

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)



PARISH MATTERS

Journey in Faith (RCIA) - ongoing
 Next meeting Tuesday 21st November 2017
 in Presbytery at 7.30pm.

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

Day by Day Advent Booklets at 50p are available at the back of the church. Ideal size for pocket or handbag.

Parish Diary (pocket edition) available in the Shop. Free or give a donation, thank you.

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School Christmas Fair:

This will be held on 8th December from 3pm to 5pm. With your generosity our Summer Fair raised a fantastic £2310 and we once again ask you to support us. We run a popular Secret Santa room where the children can buy presents for their loved ones and ask for any unwanted gifts you can donate to the stall or other items for use as prizes in the raffle - bottle of wine or gift voucher from a business. Items can be left in the Church foyer or at school. If you are interested in running a stall at our fair, please contact ptfa@st-thomas-canterbury.kent.sch.uk

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School Open Day:

Monday 20th November from 09h00 to 10h30.
 Presentation by the Head teacher followed by a tour of the school.

JOB VACANCIES: St Thomas' Catholic Primary School

Caretaker

52 weeks per year; 40 hours per week
 Salary Range: £16,968-£17,826

Driver (mini-Bus/Bus)

38 weeks per year (term-time only); 12.5 hours per week
 Salary Range: £15,253-16,967 (FTE)

Bus Escort

38 weeks per year (term-time only); 12.5 hours per week
 Salary Range: £14,856-£15,252 (FTE)

The closing date for all three jobs is Friday 24th November at midday. Start date – January 2018. Application forms are available online on www.kent-teach.com. Contact Mr Devine on 01227-462539 for further information and tours of the school.

Scripture Group: Please note: our last meeting before Christmas is 14th December. We return on 11th January 2018 after midday Mass.

Anselm Study circle

The next meeting will be 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 13 December 2017 in the Upper Room. 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

Exchange Student: Paul Lesbre, a Catholic French Teenager (Yr 8) from Amiens, wants to improve his English by staying with an English family with teenagers. His English counterpart will stay with Paul's family to improve their French. If you are interested please contact Emmanuelle Lesbre via email elesbre@yahoo.com or tele. 0033322539733

Anointing of the Sick. This service will be held on Sunday, 10th December 2017 at 2.30pm. We encourage all to attend and ask that you help those who may not be able to attend Mass regularly to attend this service.. If you can volunteer as a driver to assist other to attend the service, please contact the Presbytery.

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.

There is NO TEA being served after the 9.30am Mass today, 19 November 2017 - Sign Up Sunday!

Quiz and Curry Night: A huge thank you to all who contributed in so many ways to the great success of the Quiz and Curry Night last weekend - the singers and dancers, cooks, quiz team and quiz master and Social Committee. It was a hugely enjoyable evening and we look forward to many more social events in the future. The proceeds of the evening will go towards both future events and contributing towards current parish projects.

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.

CCCU Cathsoc Talk: Thursday, 30th November 2017

Our Lady in the Liturgy by Fr Gerrard Hatton
 See poster at the back of church for more details

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

Monthly Conversations: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Faversham, Thursday, 23 November 2017. Marie Mann speaking on: Real or Imagination? Is there still a place for visions, prophecy and dreams in the personal life of faith and of the Church?
 See notice at the back of Church for more details.

The St Thomas 100 Club winners for November each receiving £20. Congratulations to Tony Loughran (no. 56) and Luke Mellor (no. 96)

We have received a letter saying a BIG THANK YOU for the generous donations made to Food Bank at the Harvest Festival.

Please remember in your prayers: Nick Grealy, 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 12 November 2017:
 Offertory: £820.50 loose & £581.05 Gift Aided - total £1401.55
 Second Collection: The Archbishop's Admin Fund of £302.66.
 Thank You for your generosity.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

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

Sunday 19th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mt 25:14-30

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

Finance /
 Sign Up
 Sunday

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)

Monday 20th November Feria Lk 18:35-43

7.30am Good Health (Anon)

12 noon Mary Jones - RIP (Nicholls)

7 - 9 pm Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 21st Nov. Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Lk 19:1-10

7.30am Souls of Deceased Family (Mila Oligo)

12 noon The Gill Family - RIP (Foundation Mass)

7.30pm RCIA Meeting

Wednesday 22nd November St Cecilia Lk 19:11-28

7.30am Nididi family

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)

12 noon Mary Fleming - RIP (Nolan)

7 - 8.30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 23rd November St Columban Lk 17:11-19

7.30 am Roy Cooper - RIP (J and A Cooper)

12 noon Mary and Joseph Salvatori - RIP (J&A Cooper)

5 - 6pm Confirmation

7.45pm Prayer and Pub - please arrive in time for 8pm Mass

Friday 24th Nov. Saints Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions.

Lk19:45-48

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon Eileen Dodds - RIP (Dodd)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass & Benediction 1.30pm

7.30pm Elizabeth Steward - RIP (J&A Cooper)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass 'til 9pm

Saturday 25th November Our Lady Lk 20:27-40

10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)

12 noon Patrick & Marie Davis & Patricia Smith - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

6pm (Vigil) Marion Hayes

Sunday 26th November Christ the King Mt 25:31-46

8am People of the Parish

9:30am Sandra Monger - intentions
 (Pamela Dodds)

2nd Collection:
 Catholic Youth Work

11am John Sullivan - RIP (R Rollings)

2.30 pm Syromalabar Rite

6pm Isidro Gramaje and Nemezia Gonzalo - RIP (M Oligo)

From Fr Anthony ...

To appear on Britain's Got Talent you need a have a modicum of talent, to sing, dance tell jokes or swallow swords. When Jesus tells the parable of the talents he uses the word to signify a unit of money and quite a considerable amount of money at that. In his parable the talents are given to the three men. Something of value is entrusted to them that they are encouraged to use in order to make money. This isn't a story to encourage us to invest our money or take risks so we can get more money. The crux of this story is the notion of giving away what we have been given. If we take a risk and give of ourselves then we grow and become fruitful.

Most people will admire others with obvious talents or gifts but I want to encourage you to think of yourself as blessed and gifted by God. You are of immense value. You all have something given to you that you can either share with others or bury in the ground. This weekend in the Parish we have Sign Up Sunday and I want you (not the person next to you) to think about all that you have been given by God, think of everything that makes you you and consider how you can share this, give this away. How can your giftedness be used to build up the kingdom of God and help our parish community grow and be effective in sharing the Good News of God's kingdom? The sharing of our life can be understood under the words TIME, TALENT and TREASURE. Do I waste my time, use it for myself alone or invest it, i.e. give it for the good of others and share it. Do I waste my giftedness, not use it or share it with others? Do I waste what little money I have? Do I use it selfishly or do I share it and put it to good use?

In thinking and reflecting on this gospel reading I recall Cardinal John Henry Newman's mediation:

God has created me to do him some definite service;

He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission - I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.

I am a link in the chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for nothing.

I shall do good. I shall do His work.

I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place while not intending it - if I do but keep His Commandments.

Therefore I will trust him.

Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away.

If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him;

in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him;

if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.

He does nothing in vain. He knows what he is about.

He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me - still He knows what He is about.