

# NEWSLETTER

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
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 St Thomas' Shop (462896): open Sunday mornings & weekdays (Times on Shop Door)

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton. Assistant Priest: Fr Sylvester Adeniyi Parish Deacon: Rev. David Avery  
 Also assisting: Fr. George Marsden. Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Executive 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 will be on **Saturday, 13 October 2018** at 9.00 am in the Presbytery. Places are limited so please call the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from Office).



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019:** Will be held at 9.30 and 11 am Mass on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019  
**CONFIRMATION:** 2019 Confirmation Mass takes place on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 11 am  
**Journey in Faith:** Programme starts 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery



**Faversham Monthly Conversation:** The next *Conversation*, led by Fr. Marcus Holden, is on **Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> September**, entitled *Is the Catholic Church a force for good in the world*. More details on Poster in the Narthex.

**WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE:** Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. Details on notice in Narthex.

**Dates for your Diary**  
 Barn Dance. HCPT Group 87. Sat 10<sup>th</sup> November at St Anselm's School.

**Eucharist: Parish Mission and Ministries:** presented by Canon Luke Smith. This is the next of, and final, in our Deanery series of reflections on the Eucharist. It will be at St. Teresa's, Ashford on **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> October** from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm. See Poster in Narthex for details.

**Apostleship of the Sea Mass** in honour of our patron Stella Maris, Our Lady Star of the Sea. Come pray for the work of Apostleship of the Sea and for seafarers on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 at 1230pm in St George's Cathedral, London

On Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Sister Rose (FMSL) will be joining several sisters from her congregation to do a sponsored walk (10 kms) along the beach from Worthing. "Go the Distance" is to raise awareness (and funds) for projects in aid of the Worthing Churches homeless projects. Online donations can be made at link: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/rosearden-close2> or for those who prefer, Sr Rose has an official sign up sheet - please see Sr Helina or Sr Rose after Mass to pledge a donation. More information, call 01227 471 293 or 07977642957

**Young persons' Talent Show, 6th October**  
 A "just for fun" talent show for under 18s will be held in the church hall from **2 - 5pm on 6th October**. This will not be judged, so get polishing your showpiece, whatever it is, for performing among friends. Refreshments will be provided. Application forms are available in the Narthex.

**ANSELM STUDY CIRCLE** next meeting is at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in the Parish Hall. Our discussion topic: **Saint Augustine and the experience of God** (by Father Jaime Garcia Alvarez OSA), is led by **Matteo Casati**. Reading lists are on the parish website: <https://goo.gl/8viJLH> ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOMED TO ATTEND! Details from: Prof Ghazwan Butrous: [G.butrous@kent.ac.uk](mailto:G.butrous@kent.ac.uk)

**DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR?** an enjoyable and inspiring ecumenical programme is starting at the **Carmelite Friary**, Aylesford early in October 2018. Details from Marie at email [tpsdlaylesford@gmail.com](mailto:tpsdlaylesford@gmail.com), or visit [www.spiritualdirectionaylesford.co.uk](http://www.spiritualdirectionaylesford.co.uk) or see poster in Narthex

**Donations towards new Hymn Books:**  
 If you wish to donate to this project, please contact Linda in the office. We are currently preparing the new books.



**SECOND COLLECTION**  
 This weekend- 15/16 September - Home Mission Sunday  
 Next weekend- 22/23 September - No second collection

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO EVENING ADORATION ON MONDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER 2018

**Home Mission Sunday**  
 The Home Mission Office exists to help the Church throughout England and Wales to share the joy of the Gospel. It can seem daunting to share such a personal part of our lives as our faith in Jesus Christ. However, we can pray that the people we carry in our hearts will encounter him for themselves. Please consider contributing to today's second collection. The money received from this collection ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced and is able to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith. It is possible to donate online at: <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Donate>

**HARVEST DAY FESTIVAL** Our parish will be holding a small festival to celebrate Harvest Time on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September in the church hall after the 9:30 am Mass. We are asking for any donations of the following:  
 1. Tinned food (in Date) either before or on the day of Harvest these will be donated to the charity "Catching Lives" that works with rough sleepers.  
 2. Any fresh produce to decorate the sanctuary area in front of the Altar.- can these be donated Friday 28<sup>th</sup> before the harvest please.  
 3. Finger foods to share with other parishioners in the hall.  
 There will be paper mache pumpkin making for the children (which they can keep) as well as face painting and some games to entertain the younger children.  
 If you are able to assist or bring any food for the harvest could you please get in contact.  
 Thank you for your support.

**SVP:** Please note starting this Tuesday, 18 September 2018, committee meetings will take place on a Tuesday morning from 10.30 am in the Upper Room.

**USE OF THE PARISH FACILITIES:** Please would ALL GROUPS who wish to make use of either the Church, Hall or Upper Room during 2019 contact Linda in the office.

**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, 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, Sean Maple, Kathleen Hutchinson, Rosa Maria Santos, Lucy Purbrick, Josie Price, Mrs Cleary, Dolores Klosky, Barbara Markham, A. Charles Ryan, Pat Gibson, James Hayes, Stephen Rogers, Phyllis Stirton, Lisa Hood, Mary Connolly, Darcey Campbell and Michael Goggin

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of:**  
 John Spillett, Katie Cobbett and Deacon David Pease, Bernhard Hilder-Brando, Maurice Penfold, Jean Munier, George Emmanuel Gomez, Joao Ferreira, Fr John Mulligan, Fiona Tucker and Keith Purbrick

**Thank you! Collections for weekend 15/16 Sept 2018:**  
 Offertory: £995.80 loose & £505.95 Gift Aided- Total £1501.75  
 2nd Collection: for Catholic Education raised £364.25

### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Elizabeth Family - Wellbeing (Martina)  
**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September Twenty Fourth Sunday Mk 8: 27-35**  
 8 am Foundation Mass - Lucy Richards - RIP  
 9:30 am Raymond Allcorn - RIP (Lilford Family)  
 11 am People of the Parish  
 6 pm Katie Cobbett - RIP  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September Feria Lk 7:1-10**  
 7.30 am Eileen Hobbs - RIP (Margaret)  
 12 noon Mrs Northmore's intentions (Pam Dodds)  
 THERE IS NO ADORATION THIS EVENING  
**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September Feria Lk 7:11-17**  
 NO EARLY MASS  
 12 noon Thanksgiving Of Ghiuzan Family (Carolina)  
**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September St Theodore of Canterbury**  
 Lk 7:31-35  
 7.30am Eva Weis Bentzon - RIP (Helen Nattrass)  
 10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)  
 12 noon Private Intentions  
 7-8.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
 7 - 9 pm Charismatic Prayer Group (Link Lane Rooms)  
**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September St Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Companions**  
 Lk 7:36-50  
 7.30 am Good Health  
 12 noon Sean Clancy's intentions  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September St Matthew, Apostle Mt 9:9-33**  
 7.30 am Morning Prayer  
 12 noon Frances & Michael-Joe Keavney - RIP (Mary & Geraldine)  
 7.30 pm Mr and Mrs Cullen (Webb)  
 8 - 9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September Feria Lk 8:4-15**  
 10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)  
 12 noon Miranda Challiner  
 2pm Baptism of Frankie Paul Stuart  
 4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)  
 6pm (Vigil) Katie Cobbett - RIP (Mary Reynolds)  
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September Twenty Fifth Sunday Mk 9: 30-37**  
 DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST  
 8 am People of the Parish  
 9:30 am Fr Peter Madden - RIP (Pamela Dodds)  
 11 am Claire Vertigan (Pat Moore)  
 2.30 pm Syro Malabar Community Mass  
 6 pm Sean Clancy's intentions

2nd Collection:  
 Home Missions

### From Fr Anthony ...

This Sunday is Home Mission Sunday when we consider how we can be missionary at home, in our own family, town and country. As individuals and as a parish we are called to proclaim the Gospel Message to other people through word and action. This is central to our identity as Catholics. If we do not share the gospel then the Church will die. The word that we use to describe this is "Evangelisation". As few years ago, Fr Paul Cannon and Sharon Beech published a book: "Welcome to Witness. Becoming an evangelising parish". In their introduction they write, "Our parishes must be places where the sharing of the gospel message is our main priority. This should be automatic! We must have open, family friendly and welcoming parishes...Those who have fallen away from the regular practise of their faith, or those who are not yet members of the Church, are the very people we are meant to reach out to." If we create an environment of joy and welcome in our families and parishes this is often conducive to our young people considering the priesthood and religious life. Our children and young people are more comfortable owning and living their faith. Five years ago, Pope Francis issued his Apostolic exhortation *Evanagelii Gaudium - The Joy of the Gospel*. He challenged us, as a church, to look outwards and not be caught up in the desire for self-preservation. He talked about a missionary option: "I dream of a "missionary option", that is a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation."(EG.27) As Cannon and Beech remind us, "We need to seek ways to bring God into the reality of people's often messy lives in a way that is warm, human passionate and Christ-like." In the Gospel today Jesus asks his disciples "Who do people say I am?" To begin our transformation into being a missionary disciple we need to try to answer that question for ourselves. Imagine Jesus asking you personally. "Who do you say I am?" What would your answer be? You could look up the Catechism of the Catholic Church and give a theological correct answer. It might be better to ask ourselves the question in this way; "For me, who is Jesus?" What difference does knowing Jesus make to my life?