

# NEWSLETTER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

Telephone: 01227 462896 Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk Web Site: www.stthomasofcanterbury.com

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton. email: anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Sylvester Adeniyi Parish Deacon: Rev. David Avery email: davidavery@rcaos.org.uk

Also assisting: Fr. George Marsden. Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

University of Kent Chaplaincy: Fr Tom Herbst (01843 230 774) email: tjherbst@gmail.com

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Principal: Mr J Rowarth (01227 826200);

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Miss Lisa D'Agostini (01227 462539)

St Thomas' Shop (01227 462896): open Sunday mornings & weekdays (Times on Shop Door)

Office open: Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm for 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, 08 December 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:** Parents meeting on **10 December 2018 at 7.30pm**

**CONFIRMATION:** Sessions start Sunday, 16 January 2019 from 4.30pm - in the Hall  
Parents meeting on 04 December at 7.30 pm in the Hall  
**Journey in Faith:** Tuesdays at 7.30 pm in Presbytery



## NOVEMBER PRAYER LISTS FOR HOLY SOULS

Prayer Lists for Holy Souls are available in the Narthex. Please leave your completed list in the box and the Priest will place them on the Altar during Masses during November.

The Union of Catholic Mothers are having a cake sale on the 18th of November in the church hall after the 9:30am mass all are welcome.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** 9th December 10:30 -1:30 in the Hall. Thank you for the donations received so far! We are appealing for help to run stalls on the day of the fair, as much time as you can spare, if you are able to help please get in touch with Sherene on 07805490217.

## Clearing the Cobwebs for Christmas. - Church Clean-up.

We are still looking for volunteers to help prepare the church for Christmas. Cleaning sessions on Saturday, 8th and 15th December from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. All welcome to join us for Mass at 12 noon (or just the clean up at 1pm) If you can participate, please contact Linda on 01227 462896.

## OUR PARISH 100 CLUB

Application forms in the Narthex at the back of the church. Completed forms and cheques or cash to be left at the Parish Office please. Thank you for all your support.

**HAPPY TO BE A CATHOLIC CLUB:** Please note that the meeting for 24th November has been cancelled. The meeting on 8th December will be a special celebration for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Everyone is welcome to join the group for discussion and refreshments.

**Hall Stage Clearing.** In order to comply with Health and Safety requirements, we are in the process of clearing the hall stage. If you have any items stored on or under the stage, please contact Linda in the office before Monday, 26 November. After this date, all unidentified items in the Hall will be removed and disposed of. Thank you

## Please remember in your prayers:

Gloria Soar, Suzy Drayson, Agnes Daly, Theresa Punnett, Lorna Feeney, Toni-Lee D'Amiral, David Tully, Winifred May, 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, Barbara Markham, A. Charles Ryan, Pat Gibson, James Hayes, Stephen Rogers, Phyllis Stirton, Lisa Hood, Mary Connolly, Darcey Campbell and Gemma Mackey.

## Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Spillet, 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, Frances MacDonald, Keith Purbrick, Mark Ventress, Dermot Egan, John Butler, Nick Grealy, Michael Chukwuelue and Dr Michael Goggin

**Thank you! Collections for weekend 10/11 November 2018:**  
**Offertory:** £1045.11 loose & £647.06 Gift Aided -Total **£1594.61**  
**2nd Collection:** Archbishop's Administration Fund - **£283.44**

## TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Rita Dempsey - RIP (*Dempsey Family*)  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November Thirty-Third Sunday** Mk 13: 24-32  
8 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Mrs Strien and family  
11 am John Butler - RIP (*Chris and Lesley Smith*)  
12.15 *Baptism of Matthew Capek*  
6 pm for Martina Clark's intentions  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November Feria** Lk 18: 35-43  
7.30 am for Joan Blows' intentions  
12 noon Rebecca Ward and family (*Mrs Strien*)  
7-9pm *Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November Feria** Lk 19:1-10  
7.30 am Ivy Anne Kilcoyne - RIP (*J Kilcoyne*)  
12 noon Bridie, Sidney & Gladys - RIP (*Pat Gill*)  
7.30 pm *Journey in the Faith (RCIA) in the Presbytery*  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Lk 19: 11-28  
7.30 am for children, grandchildren and sons-in-law of Elizabeth  
10.30 - 11.30 *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)*  
12 noon John Aitken Gray - RIP (*Myrna Gray*)  
7- 8.30pm *Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November St Cecilia** Lk 17: 11-19  
**NO EARLY MORNING MASS**  
12 noon Foundation Mass - Deceased members of the Gill Family  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November St Clement** Lk 19: 45-48  
7.30 am Morning Prayer  
12 noon John Butler - rip (*Wendy Cameron*)  
*Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
7.30 pm for Charlie & Elizabeth Lee and family  
8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November Sts Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions**  
Lk 20:27-40  
10.30 - 11.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)*  
12 noon June Eileen Dodds - RIP (*Pam*)  
4.30 - 5.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*  
6pm (Vigil) Francis Brown - RIP  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** Jn 18:33b-37 *Youth Day*  
8 am Doherty Family (*Elizabeth Lee*)  
9:30 am Welfare of Julian Riley and family (*Tita Riley*)  
*100 Club Draw after Mass in the Hall*  
11 am People of the Parish  
2.30 pm *Syro Malabar Community Mass*  
6 pm for the donor's intentions

2nd Collection: Catholic Youth Work

## From Fr Anthony ...

The Christmas lights were switched on this last Friday in Canterbury. Preparations for Christmas are now upon us and we have 35 days before the beginning of the Christmas season. But we are getting ahead of ourselves. This Sunday and next Sunday in the Liturgy we consider the end of time and readings from the apocalyptic book of Daniel before we begin the new liturgical year. It is only after reflecting on the end times that we begin our new liturgical year and celebrate the four weeks of Advent. As we consider the end times or the second coming of Christ, the question for us now is not at what hour or day will Jesus come but am I ready to meet Jesus? So for now it is a good time to consider our own mortality. We need to appreciate the precious gift of our limited time on earth. We pass through times of growth, and maturity and then we decline. We are on our way to be at one with the loving Father. The Canadian priest, Ronald Rolheiser in his column in the Catholic Herald last week wrote that our death is meant to be met and respected as a normal human experience and not as a medical failure. "Death and its inevitability in our lives are to be understood as a growth point, a necessary maturation, something to which we are organically and spiritually destined and not an aberration or unnatural intrusion into the life cycle." So how are we preparing for our death? You will find lots of practical advice on making a will, having a funeral plan and the like, but I am not talking about this aspect. We come to the inevitability of our death by being ready, by being awake. It is essential for us to live in the present moment and see each day as a gift from God. The way we prepare is to live life with great thankfulness and joy. Perhaps as we wake each morning we could pray these words from Psalm 15. *Preserve me God, I take refuge in you. My happiness lies in you alone. You are my portion and cup, you yourself are my prize. I keep you ever in my sight, even at night you direct my heart. With you at my right hand, I shall stand firm. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad. For you will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever.*

**HOPE - Christians Together in Canterbury** are organising a talent contest for young musicians and performers. Please see the poster in the Narthex for details.

**SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS:** *St Thomas' Primary School*, Military Road, Canterbury are hosting an Open Morning on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018. starting at 9.15am. The school playground will be open for parking.

ADVENT and CHRISTMAS items including Advent Calendars and Cards are now available in the **Church Shop** - please come in, browse and buy.

## My Day by Day - Advent 2018

These booklets are available in the Narthex of the Church. Priced at £1.00 each

**LATE NIGHT SHOPPING:** The Cathedral Quarter shopping district is having late night opening on **Friday, 30 November 2018** where many of the shops will be opening until 8.00pm. Our Church Shop will be open until 8.00pm with Christmas and Advent goodies on sale.

**100 Club Winners:** Congratulations to Eileen Browning (no. 13) and Gill Lewis (no. 68) who are our November 2018 £20 draw winners!

**Parish Magazine – A Closer Look** – compiled and edited by Father Daniel Weatherley. We thank Fr Daniel and Alex John for their hard work in finalising publication of the magazine, available at the back of church. Donations gratefully received.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:** Wednesday evening meetings have been suspended until further notice.

HCPT GROUP 87: A great big thank you to all those who came and enjoyed the fun evening at the Barn Dance. We raised £443.00 - Annie Judge

**SVP:** are looking for one or two sets of bunk beds for a family in need. If you can help please contact the SVP on 07902 855622.

**"The Way of Silence"** - A short course in silent prayer. **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November** from 10 to 11 am in Saint Thomas' Church "Upper Room". All welcome. Led by John Renn.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

**This weekend- 17/18 November** - No second collection  
**Next weekend- 24/25 November** - Catholic Youth Work - we support youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service (SCYS)