

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)



From Fr Anthony ...

Our purpose in life is to be holy. To be fully the person that God created us to be. We need to understand what this means in our life and in our time. The Second Vatican Council helped us to recognise anew this call to holiness is for everyone. "All the faithful, whatever their condition or state, are all called by the Lord each in his or her own way to that perfect holiness by which the Father himself is perfect." This is a call of one who loves us first and who wants us to come to know and experience this love he has for us. We can express this love as a friendship. "I do not call you servants any longer but friend", says Jesus. Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation to Young People which he wrote in March this year says "Jesus wants to be a friend to every young person. This discernment is the basis of all else." When Jesus, risen from the dead, encountered Peter by the lakeside, his great question was, "Simon Son of John do you love me?" He was asking Peter, Do you love me as a friend? God is offering us an invitation to be part of a love story.

This invitation to holiness, to friendship and love is especially relevant for our young people.

As a parish community we have a responsibility to support and help the parents of young people in their duty to guide their sons and daughters to discover what God wants of them. What are the implications of God calling us to be holy, to share in the friendship of Jesus?

Preparing for Confirmation is the ideal time for deepening friendship with Christ and opening our hearts to him. I am inviting our young people who have not received the fullness of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation with the encouragement of their parents to sign up for our Confirmation preparation programme. This will be their opportunity to grow in their understanding that they are chosen by God. This year we are using a Confirmation Programme called "CHOSEN". The goal of the programme is to offer the young person a powerful, life-changing experience as he or she prepares to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is our hope that "CHOSEN" will not only offer them a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith, but will also win over their hearts at this critical time in their life. The programme has been carefully designed to address and answer our young people's fundamental questions about life, and to challenge them to embrace a life of faith.

It is important that the young people sign up as soon as possible because we would like to begin the sessions on Sunday 6th October. The meeting for parents will be on 30th September at 8pm in the St Thomas Hall. Fill out a form that you can obtain in the Narthex.

"Jesus is walking in our midst, as he did in Galilee. He walks through our streets, and he quietly stops and looks into our eyes. His call is attractive and intriguing." (Pope Francis "Christus Vivit" no: 277)

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Winefride & David Browning-RIP (Philippa Burniston)

Sunday 8th Sept. Twenty Third Sunday (C) Lk 14: 25-33

8 am Ossie Correa - RIP (Noronha Family)

9:30 am People of the Parish

Coffee in the Hall after Mass

11 am Tsige Buta - RIP (D McConkey)

12.15 Baptism of Clementina Bianca Riva

and Abigail and Theodore Xako

4 pm Polish Community Mass

6 pm Mildren & John Clark - RIP (Sue Purbrick)

Monday 9th Sept. St Peter Claver Lk 6: 6-11

7.30 am Carol Kidby - good health (Sue Purbrick)

12 noon John Wilkins - RIP (Wilkins Family)

7 - 9 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 10th Sept. Feria Lk 6: 12-19

7.30 am Ivan Gomes - thanksgiving (Pereira)

12 noon Peggy Palmer - RIP (Sue Purbrick)

7.30 Taize Evening in the Church

Wednesday 11th Sept. Feria Lk 6: 20-26

7.30 am Sister Elizabeth and sister (Mary)

10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

12 noon Brigid Davie on her birthday (Pat Gill)

7.30 - 8.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Liturgy Meeting

Thursday 12th Sept. The Most Holy Name of Mary Lk 6: 27-38

7.30 am Valle on her birthday (Maria)

12 noon Elizabeth Simpson - RIP (Sheila Schlarmann)

Scripture Group in Upper Room

7.45pm Prayer & Pub

Friday 13th Sept. St John Chrysostom Lk 6: 39-42

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon Tony Hickey - welfare

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Keith Purbrick - RIP (Purbrick Family)

8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 14th Sept. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Jn 3: 13-17

9.00 am Baptism Course

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Mary & Marjorie Fleming - RIP (Gadd Family)

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

6pm (Vigil) Ruben - RIP (Sue Purbrick)

Sunday 15th Sept. Twenty Fourth Sunday (C) Lk 15: 1-32

8 am Sussama & Annamma Jacob & Jacob Thomas - RIP (Jacob)

9:30 am People of the Parish

11 am Anne McAlinden - RIP (Monica O'Neill)

6 pm Raymond & Lorna D'Sousa - Golden Wedding (Pereira)

2nd Collection
Support of Home Missions
c.f. www.homemission.org.uk

2nd
Collection:
Catholic
Education
Service

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. Parents' meeting on Monday, 30th September at 8.00pm in the Hall.

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.



QUIZ NIGHT - Catholic Fellowship for Disabled in Union with HCPT are holding a quiz night on Saturday, 14th September 2019 at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception - Whitstable starting at 7.00 pm. Admission £5. Further details on poster in the Narthex.

A Day with Faure: Part of the upcoming 'Pugin Week' events at St Augustine's, Ramsgate. See Poster in the Narthex for details Of particular note is our 'Day with Faure' on the 14th. Come along and spend the day rehearsing the famous Requiem mass. This is not an opportunity to be missed to workshop this piece, particularly with Remembrance just around the corner! We have two local professional soloists joining us, Ben Saul waving and I shall be playing on our recently restored Willis pipe organ.. A chance for all ages and abilities to experience beautiful repertoire, in a beautiful building with a splendid acoustic for choral music and to explore and aspire to higher levels musicality. No need to be able to read music, just an attitude to learn and persevere. Limited spaces available. Get in touch with Benjamin Scott for bookings on email: benjamin.scott1992@icloud.com

Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from 18th to 20th October 2019 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For more information please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email johnbrothernton@hotmail.co.uk

The Union of Catholic Mothers will be holding their monthly meeting today in the church hall after the 9:30am mass all are welcome to attend.

NEW EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST Training sessions for New Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are being held on Wednesday, 25th September and Wednesday, 9th October at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend - 07/08 Sept - Catholic Education Services
Next weekend - 14/15 Sept - Support of the Home Missions - This collection provides the Bishops of England and Wales with the resources to support 'Home Mission', the spread of the Gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelisation.

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.

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

Save the date. Quiz night at St Thomas on the 9th of November - more details to follow.

HALL STAGE: Would all groups who store items on the Hall stage please arrange for them to either be removed or stored safely well behind the back stage curtain. Various groups have requested the use of the stage during their hall hire activities and security of these items can not be guaranteed. *Thank you*

Harvest Festival: we shall be holding a small festival to celebrate the harvest on the **22nd September** in the church hall from 10:30 till 11:45am. We are asking for donations of the following; Tinned food (in date) either before or on the date of the Harvest. These will be donated to **Catching lives**. Any **fresh produce** to decorate the altar, can these be donated by Thursday 19th please. Finger foods to share with other parishioners in the hall on the day. There will be craft and activities for the children and tea, coffee and cakes (more details on poster in the Narthex)

St Thomas of Canterbury Holy Land Pilgrimage
Thursday 21st November - Thursday 28th November 2019
You are invited to a final meeting on **Saturday 12th October at 7:15pm in Thomas Parish Hall.** We will confirm travel arrangements and distribute booklets and have some spiritual input to prepare us to be pilgrims.

Sponsored Ride and Stride Event Canterbury 2019 on Saturday, 14 September 2019 from 10am to 6pm. Please support this worthy cause to raise funds for the Churches of Kent. Unfortunately, our church will not be staffed on the day but the documents will be available at the door.

Facebook icon **We have a facebook page!** St Thomas of Canterbury, please like and share to keep updated on events happening in our church community.

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, Rachelle Castro, Audrey Martin, Fr Wilfred McGreal, Elizabeth Gilhenny and Jean Gale

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

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, Gillian Dyche, Fr Gerard O'Brien and Fr Gregory Moore

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 31-08/1-09 2019:
Offertory: £734.62 loose & £584.12 Gift Aided -Total **£1,318.74**
2nd Collection: SVP raised £748.31