

# NEWSLETTER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

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Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton. email: [anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priest: Fr Sylvester Adeniyi Parish Deacon: Rev. David Avery email: [davidavery@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:davidavery@rcaos.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

University of Kent Chaplaincy: Fr Tom Herbst (01843 230 774) email: [tjherbst@gmail.com](mailto: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, 16th February 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).



**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:** Sessions at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery as per published schedule



**100 Club**

Well done and thank you! We have reached our 100 members target thanks to your generous response. Member Numbers will be confirmed in the following weeks



### 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 St Thomas' Church Hall.** Tickets: £10 per head at the door or the Church Shop

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

### Taizé Evening of Prayer in the Church

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: 19.30 to 20.30 with Singing, Silence, Readings, Reflection, Intercessions. All Welcome

Message for Gary and Allan who sent a photograph to Bernard Packer - please could you phone Bernard on 01227 765810

**Church Shop Post Christmas Sale:** We are having a January Sale in our Repository/Shop of Diaries, Calendars and children's Christmas Books. Please support the shop which channels profits into Parish Projects.

### Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ

Weekend Workshop / Retreats for the Bereaved at Aylesford Priory  
Dates in 2019: March 22 - 24th 2019 and October 11 - 13th 2019.  
Cost: **Single £177, Shared per person £160, Senior Citizens £171**  
Bookings: Aylesford Priory **01622 717272** Website: [www.thefriars.org.uk](http://www.thefriars.org.uk)  
Enquiries: [mfbereavement@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mfbereavement@rcaos.org.uk) or [earpartridge@gmail.com](mailto:earpartridge@gmail.com)  
Phone: 01303 670880.

**Church Shop:** Do you have time and talents to offer in a supportive, friendly church ministry? Our shop needs volunteers to cover various shifts (incl general supply cover and the permanent shift on Mondays: 10:30 - 13:00.) If you can support our Parish this way, please contact Maria Davis on 07791 534852.

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

### 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, Celia Welch, Sarafin Areelo and Henrietta Soar

**Thank you! Collections for weekend 12/13 January 2019:**  
**Offertory:** £998.27 loose & £690.01 Gift Aided -Total **£1688.28**  
**2nd Collection:** No second collection this weekend

### From Fr Anthony ...

Last week I gave some thoughts on music in the Mass but there was one BIG printing error.

After looking at what needs to be sung at Mass I ended the paragraph by saying: "So we should see the music in the Mass as four hymns." It should have read, "So we should **NOT** see the music in the Mass as four hymns."

This week I want to say something about silence in the celebration of Mass. Silence is a precious part of our life. Silence can speak powerfully. It is an important part of any communication. Silence is essential if we are to live fully relaxed and fulfilled lives. We often find ourselves saying "I can't hear myself think" We fill our day with sounds and noise from the moment we awake till our head hits the pillow. Thus we deny ourselves the experience of times of silence.

The Bishops of England and Wales in their 2005 document on "Celebrating the Mass" wrote: "It is particularly important to allow for silence as a part of the dialogue between God and the community of faith. It allows for the voice of the Holy Spirit to be heard in the hearts of the people of God and to enable them to unite personal prayer more closely with the word of God and the public voice of the Church" Within the Liturgy silence is not merely the absence of words, a pause or an interlude. We can see silence as a stillness, a quieting of spirits; it enables us to hear, assimilate, and respond. For example we should have silence within the Penitential rite, and again after the priest says, "Let us pray" at the Collect.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal says of the Liturgy of the Word that it should be celebrated in such a way as to promote meditation and so any sort of haste should be avoided. It then suggests "it is appropriate to include brief periods of silence, accommodated to the gathered assembly, in which, at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God may be grasped by the heart and a response through prayer may be prepared."

Ideally there could be short periods of silence after the First and Second readings and after the Homily given by the priest. After communion a few moments of silence helps us to praise and pray to God in our hearts. For us at St Thomas I think there is a challenging paragraph in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal. It reads, "Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence to be observed in the church, in the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner."

Is there any way we could respond to this recommendation? I would be interested to hear your reactions and suggestions.

### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil)	Tom Nichols - RIP (Angela Nichols)
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2nd Sunday (Year C) Jn 2: 1-11</b>	
8.00am	Iolanda Di Paco - RIP (Roberto Di Paco)
9:30am	Maureen Sullivan - RIP (Brigid Rowe)
11.00 am	Francis Brown - RIP (Philomena)
4.00pm	Confirmation Classes in the Hall
6.00pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 21st January St Agnes Mk 2:18-22</b>	
7.30am	Natalie - health, happiness & success (Anne)
12 noon	Bridget (Biddy) Bourke - RIP (Levey Family)
7 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30pm	Open Air Mass Planning Meeting
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January St Vincent Mk 2:23-28</b>	
7.30am	Celia Welch - RIP (Angela Nichols)
12 noon	Joseph Kunnasseeiril - RIP (Jimmy)
7.30pm	Taize Evening in Church
7.30pm	RCIA
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January Feria Mk 3:1-6</b>	
7.30am	for Daniel Patterson's baptism (Rosita Santos)
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Michael Starnes - RIP (Brigid Rowe)
7 - 8.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January St Francis de Sales Mk 3:7-12</b>	
7.30 am	Francis Brown - RIP (Family)
9.30am	Funeral of D'Arcy Campbell at Canterbury Cemetery Chapel
12 noon	Funeral Mass of Celia Welch Scripture group in Upper Room
4.00pm	Funeral of Serafin Arevelo at Barham Crematorium
7.45pm	Prayer and Pub
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January Conversion of St Paul Mk 16:15-18</b>	
7.30 am	Morning Prayer
12 noon	David and Gladys Murphy - RIP (E.M. Murphy) Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm	Celia Welch - RIP
8 - 9pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January Sts Timothy &amp; Titus Mk 3:20-21</b>	
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Welfare of Anne Brown/Weinert
4.30 - 5.30	Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
6pm (Vigil)	David and Gladys Murphy - RIP (E.M. Murphy)
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January 3rd Sunday (Year C) Lk 1:1-4, 4: 14-21</b>	
8 am	Sarah's Health & Wellbeing (Mrs Burton)
9:30 am	Celia Welch - RIP
11 am	People of the Parish
2.30pm	Syro Malabar Mass
3.30pm	Confirmation Classes in the Hall
6 pm	Alex Grogan - RIP (Catherine Grogan)
<b>ADORATION:</b> Please note there will be NO Adoration on: MONDAY, 4th or 11th February 2019.	