

# NEWSLETTER

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
 59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ  
 Telephone: 01227 462896  
 Facsimile: 01227 450377

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

Email: [stthomas.canterbury@talk21.com](mailto:stthomas.canterbury@talk21.com) Web Site: [www.stthomasofcanterbury.com](http://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. Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

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)



## PARISH MATTERS



To all parents who are wishing to have their children Baptised... our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 10 March 2018 at 9.30am**. Please call the office to make sure we have your name and please fill in a Registration Form in advance (available on website or from the Office). Thank you.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018:**  
 Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February at 9 am in the Hall  
**CONFIRMATION 2017 - 2018**

**Ongoing Formation:** Starts on Sunday, 4 March 2018 in the Upper Room from 3 - 4.30 pm

**RCIA (Journey in Faith) Next meeting:** Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery.



**Home wanted:** Bradley, an elegant, very loving, 9-year old black and white cat, is looking for a new home as his owner has been offered accommodation which doesn't accept animals. His owner will continue to pay his pet insurance. If you can help, please ring Gillian on 01227 451402.

**UPCOMING EVENTS: Further details on the Notice Board**

**DIVINE MERCY RETREATS:** 17<sup>th</sup> February and 24<sup>th</sup> February  
**An Audience with Ann Widdecombe:**

Saturday, 19 May from 7pm - 10 pm at St Thomas Church Hall, Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ. Admission: £15.00  
 Information: <https://kentmstc.org.uk/event/audience-ann-widdecombe/>

**Fellowship of St Thomas More:** *The Service of Commemoration of St. Thomas More* is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm at St. Dunstan's Church. The speaker is Dr. Joanne Paul. Refreshments in Church Hall after. All welcome.

**Praying into Scripture: A Practical Guide to Ignatian Pray and Imagination** with Rev. Susanne Carlsson on Thursday, 22 February & Thursday, 01 March 2018; 7 - 9pm at Malling Abbey.

**G K CHESTERTON:** There will be a rare performance of the GK Chesterton play, *The Surprise* in Oxford on the 16th and 17th of February. For details see; <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-surprise-a-play-by-gk-chesterton-tickets-42377322713>

**ANSELM STUDY CIRCLE.** Looking forward to meeting you once again with once again a lively discussion.

The next meeting will be in the upper room (above the sacristy) on Tuesday 20th. March from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Our subject is on the concept of Collegiality. For more information, please visit: <http://stthomasofcanterbury.com/anselm-study-circle%20collegiality/>

**Where Adventure Begins' – Riding Lights Theatre Company presents a show for all the family, all about family**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 7:30pm at St Mary Bredin**

Tickets cost £10 each and can be booked at: <https://www.new-wine.org/events/where-adventure-begins-faith-family-canterbury>

**40 Stories of Hope – Lent Course**

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland have partnered with Hope for a Lent course which is based on the book 40 Stories of Hope. There are weekly downloads for individual reflection and group discussion. The group studies provide the whole Church – inside and outside prison – with the opportunity to walk with Jesus through Lent, learning from Mark's Gospel and from the lessons prisoners, ex-prisoners and chaplains have learned. <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent/>

The Solitude Group meets at Greyfriars on the 3rd Saturday of the month, this Saturday, for a quiet morning of prayer; beginning with refreshments at 9.00am, followed by a short reflection, and then quiet time in the chapel or grounds to end at 11.45am. Please see notice at the back of the Church for details. Newcomers please phone Louise on 07962 256908 in advance regarding access to the site.

### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

2nd Collection:  
 Poor Parishes

6pm (Vigil) John Lynch - RIP (*M Price & Family*)

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time** Mk 1:40-45

8am Laura Sumsion - improved health (*Monica Spratley*)

9:30am Peter J Lee - in thanksgiving for life (*Mrs Riley*)

11am Hilary Handcock - RIP (*Lesley and Chris Smith*)

6pm People of the Parish

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February Feria** Mk 8:11-13

**NO EARLY MORNING MASS**

12 noon for Maureen & James Lawlor's intentions (*William*)

7 - 9 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb Feria** Mk 8:14-12

7.30am Good Health

12 noon for Mrs Devlin (*M Mannion*)

**SEASON OF LENT**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February ASH WEDNESDAY** Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

7.30am for deceased benefactors - Chapter of Canons

10.30 - 11.30 *Sacrament of Reconciliation* (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon Maureen Sullivan - RIP (*Katie Cobbett*)

8.00 pm for deceased members - Chapter of Canons

7 - 9 pm *Prayer Group Meeting in Link Lane*

7 - 8.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February Feria** Lk 9:22-25

7.30 am Canon William Halloran - RIP (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon Intentions of J Kobera and Carmen (*Kobera*)

*Scripture Group after Mass in the Upper Room*

7.45pm *Prayer and Pub*

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February Feria** Mt 9:14-15

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon Catherine Burke - RIP (*Margaret Berry*)

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass with Benediction at 1.30pm*

7.30 pm Canon Beausang - RIP (*Fr Anthony*)

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February Feria** Lk 5:27-32

10.30 - 11.30 *Sacrament of Reconciliation* (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon The Purbrick family (*Elizabeth Murphy*)

4.30 - 5.30pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation* (*Fr Anthony*)

6pm (Vigil) Vicki Montagu on her birthday (*Scott Family*)

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February First Sunday of Lent (B)** Mk 1:12-15

8am John Lynch - RIP (*J Wynde and family*)

9:30am Pat Ware - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)

11am Laurence Smith - RIP (*Lesley and Chris Smith*)

6pm People of the Parish

### From Fr Anthony ...

I have been at St Thomas three years as parish priest. And now with great help and encouragement we are finally setting up a Parish Pastoral Council. You might ask "Why have such a body? We seem to have got on well for some years now without one." Well it is through the parish pastoral council that the priests and people can work together in partnership to discern the Holy Spirit working among God's people and thus further the mission of Christ in Canterbury. Thirty years ago Pope Paul 11 said in his letter on the Laity "The lay faithful should accustom themselves to working in the parish in close union with their priests, bringing to the Church community their own and the world's problems as well as questions concerning human salvation, all of which need to be examined together and solved through general discussion. As far as possible the lay faithful ought to collaborate in every apostolic and missionary undertaking sponsored by their own ecclesial family". As we have stated in our constitution "To fulfil its role, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) needs to be a representative body in which the diversity of the parish community is reflected. It is a means whereby all parishioners can take part in discussions that relate to the parish, its mission and its future development." It is the priests and people together who develop a vision and make clear the direction we need to go as a Parish. A Canadian priest from Halifax, Nova Scotia, Father James Mallon has written a very popular book, "Divine Renovation. Bringing your parish from Maintenance to mission." He thinks that the parish Council should focus on the question of where we are going and how will we get there. The goal of the parish pastoral council is to stimulate the parish vision and purpose and develop a broad strategy. Have a look at the proposed terms of reference on the noticeboard at the back of the church and on our website. There is room on the Council for 8 members of the Parish. It is not everyone who will have the particular talents needed to serve on a PPC and you will see on the noticeboard and website the kind of gifts we think a PPC member should have. If you are interested in being considered for the Council or if you think someone would be good as a council member please complete an application form or get then to complete the form and hand it to the priests or in at the Presbytery by 4th March 2018. We are aiming to have as varied a representation as possible to reflect the diversity of our parish community. Your prayers and support are asked for this venture as we look to develop further the pastoral life of our parish. Thank you

### Farewell to Father Binoy

The Union of Catholic Mothers are hosting a farewell party on 11th February to celebrate Father Binoy's time with us. Join us after the 9:30am mass in the church hall for tea and cakes as we wish him all the best for the future.



### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

We are setting up a Pastoral Council. The council includes 8 (eight) members of the parish. Details of the proposed terms of reference and the gifts/talents of a PPC member are on the notice board at the back of the church and on the church website.

Please pray about what you can contribute and if you feel you have the time and talents to give to this important ministry, complete an application form from the back of the church.



### LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK

**ASH WEDNESDAY: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

There will be three masses at the following times: **7.30 am; 12 noon and 8.00 pm**

### SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend, 10/11 February will be for **Poor Parishes**. Please give generously as usual.



### Available in the Shop:

Lenten devotional booklets and Easter Cards

### Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne (Holy Island)

Young Adults (20s and 30s)

Dates: 4th - 8th April 2018

Two days of walking in the beautiful Northumberland Countryside along St Cuthbert's Way, followed by a day on the Island of Lindisfarne and a visit to Durham Cathedral. Opportunity to walk, pray and relax!

The pilgrimage is organised by the FCJ sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus. For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com)

### Please remember in your prayers:

*Nick Grealy, Mike Roser, 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, Erlinda Rogers, David Bull, Dara Borland, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Joan Willey, Mary Donellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Maurice Crosland, Joao Ferreira, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dittrich, June Carver, Francis Brown, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson, Rosa Maria Santos, Brian Henley, Lucy Purbrick, Keith Purbrick, Sean Maple, Josie Price, Mrs Cleary, Becky Judge, Angela Nichols, Barbara Markham and Maureen Sullivan.*

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Mary Jones, Helen Gordon, Fr John Leahy, Joan Calloway, Fr Peter Madden, Fr Tony Ford, Fr Roy Dunstan, Fr Kevin Pelham, Bishop Francis Walmsley, Molly Bennett, Pat Ware, William Horne, Harry Vaughan, Mary Organ and Lachlan MacDonald.**

### Collections for the weekends of 28 Jan and 04 Feb 2018:

*There was an error on the previous newsletter: 28 January*  
 Offertory: £1036.02 loose & £605.90 Gift Aided - total £1641.92  
 Second Collection: for Racial Justice Sunday raised £206.65  
**04 February:**  
 Offertory: £870.14 loose & 611.01 Gift Aided - total £1641.92  
 Second Collection: for St Vincent De Paul raised £472.00