

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

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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, 23rd March 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: Half Term Recess - see you on 03 March at 4pm
JOURNEY IN FAITH: Sessions at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery as per published schedule



PARISH MEETINGS 2019:

Sat, 02 March, 10am -1pm : Eucharist Ministers' Meeting
Sat, 30 March, 10am -1pm : Readers Meeting
Sunday, 17th March: Parish AGM in the Hall at 12h15



PILGRIMAGES: Please see the notice in the Narthex for information on up-coming Pilgrimages to The Holy Land, Ireland, Poland and Lourdes

World Day of Prayer- Come Everything is Ready! A Service for Everyone, prepared by the people of Slovenia for all worldwide to worship together on Friday 1st March 2019. The Canterbury Service is at St Paul's Church, Church Street, Canterbury CT1 1NH at 11am with a soup lunch available after the service.

Pauline and A. Charles Ryan would like to thank everyone for their kind prayers, thoughts, cards and phone calls. Thank you, best wishes and hope to see you soon.
Pauline

Appeal from Connecting Canterbury

"Connecting Canterbury" continues to work alongside the Food Bank, at All Saint's Church (Tuesdays from 9.30 to 11.00), and St Dunstan's Church hall (Fridays 12 noon to 1.30pm). We are seeing a huge increase in demand for help from people and families in Canterbury who are struggling to get by. To help us meet this real need in Canterbury (and with our funds rapidly diminishing), can I appeal to Churches and Christians in Canterbury to ask if you would be willing to help support this vital outreach to those less fortunate in our society? If you are able to respond, please send your cheques made payable to "Connecting Canterbury" to me at the address below, and let me know if you would like a gift aid form. Your continued prayers are also very welcome. David Hartwell, trustee (7 Lichfield Avenue, Canterbury, CT1 3YA, ph. 0752839316)

16th Canterbury St Thomas' Scout Group asks "Are you or do you know a young person aged 5½ to 10 years who is looking for fun and adventure?" If the answer is Yes, see more information about joining the Beavers and Cubs on the poster in the Narthex.

Silent Prayer Workshops led by John Renn

Dates: 9th March and 13th April. **Time:** 10 to 11 am
Venue: Saint Thomas' Church, "Upper Room". All welcome.

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 Donnellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Maurice Crossland, 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, Fr Louie Kitt, Pauline Ryan, Michael Murphy, Alex Grogan and John O'Driscoll

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Phyllis Higenbottam, Kevin Hackman, D'arcy Campbell, Celia Welch, Sarafin Arevalo, Henriette Soar, Tony Ashman, Bryan (John) Hardy, Deidre Lovell and Maria Arevalo

Thank you! Collections for weekend 09/10 February 2019:
Offertory: £943.63 loose & £698.32 Gift Aided -Total **£1641.95**
2nd Collection: there was no second collection this weekend

From Fr Anthony ...

The Laity as Eucharistic Ministers

Last Saturday at our Cathedral, Bishop Pat Lynch commissioned 64 people as Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. These commissions take place three times a year. Some people don't like the idea of receiving the precious body and blood from a layperson. Others are uncomfortable about receiving Our Lord in the hand. In the early church laypeople not only received communion on Sunday but took communion home with them to receive it every day. Fr Joseph Champlin writes "it is very evident from historical research that lay persons ordinarily received the Lord directly into their hands for the first nine centuries. Writings, pictures and documentation speak of or illustrate this practice". After the early centuries this changed. The reason for the change was most probably the changing attitude to the Eucharist. More emphasis was put on the divine aspect of the Eucharist. Stress was put on the real, holy, tremendous, awesome presence of Christ in the sacrament. The host was to be adored more than to be eaten. The feeling of unworthiness in the face of this wonderful gift led to less frequent reception of Communion and a greater distance between the altar and the pew. Also at this time laity were more and more excluded from the liturgy. Singing was done by a choir, the general intercessions disappeared, the faithful could not see what was happening at the altar, the Canon of the Mass was said quietly, and everything took place in silence and in a language less understood by the people. "Those medieval concepts obviously were handed down very carefully to us from our forefathers in the faith. They had value, respected one aspect of the mystery which is the Eucharist, and should not be casually disregarded." The emphasis on greater participation in the liturgy began at the beginning of the twentieth century. In 1947 Pius XII wrote: "By the waters of Baptism, as common right, Christians are made members of the mystical body of Christ the Priest, and by the character which is imprinted on their souls they are appointed to give worship to God, thus they participate according to their condition, in the priesthood of Christ." In the Document on the Liturgy at the Second Vatican Council the Council Fathers reminded us of the key role of the laity. "Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism." It was in 1973 that Pope Paul VI issued the instruction "Immensae Caritatis" in which he wrote: "First of all provision must be made lest reception of Communion becomes impossible or difficult because of insufficient ministers" Thus there are a number of occasions when the priest will need assistance of the laity in helping with Holy Communion. During Mass when there is Holy Communion under both kinds and when the size of the congregation is such that without their assistance the Communion Rite would be unduly long. Outside Mass help is needed to bring communion to the sick and house-bound and a lay minister can expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament.

I would like to thank all those who are extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion in our parish. This is a tremendous service you are undertaking. Please note that our reflection Day for Eucharistic ministers is on Saturday 2nd March from 10am till 1pm in St Thomas Hall.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil)	Celia Welch - RIP (<i>Sue Purbrick</i>)	
7.30 pm	<i>Opera Night in the Hall</i>	
Sunday 17th February Sixth Sunday Lk 6:17,27-38		
8 am	People of the Parish	
9:30 am	Gerald Flaherty - RIP (M Flaherty)	2nd Collection RACIAL JUSTICE
11 am	D'Arcy Campbell - RIP (C & L Smith)	
12.15	<i>Baptism of Sophia Pezelet</i>	
6 pm	Stella McGrotty - RIP (Lorraine)	
Monday 18th February Feria Mk 6:53-56		
7.30am	Lawrence Ajewole Adeniyi - good health & God's Will (<i>Fr Sylvester</i>)	
12 noon	Welfare of the Craig Family (<i>Marjery Craig</i>)	
7 - 9 pm	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Tuesday 19th February Feria Mk 7:1-13		
7.30am	Mr Mathew Chollamkattil (<i>Johnson Mathew</i>)	
12 noon	Michael Murphy (<i>Josie Carr</i>)	
7.30pm	<i>RCIA</i>	
Wednesday 20th Feb Feria Mk 7:14-23		
7.30am	Doreen Durnan - RIP (<i>Sue Purbrick</i>)	
10.30 - 11.30	<i>Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)</i>	
12 noon	Patsy McLaughlin - RIP (<i>Sr Elizabeth</i>)	
7 - 8.30pm	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Thursday 21st February St Peter Damian Mk7:24-30		
NO EARLY MASS		
12 noon	Irene Ryan (<i>JB & Claire Ryan</i>) <i>Scripture group in Upper Room</i>	
7.45pm	<i>Prayer and Pub</i>	
Friday 22nd February Chair of St Peter the Apostle Mk7:31-37		
7.30 am	Morning Prayer	
12 noon	Pauline & Charles Ryan (<i>Daphne Miles</i>) <i>Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
7.30 pm	Mary Jones - RIP (<i>Sue Purbrick</i>)	
8 - 9pm	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Saturday 23rd February St Polycarp Mk 8:1-10		
10.30 - 11.30	<i>Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)</i>	
12 noon	Colleen Ryan - RIP (<i>Eddie</i>)	
4.30 - 5.30	<i>Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)</i>	
6pm (Vigil)	People of the Parish	
Sunday 24th February Seventh Sunday Lk 6:17,27-38		
8 am	Good Health	
9:30 am	Lawrence Ajewole Adeniyi - good health & God's Will (<i>Fr Sylvester</i>)	
11 am	Francis Brown - RIP (<i>Family</i>)	
12.15	<i>Baptism of Isaac Frydelwicz</i>	
6 pm	Carol Osborne - RIP (<i>Sue Purbrick</i>)	2nd Collection SVP