

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
 59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ
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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. 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)

Office open: Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm
 for all enquiries, appointments, bookings and all parish business
 (Closed for lunch between 12.30 - 1.00pm)



PARISH MATTERS

Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting is **Saturday, 23rd June 2018 at 9.00am.**
 Places are limited so please call the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (on website or from Office).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018/2019:
 Dates to be advised later in the year
CONFIRMATION 2017-2018 Ongoing Formation:
 Sunday, 10 June, 3-4.30pm in the Upper Room
RCIA: Next programme starts September 2018

Dates for your Diary
 24th June Open-air Mass at St Anselm's School at 10h30am
 7th July Translation Mass in the Cathedral Quire at 8pm

Altar Servers Summer Break 7th - 10th August at Woldingham, Surrey. An excellent few days for servers aged 10-15 yrs to meet in a holiday atmosphere to take part in talks, discussion, prayer and sport. Contact Fr Stephen Boyle on 01322 220075, email: stanselm01@googlemail.com or www.stanselmsdartford.wordpress.com

Ministry of Bereaved: Interested in becoming part of the Bereavement Ministry in our Parish? A training day is being offered on Sunday, 16 June (9am - 5.30pm) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Herne Bay. Please contact the Parish Office or the Priests before Friday, 01st June if you are interested.

Bereavement Retreat to be held at Minster Abbey from 1st - 3rd June 2018. For further information see poster at the back of church, go to www.minsterabbeynuns.org or write to Minster Abbey, Church St., Minster, near Ramsgate, Kent. CT12 4HF or phone: 01843 821254

Annual Marriage Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Do you know a couple who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year! (10, 25, 40, 50 or 60 years) Please contact Linda in the office to give some details so that they can be invited to the Annual Marriage Mass at St George's Cathedral in early June.

PARISH MEETINGS:
 Wednesday, 30 May - Open Air Mass Planning -in Presbytery

Teacher of Beginner English. Michaela, a lady at L'Arche is looking for a someone to teach her. If you can help her, please contact her on popamicaela@yahoo.it or Mary Alexander at svpcant@gmail.com

Weekly Saturday Concerts: All are welcome to the Weekly Concerts in Hall - **Saturdays: 10.45 to 11.30am.** Come earlier to chat over a cup of tea. No charge but donations gratefully received towards expenses.

Please remember in your prayers:
 Nick Grealy, Gloria Soar, Suzy Drayson, Agnes Daly, Theresa Punnett, Lorna Feeney, Toni-Lee D'Amiral, David Tully, Winifred May, Margaret Holman, Mary Wallace, Marie Strong, Pat Gill, Katie Cobbett, Angeline Frizell, Mary Gillette, Christopher Browne, Erlinda Rogers, David Bull, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Joan Willey, Mary Donellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Maurice Crosland, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dittrich, June Carver, Keith Purbrick, Sean Maple, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson, Rosa Maria Santos, Lucy Purbrick, Josie Price, Mrs Cleary, Becky Judge, Dolores Klosky, Barbara Markham, A. Charles Ryan, Pat Gibson, James Hayes, Stephen Rogers, Raymond Allcorn and Phyllis Stirton

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:
 Maureen Sullivan, Lachlan MacDonald, Michael Linehan, Maria Duval, Thomas Hickey, Andrew Mannion, Agnelo Pereira, Elisa Brown, Patricia Thackray, Maurice Cutler, Michael Kelly, Richard Cribb, Brian Fitz-Gerald, Francis Brown, Joan Calloway, Owen Jordan, Monica Kenny, Ruby Cookman, Jacqueline Hill, Catherine Concannon, Joe Connor, Fr Michael Murphy, Peter Rosser, Franco Pizzigallo, Josephine MacDonald and Marcin Wesolowski.

Thank you! Collections for weekend 19/20 May 2018:
Offertory: £1008.96 loose & £706.05 Gift Aided- total £1715.01
2nd Collection: There was no second collection.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS	
6pm (Vigil)	People of the Parish
Sunday 27th May The Most Holy Trinity Mt 28:16-20	
8am	Welfare of Phyllis Stirton (Pat Gibson)
9:30 am	William Curley - RIP (Mrs Riley)
11am	Joan Calloway - RIP
12.15	Baptism of Dan Philmon
6pm	Sophie Man-Cheung (David Man-Cheung)
Monday 28th FERIA Mk 10:17-27 BANK HOLIDAY	
NO EARLY MASS	
12 noon	Roberta and Frank Johnson (Daphne Miles)
NO ADORATION	
Tuesday 29th FERIA Mk 10:28-31	
7.30am	Barbara Wood - RIP (Riley)
12 noon	Brenda and Peter Gunn - RIP (Fr Anthony)
Wednesday 30th May FERIA Mk 10:32-35	
7.30am	Mr Natarajan - in thanksgiving (Mrs Natarajan)
10.30-11.30	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)
12 noon	Escolastica and Antonio Peligro - RIP
7 - 8.30 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30pm	Open Air Mass Meeting in the Presbytery
7 - 9 pm	Charismatic Prayer group in Link Lane Rooms
Thursday 31st Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lk 1:39-56	
7.30am	For Bishop Paul Mason (Episcopal Ordination)
12 noon	Peter Rosser - RIP (Fr Daniel)
7.45	Prayer and Pub
Friday 1st June St Justin, Martyr Mk 11:11-26	
7.30 am	Morning Prayer
12 noon	In Thanksgiving (Clark Family) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction
7.30 pm	Peter Rosser - RIP (Fr Daniel)
8 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 2nd June Sts Marcellinus & Peter Mk 11:27-33	
10.45am	Saturday Concert in the Hall (Tea from 10.15)
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)
12 noon	Holy Souls
1.30 pm	Farewell Mass for Fr Peter Geldard
4.30 - 5.30 pm	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
6pm (Vigil)	Linda, Mike and James - welfare
Sunday 3rd June The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Mt 28:16-20	
8am	People of the Parish
9:30 am	Intentions of the UCM Members and their families
11am	Carolyn Closs - RIP (Pat Gibson) Baptism of John Hyner during Mass
12.15	Baptism of Emmanuella and Florence Anani
3.00	Filipino Community Mass
6pm	Francis & Michael-Joe Keavney (Mary & Geraldine)

2nd Collection: St John's Seminary

From Fr Anthony ...

Jesus said to his disciples "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."

The first words of his command are very important: "Go, make disciples." This activity comes before the baptism. It is a bit of a cliché to say that we need to start from where people are so that they reach the stage when they say, "I want to be baptised." We are asked to make contact with others and walk with them to the point where they want and ask to be baptised. Pope Francis in his letter, "The Joy of the Gospel", talks about "the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and blunted conscience" that people experience. It is important that we come to know and understand all those who have yet to hear and experience the Good News. We need to learn to evangelise by doing good works of love. We will have to respond to and help those who are seeking.

Soon after Jorge Bergoglio became Pope he said in an interview with the Jesuit, Antonio Spadaro, "The thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful: it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds."

By calling the church a "field hospital," Pope Francis calls us to radically rethink church. He is challenging all of us to give priority to the wounded. This means placing the needs of others before our own. The "field hospital church" is the antithesis of the "self-referential church." Cardinal Blasé Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago in his comments on the Pope's words says: "When the church becomes a field hospital, it can radically change the way we view our community life. Instead of being defined as a group of people that live in the same neighbourhood, have a common ethnic heritage or social status, regularly go to Mass or are the registered parishioners, we understand ourselves as those who take up the work of healing by sharing in the sufferings of others."

I am at the moment reading a book by Nick Wagner entitled "Field Hospital Catechesis" and he says if we believe what the pope is telling us about the necessity of healing wounds and offering God's mercy, then the content of our evangelisation becomes very important. We have to have a sense of proportion. We have to give more emphasis to what Jesus had to say about mercy, love and justice. We would not spend the bulk of our time talking about sin and judgement. We would spend lot of time talking about grace and less time talking about the law. We would focus more on the person of Jesus Christ than on the institution of the church. What do you think?

Invitation to New Parishioners: Have you joined our parish community recently? You are cordially invited to join us after 6pm Mass on Saturday, 09 June 2018 in the Hall for light snacks and refreshments. If you can attend, please let Linda in the office know for catering purposes. Thank you

Canterbury Deanery - Exploring the Eucharist.
 A talk by Canon John O'Toole- National Ecumenical Officer -CBCEW, entitled **Eucharist - One Bread, One Cup (Meal, Memorial, Sacrifice, Presence)** to be held at St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall on Saturday, 30th June 2018 from 11am to 2pm. Details on poster in the Porch.

HELPER for Lourdes Pilgrimage (24th - 31st August) We are seeking a strong male helper to assist pilgrims requiring personal assistance including wheelchair help. Can you help? Contact Annie Judge (01227 700553 or anniejudge@hotmail.com)

Anselm Study Circle
 (Discussions based on articles published in scholarly theological journals)
 Next meeting: **Wednesday 13 June at 6:00 pm** in **St Thomas' Church Hall.** The topic: "New English translation of the Mass, its theological background" is led by Dr Phillip Eichorn (Phillip.Eichorn@pfizer.com). Details and Reading list at: <http://stthomasofcanterbury.com/category/anselm-study-circle/> **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

Charismatic Prayer & Scripture Group continues to meet every Wednesdays from 7pm to 9 pm in the Link Lane rooms.

AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION: **The Eucharistic Miracles of the World.** This is taking place in May at St. Anselm's Dartford, DA1 2HJ. One can enter the Church during the day to pray and see the exhibition. There are also events during the month to promote devotion and love of the Eucharist. For more details contact Fr. Stephen Boyle (01322220075), email: stanselm01@googlemail.com or see the websites: www.stanselmsdartford.wordpress.com or <http://www.miracolieuucaristici.org/>

GK Chesterton: 144th birthday on 29th May. Please say this prayer: *God Our Father, Thou didst fill the life of Thy servant Gilbert Keith Chesterton with a sense of wonder and joy, and gave him a faith which was the foundation of his ceaseless work, a charity towards all men, particularly his opponents, and a hope which sprang from his lifelong gratitude for the gift of human life. May his innocence and his laughter, his constancy in fighting for the Christian faith in a world losing belief, his lifelong devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and his love for all men, especially for the poor, bring cheerfulness to those in despair, conviction and warmth to lukewarm believers and the knowledge of God to those without faith. We beg Thee to grant the favours we ask through his intercession, the end of abortion in this Country [and especially for.....] so that his holiness may be recognized by all and the Church may proclaim him Blessed. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.* **More info at: www.Catholicgkchestertonsociety.co.uk**

SECOND COLLECTION
This weekend - 26/27 May is for SVP
Next weekend - 02/03 June in support of St John's Seminary.