

NEWSLETTER

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



Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk Web Site: www.stthomasofcanterbury.com
 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)

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 12th May 2019
CONFIRMATION: 2019 Confirmation Mass takes place on 16th June 2019 at 11 am
Journey in Faith: Programme starts 25th September 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery



GLOBAL HEALING - how our faith helps us to care for our common home

An excellent new film produced by CaFE (Catholic faith exploration film company), sponsored by the Bishops. I would very much like to organise a free and inspiring evening of film, food & friendship responding together to Pope Francis' call to care for creation and to pass on a healthy planet to our children's children. I can't do this on my own and am looking for help to organise an evening for the parish. If you are willing to help please contact me. Thank you. Fr Anthony

HARVEST DAY FESTIVAL: 30th September 2018

Our parish will be holding a small festival to celebrate Harvest Time on Sunday 30th September in the church hall after the 9:30 am Mass. We are asking for 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. Please can these be donated Friday 28th 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. Please see Poster in Narthex for more information. Thank you for your support.

100 Club: Our September £20 winners are: Michael Pocock (81) and Mary Francis (87) Well done!

Dates for your Diary

Barn Dance. HCPT Group 87. Sat 10th November at St Anselm's School.

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, John Wilkens and Keith Purbrick

Thank you! Collections for weekend 15/16 Sept 2018:
Offertory: £993.59 loose & £528.01 Gift Aided- Total **£1521.60**
2nd Collection: for Home Missions raised **£307.75**

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Katie Cobbett - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)
Sunday 23rd 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*) **2nd Collection: SVP**
 2.30 pm Syro Malabar Community Mass
 6 pm Sean Clancy's intentions
Monday 24th September Our Lady of Walsingham Lk 8:16-18
 7.30 am Francis Brown - RIP
 12 noon Thanksgiving - Our Lady of Walsingham (*Cherry*)
 7-9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday 25th September Feria Lk 8:19-21
 7.30 am Donor's Intentions
 12 noon Barbara Cole - RIP (*Cherry*)
 6 pm Mass with Students
 7.30 pm RCIA - introduction and First Session
Wednesday 26th September Sts Cosmos & Damian Lk 9:1-6
 7.30am Terence Marsh - RIP (*Alison Jordan-Hargreaves*)
 10.30 - 11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
 12 noon John and Stasia Callaghan - RIP (*Callaghan*)
 7-8.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting
 7 - 9 pm Charismatic Prayer Group (Link Lane Rooms)
Thursday 27th September St Vincent de Paul Lk 9:7-9
 7.30 am Eileen Hobbs - RIP (*Margaret*)
 12 noon Requiem Mass of the late John Wilkins
Friday 28th September Feria Lk 9:18-22
 7.30 am Morning Prayer
 12 noon Sidney Harlow (*Joyce Harlow*)
 7.30 pm Raymond O'Donohue - RIP (*Kathleen Sheridan*)
 8 - 9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 29th September Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael - Archangels Jn 1:47-51
 10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
 12 noon Raymond Allcorn - RIP (*Mrs Riley*)
 4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
 6pm (Vigil) In Thanksgiving (*Martina*)
Sunday 30th September Twenty Sixth Sunday Mk9:38-43,45,47-48
 8 am People of the Parish
 9:30 am Canon Bernard Hegarty - RIP (*Pamela Dodds*)
 11 am Peter Murphy - RIP (*Mary & Cyril Scott*)
 Student Mass
 12.15 Baptism of Jessica Sutherland
 6 pm Joao Ferreira - RIP

From Fr Anthony ...

Attitudes have changed since the time of Christ to children. In first century Palestine society a child would symbolise not so much innocence, as a lack of social status and legal rights. In other words, a child was seen as a non-person, totally dependent on others for nurture and protection. You were not expected to gain anything socially or materially from showing kindness to a child. So when Jesus took the child and embraced him he was correcting and instructing his disciples who were arguing about who was the greatest. Jesus, by putting the child in the middle of these men was saying that this child, who is a social nonentity, is worthy of respect and care. Jesus is clearly saying that even the most apparently insignificant people are important because they too carry the name of Jesus and belong to him.

Jesus is challenging us today by showing us what true greatness is. He is calling us to humble service of others. We need to find Him and the Father in the most insignificant people. What the world considers the important and significant people we need to listen to, and take note of, are not necessarily worthy of our attention and time.

This is not, for me, an easy lesson to hear. Jesus has a message that says, "triumph comes through suffering and humility" Jesus talks about his coming passion and death but the disciples are not listening. It is not what they want to hear. This was the powerful message given to us by the life and work of Sister Teresa of Calcutta. She said: "The dying, the cripple, the mental, the unwanted, the unloved - they are Jesus in disguise." She also said: "Only in heaven will we see how much we owe to the poor for helping us to love God better because of them." Forget about being famous for fifteen minutes. Forget about trying to win the admiration and adulation of others. This is what Mother Teresa suggests should be our way of life. "When you know how much God is in love with you then you can only live your life radiating that love."

The Guild of Our Lady & St Joseph warmly welcome you to a lecture - **Humanae Vitae 50 years on: A Jubilee Perspective**, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Humanae Vitae*. Our speaker, **Edmund Adamus**, is an internationally recognised speaker on marriage and family, promoting authentic human sexuality in light of the catechesis of St. John Paul II on the Theology of the Body. (<https://edmundadamus.wordpress.com>) Currently, he works as Professional Advisor to the Episcopal Vicar for Education in the Diocese of Portsmouth. To be held on **1 October, 2018 at St Patrick's Church, Soho Square, London W1D 4NR**. Doors open at **6:45 pm**; the lecture begins at **7:00pm**. Q&A and refreshments will follow. Admission: **£5** at the door. Please register at: guildofourladyandstjoseph@gmail.com

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, 13th October** from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm. See Poster in Narthex for details.

On Sept 30th 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.

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

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.

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, or visit 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- 22/23 September - SVP - Gift aid envelopes at the back of church
Next weekend- 29/30 September - No second collection