

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

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Web Site: www.stthomasofcanterbury.com

[St Thomas of Canterbury](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasofCanterbury)

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 ...

Traditionally Harvest festival is held on the Sunday nearest to the Harvest Moon. This is the full Moon that occurs closest to the autumn equinox. The equinox this year is Monday 23rd September. Thank you to all those who have donated food as part of our display around the altar. This will be distributed to those in need. We are having fun things in the Hall after the 9:30am Mass this Sunday to celebrate harvest. This is our opportunity to give thanks to God for the blessing of the produce of the land that feed and nourish us. But also we need to reconsider the ways we use and care for the land. We know that we cannot use this earth for our wellbeing alone but need to care and look after what has been entrusted to us by God. As I write (Friday) there are climate change protests in major cities throughout the world. The demand is for immediate ambitious change. Pope Francis three years ago wrote a wonderful encyclical Letter "Laudato Si" on care for our common home. In it he says that climate change "is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades." He says that "we are called to recognise the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it."

Before the summer some of us watched and discussed the film "Global Healing" and we began to think about ways we are individuals, families and a parish can change our lifestyle to help the healing of the planet. I believe this needs to continue. There are many good ideas on the CAFOD (official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales) website <https://cafod.org.uk> Let us also pray a prayer written by Pope Francis: *O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day.*



First Mass Count 2019

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

- 6pm (Vigil) People of the Parish
- Sunday 22nd Sept. Twenty Fifth Sunday (C)** Lk 16: 1-13
DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST
- 8 am Robert Brown - good health (Joan)
- 9:30 am Agnes Natrass - RIP (Lilford Family)
- 11 am For the donor's intentions
- 12.15 Baptism of Reggie Coleman
- 6 pm Josephine Donohoe - good health (Burton Family)
- Monday 23rd Sept. St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)** Lk 8: 16-18
- 7.30 am David Scasbrook - RIP (Verity Hill)
- 12 noon Sean Clancy's intentions
- 7 - 9 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Tuesday 24th Sept. Our Lady of Walsingham** Lk 8: 19-217
- 7.30 am Teresa Mary Donovan (Maureen Kenny & family)
- 12 noon Our Lady of Walsingham (C Silcock-Stone)
- 7.30 pm RCIA in the Presbytery
- Wednesday 25th Sept. Feria** Lk 9: 1-6
- 7.30 am Tony Curtis - RIP
- 10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
- 12 noon Mona & Pat McAuliffe - wellbeing (Burton Family)
- 7.30 pm New Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Meet
- 7.30 - 8.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Thursday 26th Sept. Sts Cosmos & Damian** Lk 9: 7-9
- 7.30 am Constance Coombes - RIP
- 12 noon John & Stasia Callaghan - RIP (Callaghan Family)
- Scripture Group in Upper Room
- 7.45pm Prayer & Pub
- Friday 27th Sept. St Vincent de Paul** Lk 9: 18-22
- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 11 am Committal of the late Bernadette Lee at Canterbury Cemetery
- 12 noon Frederick Prior - RIP & Kathleen Prior on her birthday
- Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7.30 pm Sheila Charlton - RIP
- 8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Saturday 28th Sept. St Wenceslaus, St Laurance Ruiz & Comp**
Lk 9: 43b - 45
- 10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
- 12 noon
- 1.30 Wedding of Jamie Jessup and Dean Ring
- 4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
- 6pm (Vigil) Alice Holland - RIP (Verity Hill)
- Sunday 29th Sept. Twenty Sixth Sunday (C)** Lk 16: 19-31
- 8 am Nicky Gunn, Derrick & Pam Dalton- good health & Ted Swan - RIP (Bernadette Lyons)
- 9:30 am Daniel Olivier - RIP (UCM Members)
- 11 am Anne McAlinden - RIP (O'Neill Family)
- 6 pm Maureen Ward on her Birthday (Burton Family)

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, 12th October 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 start of the programme has been postponed to January 2020 - more information to follow

RCIA 2020: First meeting is this Tuesday, 24th September 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery. If you are a Catholic adult who has not made your first communion or been confirmed, or a non-Catholic who is thinking of becoming a Catholic, please complete an *Initial Enquiry Form* available in the Narthex.

Charlotte Sleight, Professor of Science Humanities at University of Kent is giving a series of three climate change talks at St Mary Bredin Church on 5, 12 and 19 November. Christians of all traditions are warmly welcome – see poster in Narthex for details.

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.

catching LIVES CATCHING LIVES WINTER SHELTER
This winter the Canterbury Community Shelter will be running for **3 months from Sunday 1st December 2019 through to Saturday 29th February 2020.** St Thomas' will again be providing the Hall for use on Friday evenings.

If you can give time and talents to the Winter Shelter, please see posters in the Narthex for details of volunteering processes, training and donation wish lists.

St Thomas Church is to be the venue for the **World Day Of Prayer Service**, celebrating the people of Zimbabwe, on **Friday 6th March 2020 at 14.00**, to which all the church communities and the people of the Canterbury area are warmly invited, with refreshments afterwards in St Thomas Church Hall.

SUNDAY TEA DANCES: Dates for tea dances with Hannah and Stuart confirmed! Sundays starting from 12 noon: 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.

ORGAN RECITALS AT ST AUGUSTINE'S IN RAMSGATE
Dear all, I am delighted to personally invite you all to St Augustine's in Ramsgate this Saturday at 19:30 for our final organ recital series, given by David Newsholme, Assistant Organist and Director of the Girls' Choir at Canterbury Cathedral. David was my teacher when I was at University and it is with great pleasure to have such a good friend, in such a prestigious position to perform for us this weekend. Tickets are £10 on the door. Drinks and nibbles available before and after. Please tell your friends. We want to ensure we're able to offer the same level of concerts next year; but we need your support in order to do that. See you on Saturday. Ben Scott benjaminscottmusic.uk

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

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
This weekend - 21/22 Sept - There is no 2nd Collection
Next weekend - 28/29 Sept - SVP - gift aid envelopes available in the Narthex.



Harvest Festival THIS SUNDAY. Don't forget our festival to celebrate the harvest on the **22nd September** in the church hall from 10:30 till 11:45am. Donations of tinned goods for Catching Lives most gratefully received (see wish list in Narthex).

Part-time Administrator, the Benefice of St Dunstan's with St Mildred's and St Peter's
This benefice serves the city centre and is currently advertising for a part-time administrator. Please see Poster in the Narthex for details.
Note that the closing deadline is 27th September

CHRISTIAN TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY NEWS
'United', an evening of prayer and worship, hosted by New Life and Vineyard churches, 6pm on Sunday 3rd November at the New Life Hub, Roper Close. Details on poster in the Narthex.

CTC invite you to gather with us at Canterbury Cathedral at **7:30pm on Saturday 18th January 2020** to begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with a service of prayer and worship. More to follow, but please save the date in your diaries.

Fr Freddy a Franciscan priest who works in South Sudan will be celebrating Mass on Friday 4th October at 7:30pm. The parish collected money for his work with children during Lent last year. After Mass there is a gathering in the Hall when he will meet us a speak about his work. As it is Harvest Fast Day there will be some simple refreshments.

Connecting Canterbury continues to listen, support and help people and families at the 2 weekly hubs, alongside the Food Bank at All Saints on Tuesday mornings, and at St Dunstons on Fridays. An increasing number of people we meet are in financial crisis, many of whom have had benefits reduced and/ or delayed on their transfer to Universal Credit. We are now unable to make any small emergency grants for items such as heating costs and bus fares because our funds are nearly exhausted.
Would you be willing to make a donation to Connecting Canterbury, to enable us to continue our vital work in serving people and families in our City? Please send any donations by cheque, made payable to Connecting Canterbury, to David Hartwell, 7 Lichfield Avenue, Canterbury CT1 3YA (Gift aid forms and Payroll Giving options are also available.) For more information, email David Hartwell at dc.hartwell@btinternet.com

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

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 Wilfrid 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, Fr Gregory Moore, Bernadette Lee and Rachelle Castro

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 14/15 Sept 2019:
Offertory: £1061.77 loose & £625.36 gift aided: Total **£1,687.13**
2nd Collection: Home Missions raised **£295.76**