

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) Betty Scott on her birthday (Linda & Rhys)

Sunday 26th May 6th Sunday of Easter Jn 17: 20-26

8 am Maureen & George Handley - RIP (Christine)

9:30 am Mary & Tony Ashman - RIP (Catherine Ashman)

11 am William Craig - RIP (Marjery)

12 noon Tea Dance in the Hall

4.00 pm Confirmation in the Hall

6 pm People of the Parish

2nd Collection
SVP

Monday 27th May St Augustine of Canterbury Jn 15:26 - 16:4a

BANK HOLIDAY

10 am John Reidy - RIP (Una Harris)

7 - 8.30pm NO ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday 28th May Feria Jn 16: 5-11

7.30 am Dalisay Walker - birthday (Andrew Walker)

12 noon Clarina Pinto - birthday thanksgiving (Brett Pereira)

7.30 pm RCIA

Wednesday 29th May Feria Jn 16: 12-15

7.30 am Deceased members of the Birss Family (Betty)

10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Joel and Clarina Pinto (Brett Pereira)

7.30 pm Adoration

Thursday 30th May Ascension Day Jn 16: 16-20

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

9.30 am Rhys Scott's intentions (Linda)

12 noon Dorothy Benari - RIP (Phyllis Steel)

Scripture group in Upper Room

8.00 pm The Blows Family (Joan)

7.45pm Prayer and Pub

Friday 31st May Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lk 1:39-56

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon Antonio Peligro - RIP (Lewis)

7.30 pm Baby Olivia - RIP (Jola and Andrzej)

8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 1st June St Justin, Martyr Jn 16: 23b-28

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

12 noon In Thanksgiving

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

6pm (Vigil) Helen Osula - RIP (5th Anniv.) (Isoken Zowa)

Sunday 2nd June 7th Sunday of Easter

8 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Celia Welch - RIP & intentions of UCM members

11 am Roy Williams - RIP (Steve and Family)

4.00 pm Confirmation in the Hall

6 pm Private Intentions

2nd Collection
World
Communications

PLEASE NOTE: **Monday 27th May** (Bank Holiday). There will ONLY BE ONE MASS at 10.00 am and NO ADORATION in the evening.

Thursday 30th May Ascension Thursday - Holy Day of Obligation with Masses at 9.30, 12 noon and 8.00 pm

From Fr Anthony ...

In two weeks' time, the 9th June, we will be celebrating the third most important feast in the Church's year, Pentecost. The English word "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word *pentekostos*, which means "fifty." It comes from the ancient Christian expression *pentekoste hemera*, which means "fiftieth day." But Christians did not invent the phrase "fiftieth day." Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (*Shavuot* in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or "fifty days" from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday (*pentekonta hemeras* in the ancient Greek translation of the Hebrew Scripture). It was on this Jewish feast that the disciples and Mary locked in the Upper Room were filled with the Holy Spirit. This coming Thursday is the feast of the Ascension that takes place nine days before the Pentecost feast. What I encourage you to do as a preparation for the feast of Pentecost is, like the apostles and Mary, pray. Your prayer could be for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This is important especially as we might perceive that our lives as Christians might lack dynamism, lack strength in prayer and action. Perhaps we might be aware that we are relying too much on our own power and our own will. What we are looking for in our lives is an adult re-affirmation and renewal of the sacraments of baptism and confirmation, an opening of ourselves to the graces of the sacraments. I will leave at the entrance of the Church a leaflet entitled "Novena to the Holy Spirit". This contains some suggestions for prayer. Let us pray that the charisms we have been given in baptism and confirmation may be active in our lives. Pope Francis has written in The Joy of the Gospel (paragraph 30) "*The Holy Spirit also enriches the entire evangelising Church with different charisms. These gifts are meant to renew and build up the Church. They are not an inheritance, safely secured and entrusted to a small group for safekeeping; rather they are gifts of the Spirit integrated into the body of the Church, drawn to the centre which is Christ and then channeled into an evangelising impulse. a monolithic uniformity. This is not helpful for the Church's mission.*"

Here are some other suggestions for us to prepare for Pentecost.

- Read Acts 2, the Spirit's coming at Pentecost;
- Decorate a cake with Pentecost flames and other symbols to celebrate the birthday of the church;
- Talk about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (see Isaiah 11 and 1 Corinthians 12; also the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1830-1831);
- Make a Pentecost hanging or mobile that features a dove and tongues of fire;
- Learn a prayer to the Holy Spirit to use in your family prayer time;
- List the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23; Catechism, 1832) on separate slips of paper. Have each family member randomly select a fruit to cultivate.

PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be **Saturday, 22nd June 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: Going Forth Mass, 19 May at 9.30am
CONFIRMATION 2019: Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, 22 May 2019 at 6.30 pm. Normal sessions in the Hall as per schedule.



PLEASE PUT IN YOUR DIARIES:

Our Open Air Mass is on Sunday, 30 June 2019 at 10h30 at St Anselm's School, Old Dover Road, followed by lunch. There will be NO MASSES at St Thomas' Church on that Sunday. There will be Vigil Mass at the church on Saturday evening at 6pm



PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS 2019:

Sunday 16 June, 11 am - Confirmation Mass
Sunday, 30th June 2019 at 10h30 Parish Open Air Mass at St Anselm's School, Old Dover Road.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13th at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please apply as soon as possible. Get in touch with the parish office and provide your names, the anniversary you are celebrating, your home address, email address and telephone, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop.

The Sisters of Mary Morning Star will be here after all the Masses on Sunday 2nd June for their craft sale, they will be selling hand made rosaries, cards, cakes, biscuits, jams and marmalade, they also have children's books, gifts, and a CD of their monastic chant. There will be an opportunity to entrust your prayer intentions to them as well. Please come along and support these sisters so that contemplative life may continue to be the prayerful heart of the Church in this country.

Missio Red Boxes. So many parishioners now have collection boxes that we cannot deliver your envelopes by hand. They will be available at the back of the church during the weekend of 8th and 9th June individually named. Please take yours and return them, filled up, to the Presbytery. Thank you for your generosity last year when you gave £1380. Do ring Anne Rooke on 01227 830298 if you have any questions.

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 Aubyn, Margaret Jones, Fr Timothy Finigan and Veronica Derbyshire

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 Alexander Fraser, Fr Alan Wright, Itohan Erhahon (sister of Fr Valentine), John Reidy, Daniel Bannon, Eileen Donovan and Jean Vanier.

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 11/12 May 2019:

Offertory: £1152.98 loose & £562 Gift Aided -Total **£1714.98**
2nd Collection: For Ecclesiastical Education raised **£487.52**.

DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE run by Marian Fathers have their **Divine Mercy Conference 2019 - SATURDAY - 15th JUNE 2019** from 10:45 am - 6:00 pm at Church of Our Lady, Mother of the Church, Ealing Broadway, London. The main speaker is **Sister Briege McKenna OSC**. See poster and pamphlets in the Narthex for more details.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY EVENT:

'Thy Kingdom Come' Prayer Evening: 6:30pm Sunday 2nd June at St Mary Bredin. All are welcome for an evening of worship and prayer.

Wednesday 10th July 7:30-9pm at St Andrew's United Reform Church - an evening of creative and multi-sensory prayer using 'prayer stations'

Tuesday 10th September 7:30-8:30pm at St Thomas's - an hour of Taizé prayer and worship.

More details on the posters in the Narthex.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: HCPT Group (5)87: **Early October 2019** Come and enjoy a pilgrimage holiday in Hosanna House, Lourdes, with the HCPT group (5)87. All ages welcome and helpers also needed. Costs include travel, full board accommodation and comprehensive travel and medical insurance. Option of own travel arrangements possible. Some grant assistance for funding available. Please reserve your place by 10th June. Find out more by talking to Father Anthony or Annie Judge on 07866 515797 or anniejudge@hotmail.com. Please take a leaflet from the Narthex (Porch).

CAFOD Southwark Summer Pilgrimage, 2019

Saturday 22 June, around Hartley, in Kent - looking at the new Climate Change campaign, 'Our Common Home'. If possible, try to let us know that you are coming, please contact CAFOD Southwark on 020 8466 9901 or email: southwark@cafod.org.uk. Detailed information on poster in the Narthex

" CALAIS REFUGEES NOW - a Social Justice issue. Phil Kerton from Seeking Sanctuary will be speaking on this topic at the beginning of Refugee Week June 17th - 24th, at Whitstable RC social Centre on Monday June 17th at 7.30 pm. We invite you to join us, everyone is welcome. Further information 01227 261673 "

St Theresa's AshfordThe Global Healing Film Saturday 22nd June at 6.45pm in St Teresa's Church Hall. All are welcome to view this film with discussion and refreshments afterwards.

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend- 25/26 May - SVP - Gift Aid envelopes available in the Narthex

Next weekend - 01/02 June - World Communications Day - supporting Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales.