

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

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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)



From Fr Anthony ...

Are we all going to heaven? We read in this Sunday's first reading: "God is coming to gather the nations of every language. God created us to be with him to come to know his love. Our destiny is to be with him forever." We believe that with the death and resurrection of Jesus humankind has been saved and through baptism we have been given the gift of everlasting life. Thus we all have the possibility of salvation and the church is the means of salvation. As John Paul II taught in his letter *Redemptoris missio*, "it is necessary to keep these two truths together, namely, the real possibility of salvation in Christ for all mankind and the necessity of the Church for salvation." We need to hold together the two truths that there is the hope of salvation of all, while renouncing the claim to know that all will be saved. The distinction between hope and knowledge is crucial. Human beings do not know the outcome of God's judgment. We should leave judgment to God, trusting in his love.

If we believe that the Church is a means of salvation then we need to heed the warning of Jesus. We should not presume that being baptised and being part of God's family - the Church, means you are saved. You have the hope and means of salvation. Jesus says we need to enter by the narrow door. Belonging to the family through baptism is not enough. "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!" Salvation comes when we accept Jesus and start to follow him. This is the narrow door, the only door to life and it is a demanding entrance. At times, it may be painful, like the discipline mentioned in Hebrews, "but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness" (12:11). We also need to bear in mind what the Church says in the Vatican Council document *Lumen Gentium* 16. "Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience—those too may achieve eternal salvation". We will be amazed who we will meet in heaven.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Kaz Krynicki - RIP (*Edgington Family*)

Sunday 25th August Twenty First Sunday (C) Lk 13: 22-30

8 am Peggy Mallon - RIP

9:30 am Maria-Augusta(Gus) - RIP 50th Anniversary (*Pauline*)

11 am John and Winifred Saunders - RIP (*Jo*)

12.15 pm Baptism of Aoife and Roisin Sullivan, Hugo Busa and Eian Badrick

6 pm People of the Parish

Monday 26th August Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God

Mt 23: 13-22

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

10 am Special intentions of the donor's family

7 - 9 pm **NO Adoration today**

Tuesday 27th August St Monica Mt 19: 23-26

7.30 am Marie Gallagher - health and welfare

12 noon Jim Daly - RIP (*A Matthews*)

Wednesday 28th Aug St Augustine Mt 23: 27-32

7.30 am Joseph Agbenuawar - RIP (*Helen Natrass*)

10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon Ann Fitzsimons (*Mrs M Gartland*)

7.30 - 8.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 29th August Passion of St John the Baptist Mk 6: 17-29

7.30 am Carol Osborne - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

12 noon Sister Bernadette OLM - RIP (*Carol Lewis*)

Scripture Group in Recess until September

7.45pm Prayer & Pub is in Recess until September

Friday 30th August Sts Margaret Citherow, Anne Line, Margaret Ward

Mt 25:1-13

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon David Riley - RIP (*Foundation Mass*)

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Victor Dodds - RIP (*Pam Dodds*)

8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 31st August St Aidan & Sts of Lindisfarne Mt 25:14-30

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon Alberto on his birthday (*Maria*)

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (*Fr Sylvester*)

6pm (Vigil) David Heap - RIP (*Christine*)

Sunday 1st Sept. Twenty Second Sunday (C) Lk 14: 1,7-14

WORLD DAY OF PRAY FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

8 am People of the Parish

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

11 am Catherine (Kath) Packer - RIP (*Bernard & family*)

6 pm Intentions of Mary Reynolds (*Sue Purbrick*)

2nd Collection
SVP

PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised....our next preparation meeting will be in the Presbytery on **Saturday, 14th September 2019, at 9.00 am.** Places are limited so please call the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from Office /website).



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020. The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, 17th May 2020 at the 9.30 & 11 am Masses. *Registration forms* are available in the Narthex.

CONFIRMATION 2020: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Sunday 31st May 2020 at 11 am Mass. *2019/2020 Registration forms* are available in the Narthex.

RCIA 2020: Our programme commences on 24th September 2019. If you are a Catholic adult who has not made your first communion or being confirmed, or a non-Catholic who is thinking of becoming a Catholic, please complete an *Initial Enquiry Form* available in the Narthex.



CONFIRMATION CATECHIST TEAM - We are sad to announce that two of our team will no longer be with us going forward. If you are interested in sharing the faith with young people preparing for their Confirmation, please speak to Father Anthony.



New Altar Servers Training

There will be two training days for new altar servers on Saturday 7th and 21st September at 9.30 am in the Church. Application forms are available in the Church Narthex.

From Svenja Powel, Canterbury Welcomes Refugees:

Thank you so much to so many of you for offering furniture, furnishings and other equipment for the house. I am currently trying to find someone who has a van and would be able to help us transport the donations from their current homes to the house for the refugee family. If anyone knows of someone who might be able to help, please do let me know on email: canterburywelcomesrefugees@outlook.com



The prolife charity Life is looking for enthusiastic church and community fundraisers in the Diocese to help us grow our life-saving work with vulnerable mothers. We want you to help our volunteer fundraisers, manage local events, and develop relationships with community groups. We offer a competitive salary for a full or part-time position based at home. Contact jobs@lifecharity.org.uk for more details.

DAY OF RENEWAL - On Saturday, 7th September 2019 a Day of Renewal at Aylesford Priory, Maidstone, M20 7BX starting 9.30 am. The session theme is Healing and Empowerment. Please see the poster in the Narthex for the full programme. More information Mr Joe Smallcombe on 01634 307312 or Mrs Palmyra Willis on 01580 211204

In August, there will be no coffee, in the hall, after the 9.30 Sunday mass. Come along on the 1st September!

Prayer and Pub meetings are in recess until after the summer break - see you in September.

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend - 24/25 August - There is no second collection
Next weekend - 31 Aug/01 Sept - SVP - Gift Aid Envelopes in Narthex

SUNDAY TEA DANCES: New dates for tea dances with Hannah and Stuart confirmed! Sundays starting from 12 noon: 8th September, 6th October, 10th November and 15th December. No partner required, just bring your best smiles. Everyone welcome for tea even if you do not want to dance.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY NEWS

Beech Grove Fun Day at Beech Grove, Nonnington

The Bruderhof Community at Beech Grove, Nonnington, welcome you to a Family Fun Day in September. Please see poster in the Narthex for details

Sponsored Ride and Stride Event Canterbury 2019 on Saturday, 14 September 2019 from 10am to 6pm. Funds raised during this event are divided equally between the Friends of Kent Churches and the church/chapel of your choice. Please help raise much needed funds for churches in Kent. Last year we had one brave cyclist who rode for us and we hope to have more this year. There are two ways to help raise funds - by cycling/walking between the churches or being a welcomer at the church to sign in riders/walkers. We are looking for volunteers to undertake either of these roles. If you wish to find out more, please contact Linda in the Office.

Filipino Community Mass. There will be no Filipino Mass in St Thomas's during September due to the unavailability of a Priest.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate of Marian Fathers is organising a **Divine Mercy Pilgrimage** to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Simon Stock; The Friars Aylesford Priory; Aylesford, Kent ME20 7BX on **Bank Holiday Monday - 26th August 2019**, 10 am to 5 pm led by the Rt Rev Bishop Patrick Lynch SS CC - Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark & the Marian Fathers. See Poster and flyers in the Narthex for full programme details.

Taizé Evening of Prayer

Tuesday 10th September, 19.30 to 20.30
Singing, Silence, Readings, Reflection, Intercessions
A part of Christians Together Canterbury's Year of Prayer

The Community of Taizé was founded in 1949 in Burgundy, France. It is an ecumenical, monastic community which attracts large numbers of visitors from all over the world, especially young people. The Taizé evening of prayer, incorporating readings, prayers, repetitive chants and silence, reflects a style of praying developed by the Community. <http://www.taize.fr/en>

Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Pat Gill, Angeline Frizell, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Janette Hughes, Maurice Crosland, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dittrich, Kathleen Hutchinson, A. Charles Ryan, Pat Gibson, Phyllis Stirton, Fr Louie Kitt, Fr Kevin St Aubyn, Margaret Jones, Fr Timothy Finigan, Jenni Aldridge, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, David Bull, Joan Sutton, Rachele Castro, Audrey Martin and Fr Wilgred McGreal

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, John Reidy, Daniel Bannon, Eileen Donovan, Jean Vanier, Beryl Sammut, Norah Pitt, James Chamarette, Michael Haggard, Tsige Buta, Agnes Natrass, Ossie Correa, Elizabeth Simpson, Tony Ashman, Dr Kazimierz Krynicki and Gillian Dyche

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 17/18 Aug 2019:

Offertory: £811.51 loose & £678.46 Gift Aided -Total **£1489.97**
2nd Collection: there was no second collection