

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HU

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)



TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Mary & Stan Crow - RIP (Crow Family)
Sunday 07th April Fifth Sunday of Lent Jn 8:1-11
 8 am Kathleen Haley - RIP (Karoline & James Haley)
 9:30 am Celia Welch - RIP & UCM Families' intentions
 11 am Intentions of Cathy Gadd (Pat Gill)
 3.00 pm Filipino Community Mass
 4.30 pm Stations of the Cross
 6 pm People of the Parish
Monday 08th April Feria Jn 11:1-15
 NO MORNING MASS
 12 noon John Todd - RIP (Elizabeth Murphy)
 7-9 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 7.00 pm Finance Committee Meeting in the Presbytery
Tuesday 09th April Feria Jn 8:21-30
 7.30 am Kathy Alston (Mary and Simon Brown)
 12 noon Frederick Prior - RIP (Mrs Prior)
Wednesday 10th April Feria Jn 8:31-42
 NO MORNING MASS
 10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
 12 noon Ann Wienter - RIP
 7 - 8.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 11th April Feria Jn 8:51-59
 7.30 am Father Huebert Miranda - RIP
 12 noon Annie Hall - RIP (Verity Hall)
 Scripture group in Upper Room
 7.45pm Prayer and Pub
Friday 12th April Feria Jn 10:31-42
 7.30 am Morning Prayer
 12 noon Adelina Paderanga - RIP 10 yrs (Mia & Family)
 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 7.30 pm Thanksgiving and Wellbeing
 8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 13th April Feria Jn 11:45-56
 10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
 12 noon Welfare of Queenie Walshe (Gloria Soar)
 3.00 pm Servers' Practice for Easter
 4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
 6pm (Vigil) Patrick Browning - RIP (Eileen Browning)

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 14th April Palm Sunday Lk 22:14-23, 56
 8 am Sussamma Jacob - RIP (Jacob Family)
 9:30 am Norah Whiting (Kathleen Kerr)
 11 am Margaret & Andy Campbell (Chris & Lesley Smith)
 12.15 pm Baptism of Teddy Michael Sammut
 3.00 pm Stations of the Cross - led by Prayer and Pub group
 4.00 pm Polish Community Mass
 6 pm People of the Parish



Holy Week

From Fr Anthony ...

As you enter church this weekend you will see the statues and crucifixes are covered in purple. This time is traditionally known as Passiontide. I want this weekend to encourage you to think about what you are going to do for the three most important days of the year. They are: the day Jesus died, the day he laid in the tomb and the day he rose from the dead. We call these days the Triduum. The word comes from the Latin words for Three Days. These three days are Friday, Saturday and Sunday but we start counting them from Thursday night. Each day begins the night before as the most important liturgical feasts do. The liturgist, Fr Paul Turner writes, "Although we call this time three days, in spirit it is really only one event. What we start on Holy Thursday we finish on Easter Sunday: one long glorious day." Ideally it would be good if you were able to celebrate this unique time by setting aside ordinary activities, and giving these days your full-est attention.

How do we celebrate Holy Thursday? At the Mass of the Lord's Supper we commemorate the meal Jesus had with his disciples when he took bread and wine, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my Body, This is my Blood." He washed the feet of his disciples. Jesus then went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, where he was arrested and his disciples fled. What can you do to prepare for this day? Here are some suggestions. Have a special supper saying farewell to Lent and a welcome to the Triduum. Be willing to have your feet washed at the Mass. (I am always looking for 12 volunteers). Bring money for the special collection for the poor taken during this Mass. This year it will go for the work of Fr Freddy Loro in South Sudan. Plan to give some time to watch before the Blessed Sacrament before midnight in the Hall. Remember that Jesus asked his disciples to watch with him one hour.

On Good Friday we take time to reflect on the death of Jesus. We fast and abstain from meat on this day in response to the loving sacrifice of Jesus. This Good Friday you could also abstain from other things as well such as your electronic devices and forms of entertainment. "You may want to do something positive. Make this a day when you show your love to others, just as Jesus spared nothing to show his love for us." (Turner). You could join in the morning prayer at the Church, take part in the ecumenical walk of witness through the streets of Canterbury in the morning and come to the Solemn afternoon liturgy. In the evening, in the church there will be a meditation on the last seven words of Christ.

Holy Saturday is a day of rest. Jesus lay in the tomb this day. The Church invites us to fast and abstain this day, just as we did on Friday, but the purpose of today's fast is to join in prayer with those who are preparing for baptism or being received into full communion with the Church. You could again come to Morning Prayer or plan your one peaceful quiet day.

The Easter Vigil is the most important liturgy of the year. It immerses us in the mystery of death and resurrection. It proclaims the resurrection anew, it brings new life to the baptised, it reinvigorates us as we recommit ourselves to Christ. This is a Vigil not to be missed. The Easter Sunday Mass is, in a way, an extra celebration for those who cannot attend the Vigil. On Easter Day we conclude the Triduum. How will you celebrate this day? Many people wear their best clothes on Easter day. How and with whom will you feast this day?

PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be **Saturday, 27th April 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 /website).



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019: Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule
CONFIRMATION 2019: Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule
JOURNEY IN FAITH: Sessions in the Presbytery as per published schedule



PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS 2019:

Mon, 8th April, 7.00 pm : Finance Committee Meeting in the Presbytery.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE CHURCH

Sunday 07th April, Palm Sunday 4.30 pm
 Sunday 14th April, Palm Sunday 3.00 pm

ALTAR SERVERS FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM:

Please fill in the lists in the Sacristy to serve at the services. Please take a schedule of compulsory practice times for these Services

HOLY WEEK PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Please diarise our Parish Penitential Service which takes place on Tuesday, 16th April 2019 at 7.30 pm. Please join us for readings, reflection and reconciliation.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES: Pamphlets available in the Narthex for service times during Holy Week and the Easter Triduum.

Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne for young Adults (20s &30s)

from Wednesday 24th April to Sunday 28th April 2019
 A time to walk along part of St. Cuthbert's way, reflect and pray with other young adults and spend time on the beautiful island of Lindisfarne. Accommodation is in a basic bunkhouse near St Cuthbert's cave. Cost - £85 covers food and accommodation. For details please email lynnefcj@hotmail.com or facebook (FCJ Young Adult Network)

100 CLUB WINNERS: Congratulations to S Schlarmann (69) and L Mellor (96) who are our April 2019 winners of £20 each.

Canterbury Medieval Pageant St Thomas's is again taking part in the Family Trail for the Medieval Pageant on Saturday, 6th July. If you could volunteer time and talents to this event, please contact Linda in the office.

Thanks to those participating for the prayers and support you have offered to women and babies facing abortion. Everyone is welcome to join 40 DAYS FOR LIFE evening of prayer for life with BISHOP JOHN WILSON, on Friday 12th April with 6pm Mass, prayers, reception and testimonies at St Charles Borromeo Church, 8 Ogle St, London W1W 6HS (nearest tube: Tottenham Court Road). Contact details: Sarah 07776 256838 London40daysfor-life@hotmail.com 40daysforlife.com/London

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, Gemma Macey, Joan Meakin, Margaret Mason, Fr Louie Kitt, John O'Driscoll, Fr Kevin St Albyn and Margaret Jones

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Canon John Bailey, Marissa Arevalo, Teresa Wicker, Vincent Siudad, Lawrence Ajewole Adeniyi, Raphael Adeniyi, John Todd, Frederick Prior, Christine Mahy, Father Alex Fraser, Fr Alan Wright and Itohan Erhahon (sister of Fr Valentine)

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 30/31 March 2019:

Offertory: £993.76 loose & £550.10 Gift Aided -Total £1543.86
 2nd Collection: CAFOD Cyclone Fund raised £720.75

GIFT AID GIVING

With changes to the Diocesan Gift Aid database, some errors have been identified. Although we requested parishioners to check and indicate if their details were correct at the time of collection on Gift Aid Sunday, it seems in the rush of modern life that "grab and go" won the day. In terms of GDPR Requirements, it is essential that we have correct details so please check your address details on the envelopes and contact Linda in the office via email or post if there are errors.

Galilee Group: For any young men interested in the priesthood - the Galilee group meets in the Presbytery on selected Friday evenings at 6.30 pm.

RED BOX APPEAL - We are pleased to announce that Anne Rooke has volunteered to take up the reins of Local Secretary for the APF Red Box Appeal. We thank Dr Grace for his hard work as Local Secretary as he steps down.

Easter Sunday 21st there will be a **Easter Egg hunt and Cake sale** in the hall from 10:30am. We appeal for donations of cakes on the day (these can be left in the hall). All monies raised will be donated to Fr Freddy's community work in South Sudan.

CAMBRIDGE GUARDIAN ANGELS HOST FAMILIES WANTED: Cambridge Guardian Angels provide high levels of care for international students who study at schools within a 100 mile radius of London. We have new sixth form students starting at King's Canterbury in September so need lovely host families in the area to care for them when the school is closed for example exeat and half terms (not the main holidays though when the students go home). More information at www.cambridge-guardian-angels.com or on the poster in the Narthex.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: Wednesday evening meetings at 7.15 pm in the Link Lane Rooms (behind the Church). ALL WELCOME. For more information please contact Isabel on 07421 748995

The 9:30am Mass welcome ministry is seeking volunteers. Duties include handling out hymns/newsletter before Mass and collecting money for offertory during Mass. The commitment is only once a month. Email Sheelagh (sheelagh.smith@talk21.com) for more information.

ERRATA: My apologies - the newsletter entry for Mass on 3rd April for Colin Stone should have read: *For the Intentions of Colin Stone and NOT RIP!*

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: HCPT Group (5)87: 4th - 11th October 2019 staying at Hosanna House. All ages welcome. For more information please talk to Father Anthony or Annie Judge on 07866 515797 or anniejudge@hotmail.com.

Silent Prayer Workshops led by John Renn
Dates: 13th April. **Time:** 10 to 11 am
Venue: Saint Thomas' Church, "Upper Room". All welcome.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This weekend- 06/07 April - there is no second collection
Next weekend - 13/14 - SVP - gift aid envelopes available in the Narthex