

# NEWSLETTER


**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
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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)

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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 

**Fundraiser in Memory of Ruan Shaker:** Tea and Cakes at Herringbone Kitchen (01227 638066) on 16 June, from 10am to 5pm. Affiliated with the Grace Kelly Trust, Ruan's fund provides support for those with rare children's cancer.


 **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, **30<sup>th</sup> June 2018** from 11am to 2pm. Details on poster in the Porch.

 Remember to check the notice boards and website for more information not able to fit in the newsletter.

**17th Divine Mercy Conference** (Marian Fathers )on Saturday, 16 June 2018. Details on poster and pamphlets in the Porch.

**The Southwark Brethren** is a long standing charity which helps sick and retire Priests who are in need. We thank you for your continuous generosity in the past and ask for your help again this year. Please send donations to: Reverend Paul Hough, St Elpheges Presbytery, 120 Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 9AY. Last year we were able to give £1650 each to 46 Priests in the Diocese of Southwark and Arundel and Brighton, and also help 3 working Priests who had serious sickness, to help their situation. In addition, we have a Gift Aid Scheme for those who pay tax and we thank the lay people who have joined by applying for a Gift Aid form.

**YOU ARE INVITED to a Catholic Tour of London!**  
 Get your walking shoes on because we're going on a fascinating walking tour of London with renowned Catholic Historian, EWTN presenter and journalist Joanna Bogle. There is no cost to the day (unless you wish to join us for the optional dinner) but donations toward the tour will be collected. The optional dinner together that evening will require your RSVP with [youngvincentians@svp.org.uk](mailto:youngvincentians@svp.org.uk). Otherwise, see you at the meeting point: Westminster Cathedral at 13:45 for a 14:00 departure on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Bring some snacks with you in case you get hungry en-route too!

 **Monthly Conversations May 2018.**  
 A talk by Monsignor Keith Newton, entitled **The Personal Ordinatee - Furthering Ecumenism or not?** to be held at Our Lady of Carmel, Faversham on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm to 9.00pm. More details on the poster in the Porch

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
**This weekend, 9/10 June** - Catholic Trust for England & Wales.  
**Next weekend - 16/17 June** - Day for Life. Providing core funding for the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life related activities.


**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

 **PARISH MEETINGS:**  
**Monday, 11 June - Open Air Mass Planning -in Presbytery**

**2018 OPEN AIR MASS**  
 We are looking for parishioners who are willing to spend time in the outdoors, preparing for and/or participating in the Open Air Mass on Sunday, 24 July 2018. We are looking for willing and able volunteers to help with activities ranging from transportation of items from the church to the school (and back), erecting gazebos to vehicle marshalling and many others. Please complete the volunteer lists at the back of Church.


*Volunteers Needed*

All parish musicians and singers are invited to the rehearsal for the outdoor mass at St Anselm's school. The practise will be at 7:30pm in the church hall on Friday, 22nd June. For music in advance please email: [philip@gascoynes.org](mailto:philip@gascoynes.org)

 **Altar Servers Summer Meeting:** Saturday, 16 June at 2.30pm in Church, followed by an Outing. Please collect an attendance/permission form from Fr Daniel after Mass or from the office and return to the office before 14 June.

**Anselm Study Circle:** Next meeting: **Wednesday 13 June at 6:00 pm** in **St Thomas' Church Hall**. See notice board for more details.

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

 **Weekly Saturday Concerts:** All are welcome to the Concerts in Hall - **Saturdays: 10.45 to 11.30am**.(commencing with tea a little earlier)

**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, Mary Donellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Maurice Crosland, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dittrich, June Carver, Keith Purbrick, Sean Maple, 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, Phyllis Stirton, Mary Connolly and Monica Mochon

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of:**  
 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, Joan Willey, Raymond Allcorn, Sr Anne Channing, Frank Johnson and Wolfgang Dittrich.

**Thank you! Collections for weekend 02/03 June 2018:**  
**Offertory:** £850.88 loose & £765.10 Gift Aided- total £1645.98  
**2nd Collection:** For St John's Seminary raised £409.48.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS	
6pm (Vigil)	For the intentions of all new parishioners <i>Parish Social in the Hall after Mass</i>
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Mt 28:16-20	
8 am	Booth family exams ( <i>Anne Booth</i> )
9:30 am	William Curley - RIP (Mrs Riley)
11am	People of the Parish
4.00 pm	Polish Community Mass
6 pm	Welfare of Phil Cawse & Family
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June St Barnabas, Apostle</b> Mt 5:1-12	
7.30 am	Lawrence ( <i>A Nichols</i> )
12 noon	Raymond Allcorn - RIP ( <i>Kevin &amp; Carol Cotton</i> )
7-9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30pm	Open Air Mass Meeting in the Presbytery
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June Feria</b> Mt 5:13-16	
NO EARLY MASS	
12 noon	In Thanksgiving ( <i>Nora King</i> )
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June St Anthony of Padua</b> Mt 5:17-19	
NO EARLY MASS	
10am	Funeral Service of <i>Guisto Offredi</i> at Barham
10.30-11.30	Sacrament of Reconciliation ( <i>Fr Daniel</i> )
12 noon	Chris Mouat - RIP ( <i>Fr Anthony</i> )
7 - 8.30 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7 - 9 pm	Charismatic Prayer group ( <i>Link Lane Rooms</i> )
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June Feria</b> Mt 5:20-26	
NO EARLY MASS	
12 noon	Peggy Mallon - RIP ( <i>Jean Povey</i> )
7.45	Prayer and Pub
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June Feria</b> Mt 5:27-32	
7.30 am	Morning Prayer
12 noon	Gay O'Sullivan - RIP ( <i>Tony</i> ) <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Benediction</i>
NO EVENING MASS	
8 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June Feria</b> Mt 5:33-37	
10.45am	Saturday Concert in the Hall (Tea from 10.15)
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation ( <i>Fr DANIEL</i> )
12 noon	Davis Family ( <i>Jean Povey</i> )
2.30 - 4.30pm	Altar Servers Summer Meeting
4.30 - 5.30 pm	Reconciliation ( <i>Fr Joe Feeley</i> )
6pm (Vigil)	John Stratford ( <i>Stratford Family</i> )
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Mk 4:26-34	
8 am	Thanksgiving (V. Anthony & Family)
9:30 am	William Curley - RIP (Mrs Riley)
11am	People of the Parish
2.00pm	Wedding of <i>Ancella and Jack</i>
6 pm	Mr L Armstrong - RIP ( <i>L Armstrong</i> )

2nd Collection:  
 Catholic Trust  
 of England and  
 Wales

2nd Collection:  
 Day for Life

### From Fr Anthony ...

An experience I will always treasure is flying over the Sahara desert on my way to Ghana. It is an enormous expense of desert. In daylight, looking down from 30.000 feet, it seemed that it was riddled with dry river beds that spread its tentacles far and wide. At night, on my return journey, in the deep darkness of that empty space there would be isolated hamlets full of light. Inhospitable terrain yet inhabited. Living in the garden of England (Kent) most of us have never experienced a true desert; a dry, inhospitable, arid land that seems hostile to any form of life. But it was the Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert after he was baptised by John in the River Jordan. There he faced temptation and loneliness but also came to understand his mission given to him by his Father.

I am part of a fraternity of priests called "Jesus Caritas" that draw our inspiration from the life and writings of Charles de Foucauld, a French priest who, latterly spent much of life in the Algerian desert at Tamanrasset living among the nomadic Tuareg tribe learning and documenting their language and praying before the blessed sacrament in his hermitage. He was shot dead on 1st December 1916. As members of Jesus Caritas we are encouraged to do a day in the desert once a month, when we prepare our "review of life" where we talk about the events in our lives and share our cares, our hopes and disappointments. It means laying our lives out openly before each other to discover where the Lord is calling us. An Italian Carlo Carretto who was a member of the Little brothers of Jesus, an order inspired by the spirituality of Charles de Foucauld, wrote about the desert in his best-selling book "Letters from the Desert". He said that the desert expresses the search for God in silence. We need to find the desert place in our busy lives. The Russians call this place "Poustinia." A quiet place where we go to find God in silence and prayer. When we cannot go to a physical desert place to find silence and to listen to God, the desert place must come to us. Carlo Carretto talked about the desert in the city. "Make yourself a little Poustinia in your house, in your garden, in your attic. Do not disassociate the concept of desert from the place wherein men and women live their lives. Try both in your thoughts and in your lives to put this glorious phrase into practice: "the desert in the heart of the city". In our busy, noisy, fraught, digital lives we need moments or periods of quiet where we can hear to still small voice of God.