



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) David Heap - RIP (*Heap*)

Sunday 3rd September - Twenty Second Sunday (A)

8am Joan Whilley

9.30am Ronald & Dorrien Wainwright - RIP (*Pittock*)

11am People of the Parish

6pm Maureen Pepper - RIP (*Pepper*)

Monday 4th September - St Cuthbert Lk 4: 16-30

7.30am Brendan Chima Ugwu - RIP

12 noon Winifred Saunders - RIP

7-9pm Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 5th September - Feria Lk 4: 31-37

7.30am Carla & Brett Pereira (*Pereira*)

12 noon John Edgington - RIP (*Edgington*)

Wednesday 6th September - Feria Lk 4: 38-44

7.30am Darren

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Colin Staveley - RIP

7-8.30pm Eucharistic Adoration in Church

SVP meeting TONIGHT

Thursday 7th September - Feria Lk 5: 1-11

7.30am Nora Barry - RIP

12 noon Frances & Michael-Joe Keavney - RIP

Scripture Group after Mass

7.45pm Prayer & Pub

Friday 8th September - Nativity of the BVM Mt 1: 1-16. 18-23

12 noon Deceased members of the Kirby family (*Buckenham*)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass and Benediction 1.30pm

7.30pm Thanksgiving (*Clark*)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass 'til 9pm

Saturday 9th September - Feria Lk 6: 1-5

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)

12 noon Ronald Colbeck - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

6pm (Vigil) Aurelie & Maciej (*Waclawski*)

Sunday 10th September - Twenty-third Sunday (A) Mt 18: 15-20

8am People of the Parish

9.30am UCM Members & their families

11am Liam Archer - RIP (*Clancy*)

4pm Polish Community Mass

6.30pm Fr Tom More (Capuchin) - RIP (*Wood*)

From Fr Anthony ...

This past week I have been with a group of parishioners and others in Lourdes, France, on Pilgrimage. To go on pilgrimage is to make a prayerful journey. This is not a holiday. There are no beaches or sitting beside the pool. Yet there were opportunities to have a coffee in a local café and buy souvenirs to bring back to family and friends.

The centre of Lourdes is the rock of Marsabielle where the unlettered fourteen year old girl, Bernadette, saw a young beautiful lady while she was collecting fire wood with her sister and friend. This was 11th February 1858. The vision asked Bernadette to come fourteen times. During this time, on the feast of the Annunciation 25th March 1858, this beautiful woman, when asked what was her name, said "Que soy era Immaculada Councepciou" (I am the Immaculate Conception.) This answer convinced the parish priest that Bernadette was telling the truth because she had no understanding of the words or their meaning. Lourdes is now the most popular place of pilgrimage after Rome and the Holy Land.

What is unique about Lourdes is that it is a place of healing. As Fr. Micheal Liston writes in his book, "Come and See", "Over the years the longing of the sick have been a constant presence in Lourdes. All come in hope of consolation, spiritual strength and peace. Many go away with a new sense of life". Since 1858, over seven thousand cures have been registered with the medical authorities in Lourdes. By 2008, sixty-seven of these have been recognised by the Church. In Lourdes the sick take pride of place in the ceremonies and processions. "When people go on pilgrimage they are taking some time apart from their ordinary, daily concerns. When people set out for Lourdes they do so in the hope of some spiritual renewal. The presence of the sick opens up deeper questions for everyone. Maybe some give more service, but others share their courage and their faith. The pilgrimage becomes a house living together as human beings" (Liston)

I have been to Lourdes countless times since I was in the sixth form. For me it has been a constant source of strength and an opportunity to deepen my own faith appreciating God's love for me.

I would like to thank Annie Judge who organised and led the group helped by Gilly Lewis. It was a great privilege for me to join this group of pilgrims and share their joys and sorrows.

HUGE thanks! from the SVP. Our collection last week raised a fantastic £678.19 which goes to help those in need locally.

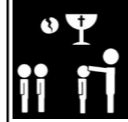
PARISH MATTERS



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.

TODAY... we have Sisters from St Elisabeth Convent in Belarus visiting and they will bring their stall of goods made to raise money for their endeavours to support their work with orphans, homeless and others in need

OUR PARISH DIRECTORY

our latest Parish Directory, highlighting all our societies and contact details is now available on our website or at the back of church. Please feel free to check our entries and let the office know if there are any omissions or errors. But, more importantly, come and support our Ministries!

There is much going on - probably more than you realise... get involved and add **your** energy to **our** community!

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

Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies - designed for people who are engaged in the communication of their Catholic faith, whether directly or indirectly. It is open to catechists, people involved in liturgical work and other interested adults. For further info, see poster at the back of church

Aylesford Day of Renewal, Saturday 9th September
Poster at the back of church for further details



STRIDE AND RIDE

Our Parish will again be participating in the 'Ride +Stride for Churches' on Saturday 9th September. Sponsorship forms are in the porch. Raise money for your parish by cycling or walking, visiting Kent churches and chapels in Canterbury and surrounding areas. You can plan your route with the list of participating churches on the porch notice board

Free Training at Catching Lives... open to anyone interested in finding out more about each topic and how it relates to homelessness - may be of particular use to those intending to volunteer at the Winter Night Shelter. Each course is free of charge, and you will receive a certificate on completion.

Venue: Catching Lives day-centre 13 Station Road East, Canterbury CT1 2RB. No parking on site.

INFORMATION AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

Celebration! at St George's Cathedral Saturday 4th November with **David Wells** keynote speaker
info at the back of church

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

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.

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, Angelina 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, Francis Brown, Patty Baxter, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Ronald Colbeck, John-Paul Glynn, Betty Steward, Jean Baillie, baby Ruan Shaker, Mary Franklin (funeral 12 noon, Wednesday, September 13th) and Catherine Packer (Kath) funeral 12 noon, Thursday, September 14th)

Offertory Collection weekend of 27th August was £1041.54 loose and £501.42 Gift Aided - totalling £1542.96. Thank You for your generosity