

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
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Email: stthomas.canterbury@talk21.com Web Site: www.stthomasofcanterbury.com

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) People of the Parish

Sunday 12th November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 25:1-13

8am Ndi Family (Ndi)

9:30am UCM Members & Families

11am Good Health

12:15pm Baptism of Harmony-Anne Lisa Mary Viscount

4pm Polish Community Mass

6pm Janina & Augustyn Rosteccy - RIP (Bozena)

Monday 13th November St Francis Xavier Cabrini Lk 17:1-6

7.30am Pamela Dodd - Birthday (Weatherley)

12 noon Intentions of Michael and Barbara Savigar (Phyllis Steel)

3pm Shop Meeting

7 - 9 pm Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 14th November Feria Lk 17:7-10

7.30am Philip Craven - RIP (Silcock-Stone)

12 noon Good Health

4pm Chaplains' meeting - St Anselm's

7.30pm RCIA Meeting

Wednesday 15th November Feria Lk 17:11-19

7.30am Jean, Louis and family (Ambrosine)

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Fr Brendan Fish CP - RIP (Murphy)

7 - 8.30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7 - 9pm Charismatic Prayer Group

Thursday 16th November Dedication of St John Lateran Lk 17:20-25

10.40 Funeral of Mary Jones at Barham

12 noon Elizabeth Tan - Birthday (Clark)

Scripture Group after Mass

5 - 6pm Confirmation

7.45pm Prayer and Pub

Friday 17th November St Leo the Great PD. Lk 17:26-37

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon For Ross Relatives and Friends (Ross)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass & Benediction 1.30pm

7.30pm Marian Hayes - RIP (A Mallion)

Music provided by Kent University musicians

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass 'til 9pm

Saturday 18th November St Martin of Tours Mt 14:22-33

9.30 am Meeting for Baptism Preparation

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)

12 noon Mary Fleming - RIP (Davis Family)

4.30 - 5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

6pm (Vigil) Rita Dempsey - RIP (Dempsey)

7.30 pm Barn Dance at St Anselm's

Sunday 19th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 25:14-30

8am Fr Robert Young - RIP (Silcock-Stone)

9:30am John Sullivan - RIP (Group 87)

11am People of the Parish

12.15 Baptism of Lewis de Clercq

6pm John Sullivan - RIP (E Graham)



2nd Collec-
tion: The
Archbishop's
Administra-
tion Fund



Finance /
Sign Up
Sunday

From Fr Anthony ...

Are you a wise or foolish virgin?
 Are you ready for the bridegroom to return?
 Are you prepared?
 Have you enough oil burning in your lamp?
 Fr Flor McCarthy in his meditation on this parable says the lamps that we should be carrying, the lamps lit, are the lamps of love.
 We need to keep this oil of love alight in our lives and not let it go out.
 Are we ready to meet God? Has our life been lived in a way that the coming of Jesus is no surprise to us? Rather it is a coming that we are looking forward to. I know a lot about procrastination, putting things off till the last minute. it is a fault I struggle with daily. St Paul writes in his second letter to the Corinthians: "Now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." We all need to grow into the people that God calls us to be. He gives us the grace to do this NOW. We need to submit to his way of love today. We all think we have plenty of time to grow closer to God or to welcome God's love into our lives. Perhaps we might say to ourselves, I can start next week, next month, next year, when I have more time on my hands, when I am not so worried or anxious or hassled. I will work at this when the children have grown up, when I retire. Remember NOW is the acceptable time to respond to Gods call to holiness. Gustavo Gutierrez, a well known Peruvian theologian, writes, "To those who have not made the gospel the norm of their lives or, perhaps more correctly, who only accept it formally, the Lord will say, "I do not know you" (v12). The meaning of the phrase is the rejection of those who pretend to be what they are not. Those who have not lived as authentic followers of Jesus are saying "Lord, Lord, open to us" (v11). Staying awake is nurturing our desire for God, which we express in prayer. Our prayer could be the words of the psalm for today (psalm 62). "O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting." "Daily acts of prayer keep the oil topped up and the lamp of faith alight. The prayerful soul is attentive to God's present but the foolish unbeliever misses the grace of the present moment." Silvester O'Flynn

PARISH MATTERS



Calling all parents who are wishing to have their children Baptised... our next preparation meeting will be on
Saturday, 18 November at 09h30

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.

Journey in Faith (RCIA) - ongoing
Next meeting Tuesday 14th November 2017
 in Presbytery at 7.30pm.

Many thanks for the wonderful welcome and hospitality I experienced over the weekend. It was a great experience and lovely to meet you all and of course your parishioners. I will remember your generosity and kindness for a long time to come. Blessings. Fr Jim Flemming (Columban Missions)

FROM FR ANTHONY, please note: **all** parents who wish priests of the parish to sign their child's supplementary form for St Anselm's school or Saint Thomas of Canterbury School, should make an appointment at the office to see the priest individually. Please do not ask the priest to sign these forms after Mass on Sunday. Thank you very much

Come and take part in the **CITYWIDE SONGS OF PRAISE SERVICE in Canterbury Cathedral on Sunday 19 November at 6.30pm** – a big celebration of our Christian faith. Regret no cameras. There will be a retiring offering for the Pilgrims Hospices. The Cathedral regret that because of building works it will not be possible to park in the Precincts.

SIGN UP SUNDAY - 18/19 NOVEMBER 2017

Your parish needs you...to get involved ... just for a while ... the more of us that do means we share the load and the joys... Please think about giving your time - even if it is just for an hour a month - to one of our many Ministries. You can do this in the Hall after your Mass on the weekend of 18/19 November 2017. Thank you

Anselm Study circle

The next meeting will be **6.30 pm on Wednesday, 13 December 2017** in the Upper Room after 6pm Mass. Articles to be discussed: *The primacy of the Pope & the unity of the People of God (J. Ratzinger)* *Difficulties confronting the Faith in Europe Today (Joseph Ratzinger)* *Divorce and Remarriage in the Early Church: Some Reflections on Historical Methodology (Henri Crouzel)*
 Contact, via email, Prof Ghazwan Butrous: G.butrous@kent.ac.uk

Thank you!

For Mass Cards and Generous Donations in Kath Packer's memory to Dementia UK and Pilgrims Hospice of over £300.

Dates for your Diary



Barn Dance (in aid of HCPT -Group 87)

Saturday, 18 November. 7.15 for 7.30pm
 at St Anselm's School, Old Dover Road.

Tickets: anniejudge@hotmail.com / tel. 07866 515797
 See Notice at the back of the church for more details.

November Lists: We remember family and friends who have died. Please write their names on the sheets at the back of Church to be brought up with the offertory.

Charismatic prayer and Bible study group - please note that we now meet on a Wednesday evening from 7 to 9pm in the upper room. All welcome.
 More information from Sophie (07780025906).

CCCU Cathsoc Talk

Thursday, 30th November 2017
Our Lady in the Liturgy by Fr Gerrard Hatton

L'Arche Christmas Puddings: Sales this year are helping to add a storey to the L'Arche house in Kolkata to accommodate needy orphan girls. Order forms at the back of the church.

Official Prayer to prepare for the World Meeting of Families 2018

God, our Father,
 We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son,
 One family, in the Spirit of your love.
 Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind,
 gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need.
 Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.
 Protect all families with your loving care,
 Especially those for whom we now pray:
 [We pause & remember family members and others by name].
 Increase our faith, Strengthen our hope,
 Keep us safe in your love,
 Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.

Amnesty International: Write for Rights 2017 greeting card signing on Saturday 25th November.
 See notice at the back of Church for more details

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, Francis Brown, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson, Rosa Maria Santos, Brian Henley.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Mary Fleming, Maria Rosaria Adorisio, John Sullivan, Gordon Andrews, Fr Gerry Coates, Edward Salmon and Mary Jones

Collections on the weekend of 29th October :
 Offertory: £932.53 loose & £619.20 Gift Aided - total £1551.73
 Second Collection: To the Columban Fathers of £851.60.
 Thank You for your generosity.