

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

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: Executive Principal **Mr M Walters**; Academy 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 **Saturday, 19th January 2019, 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).

The following meeting is on **Saturday, 16th February 2019 at 9.00 am**



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019: Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule
CONFIRMATION 2019: Sessions in the Hall every Sunday at 4.00pm
JOURNEY IN FAITH: Session at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery as per published schedule



The **Funeral Mass** of the late **Celia Welch**, will take place here in St Thomas's on **Thursday, 24th January 2019 at 12 noon**. The family have requested that donations be made to: **Headway East Kent and The Stroke Association**.

The Octave of prayer for Christian Unity begins on Friday 18th January and finishes on the feast of the Conversion of St Paul Friday 25th January. Please do pray everyday for real and deep unity among the Churches. I am only aware of one event happening in Canterbury and that is the Service at Canterbury Cathedral on 23 January 2019 at 7.30pm The theme this year is "Justice and only justice you shall pursue. (Deuteronomy 16:18-20). We will of course be celebrating a Votive Mass for Christian Unity during this week. *Fr Anthony*

Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

A wonderful opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Thursday, 21st November till Thursday, 28th November 2019 led by Canon Anthony Charlton.

The Pilgrimage includes visits to all the major religious sites: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, Sea of Galilee. Staying at Hotels in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Tiberias. Flight from London Heathrow. Accommodation 2 nights in Tiberias, 2 nights in Bethlehem and 3 nights in Jerusalem. On this basis, package price including flights would be: £1369.00 (based on 2 sharing). All rooms have ensuite facilities. Price includes half board accommodation (2 lunches included) entrance fees, portage and tips for drivers and courier. Full service of English speaking guide. Handsets and bottle of water supplied daily. Forms and information from Fr Anthony or the Office.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY - Unity Service on Wednesday, 23 January 2019 at 7.30pm at Canterbury Cathedral. See poster in the Narthex for details.

PARISH MEETINGS:

Monday, 14 Jan 2019 : Parish Finance Team Meeting

Quiz Night in aid of MAP (Medical Aid for Palestinians): Saturday 19th January at 7:35 pm in St. Thomas's church hall. Cost £8 per person. Please bring own drinks and snacks. For further details phone or text Simon on 07849834859 after 6 pm please

Week of prayer for Christian Unity: 18 to 25 January 2019. Cathedral Service Wednesday 23rd January at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

The Solitude Group meets at Greyfriars on the 3rd Saturday of the month, this Saturday. See notice in Narthex for details. Newcomers please phone Louise on 07962 256908 in advance re access.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This weekend- 12/13 January - no 2nd collection this weekend
Next weekend- 19/20 January - no 2nd collection this weekend

100 Club 2019: Thank you to those who have joined the club. We have almost made up the numbers to 100!

New Year's Resolution?

Why not check out the charity "Mary's Meals" at www.marysmeals.org.uk "Our vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things."

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET. One Saturday each month at 3pm in the Church as follows:
2nd February 2019, 2nd March 2019, 6th April 2019, 4th May 2019, 1st June 2019 and 6th July 2019.

The UCM are holding a **cake sale** on the 13th (today) in the church hall after 9:30am Mass, to raise funds for future projects. All welcome!

Good Counsel Network: On Saturday 12th January, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Prayer and fasting is urgently needed, - it really does save lives. This is the day before the 22nd anniversary of the founding of Good Counsel Network. For details of our live saving work: www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

"Come and See" Weekend - Have you wondered if you may be called to a life of prayer? The Benedictine Nuns at Minster Abbey invite you to find out more on 12 - 14 April 2019. Details about this event are at www.minsterabbeynuns.org or via email sraelrederwin@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS FAIR - Two prizes not claimed. Tickets: Pink 196 and Salmon 240 - please collect from the Parish Office.

A Night at The Opera

Come and enjoy favourite Opera Classics in the style of a Glyndebourne Gala. (Bring your own food and drink) Featuring world renowned singers. In aid of the Organ Fund. **16th February at 7:30pm in The St Thomas' Church Hall.** Tickets at £10 per head available at the door or the Church Shop

'Come back to me' - Teaching and Leading in Catholic Schools

14th January 2019 - Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road SE1 6HR from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
17th January 2019 - St Francis Catholic Primary School, Queen's Road, Maidstone ME16 0LB from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

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, Angelina 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, Gemma Macey, Joan Meakin, Margaret Mason, Tony Ashworth, Eamonn Scully, Fr George Marsden and Fr Louie Kitt

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Wilkins, Frances MacDonald, Keith Purbrick, Mark Ventress, Dermot Egan, John Butler, Nick Grealy, Michael Chukwuelue, Dr Michael Goggin, Miss Sukhawati, Phyllis Higenbottam, Kevin Hackman, Darcey Campbell and Celia Welch

Thank you! Collections for weekend 05/06 January 2019:

Offertory: £946.00 loose & £663.00 Gift Aided -Total **£1609.00**
Crib Offerings - For Children's Society: **£123.76**

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Ignatius Dempsey - RIP (*Dempsey Family*)
Sunday 13th January Baptism of the Lord Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22
8am Danny McGrath's intentions (*Margaret McGrath*)
9:30am Nora Rainsford - RIP (*Levey Family*)
11 am People of the Parish
12.15 pm *Baptism of Freya Hollingsworth*
3.30pm *Confirmation Classes in the Hall*
6 pm Frances Brown - RIP (*Geraldine*)
Rite of Acceptance - RCIA

Monday 14th January Feria Mk 1:14-20

NO EARLY MORNING MASS

12 noon Joseph & Edith Jaconelli (*Shirley and Family*)
7.30 *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*
8.00 *Parish Finance Committee Meeting*

Tuesday 15th January Feria Mk 1:21-28

7.30am Celia Welch - RIP
12 noon Intentions of Michael James & Family (*Rosie Yea*)
7.30pm RCIA

Wednesday 16th January Feria Mk 1:29-39

NO EARLY MORNING MASS

10.30 - 11.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*
12 noon John Aitken Gray - RIP (*Myrna Gray*)
7 - 8.30 pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Thursday 17th January St Anthony, Abbot Mk 1:40-45

NO EARLY MORNING MASS

12 noon Sidney Harlow (*Joyce Harlow*)
Scripture group in Upper Room

Friday 18th January Feria Mk 2:1-12

7.30 am Morning Prayer
12 noon John Dunlop - RIP (*Brigid Rowe*)
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Celia Welch - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)
8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Saturday 19th January St Wulstan, Bishop Mk 2:13-17

9.00am *Baptism Course in Presbytery*
10.30 - 11.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)*
12 noon Heather Brook - RIP (*Davis Family*)

4.30 - 5.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*

6pm (Vigil) Tom Nichols - RIP (*Angela Nichols*)

Sunday 20th January 2nd Sunday (Year C) Jn 2: 1-11

8 am Iolanda Di Paco - RIP (*Roberto Di Paco*)
9:30 am Maureen Sullivan - RIP (*Brigid Rowe*)
11 am Francis Brown - RIP (*Philomena*)
3.30pm *Confirmation Classes in the Hall*
6 pm People of the Parish

From Fr Anthony ...

Last week, in my thoughts about the Sunday Mass, I wrote about "the assembly". This week I want to reflect on music at Mass. I know from experience the subject is very emotive. I often hear; "Why don't Catholics sing?" or "Why do we have hymns that we don't know?" or "Why do all the hymns seem to be from the Victorian era?" or "I prefer a quiet Mass with no music" or "What happened to Gregorian chant?" We will never please everyone all the time!

It is important to be clear about certain principles as to why we have music in the Mass. Pope John Paul, in his Letter "Dies Domini", wrote: "Given the nature of Sunday Mass and its importance in the lives of the faithful, it must be prepared with special care. In ways dictated by pastoral experience and local custom, in keeping with liturgical norms, efforts must be made to ensure that the celebration has the festive character appropriate to the day commemorating the Lord's Resurrection. To this end, it is important to devote attention to the songs used by the assembly, since singing is a particularly apt way to express a joyful heart, accentuating the solemnity of the celebration and fostering the sense of a common faith and a shared love."

Our model for music in the liturgy is Jesus himself, who sang psalms with the apostles at the Last Supper (Mt 26:30; Mk 14:26). Music is an integral part of our participation in liturgy - an integral part of our participation in the work of God. For "when song and music are signs of the Holy Spirit's presence and action, they encourage, in a certain way, communion with the Trinity" (*John Paul II, Address to the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music, 3; Chirograph on Sacred Music, 3*).

If we sing anything at Mass then we must sing the Gospel acclamation and the Sanctus (or the Holy, Holy), then we can add some more pieces to this basic core. We can have an opening song or hymn which is intended to unite us and open our hearts to hear God's voice. The Gloria should be sung as it allows us to express our praise as a community. The Psalm and response puts on our lips words that sum up the day's scripture. The Communion song express our unity in the Christ we receive. To be a little more adventurous, the Penitential Rite is particularly appropriate to sing in Lent and Advent when there is no Gloria. At the Preparation of the Gifts (no longer called 'Offertory') there may be a song, instrumental music or silence. The Final Song can send us out inspired but it isn't essential - it's not in the Missal! So we should see the music in the Mass as four hymns.

In this parish we are blessed with having music at all the Sunday Masses except 8am. Even there we try to sing the Acclamation before the Gospel and the Holy Holy. It is important that we learn new music that helps us "express a joyful heart accentuating the solemnity of the celebration and fostering the sense of a common faith and a shared love." I welcome any comments you may have on the music we could share at our Sunday Masses.