for the monies we have raised - we continue to support this organisation collecting through the box at the back of church and regular collections. CAFOD is extremely grateful for all we do to enable them to support our brothers and sisters across the world. To find out more about the difference your donation makes, please visit their website: cafod.org.uk

Please remember in your prayers: Gloria Soar, Suzy Drayson, Agnes Daly, Theresa Punnett, Lorna Feeney, Toni-Lee D'Amiral, Charles Ryan, David Tully, Winifred May, Margaret Holman, Mary Wallace, Marie Strong, Pat Gill, Katie Cobbett, Angeline Frizell, Mary Gillette, Christopher Browne, Ewa Szczepanska, Mary Jones, Erlinda Rogers, David Bull, Dara Borland, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Joan Willey, Mary Donellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Fr Peter Madden, Sr Margaret McGrath, Maurice Crosland, Joao Ferreira, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dietrich, June Carver, Betty Steward, Catherine Packer, Francis Brown, Patty Baxter, baby Ruan Shaker, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Roy Williams, David Riley, Patrick Simms, Fr Peter Ryman, Vivianne Brunet, Ronald Colbeck, John-Paul Glynn, Betty Steward and Jean Baillie (Monday Aug. 21st at midday - All Saints Church, Crowborough for a Service of Thanksgiving)

Offertory Collection weekend of 6th August was £896.34 loose and £647.60 Gift Aided - totalling £1543.94. Thank You for your generosity