

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

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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)



PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be **Saturday, 16th February 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).



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019:

Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule

CONFIRMATION 2019: Sessions in the Hall every Sunday at 4.00pm

JOURNEY IN FAITH: Sessions at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery as per published schedule



PILGRIMAGES: Please see the notice in the Narthex with information on up-coming Pilgrimages to The Holy Land, Ireland, Poland and Lourdes

Union of Catholic Mothers has organised a talk "Passing on and Sustaining the Faith" - enriching the faith of young adults, by Mark Nash on Saturday, 9th February at 2pm in the parish hall. Everyone are welcome Tea and coffee after the Talk



A Night at The Opera - Come and enjoy favourite Opera Classics in the style of a Glyndebourne Gala. (Bring your own food and drink) Featuring world renowned singers. In aid of the Organ Fund. **16th February at 7:30pm in St Thomas' Church Hall.** Tickets: £10 per head at the door or the Church Shop

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

You are invited to join us at a prayer vigil on Friday 15th Feb 2019 following the **10.30am** Mass at St Francis Catholic Church, Week Street, Maidstone. Rosary and prayer outside the Marie Stopes abortion clinic, Brewer St. Return for refreshments at ±12.30pm. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at the end of mass and during the afternoon. If you are unable to join the vigil please be an intercessor in the church



PARISH MEETINGS 2019 - please save the date:

Sunday, 17th February: Parish AGM in the Hall at 12h15

Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ

Weekend Workshop / Retreats for the Bereaved at Aylesford Priory
Dates in 2019: March 22 - 24th and October 11 - 13th.
Cost: Single **£177**, Shared per person **£160**, Senior Citizens **£171**
Bookings: Aylesford Priory **01622 717272** Website: www.thefriars.org.uk
Enquiries: mfbereavement@rcaos.org.uk Phone: 01303 670880.

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES APRIL - OCT 2019:

7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

Church Shop: Do you have time and talents to offer in a supportive, friendly church ministry? Our shop needs volunteers to cover various shifts. If you can support our Parish this way, please contact Maria Davis on 07791 534852.

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, Angelina 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 George Marsden, Fr Louie Kitt, Pauline Ryan, Michael Murphy and Tom O'Driscoll

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Wilkins, Frances MacDonald, Keith Purbrick, Mark Ventress, Dermot Egan, John Butler, Nick Grealy, Michael Chukwuelue, Dr Michael Goggin, Miss Sukhawati, Phyllis Higenbottam, Kevin Hackman, D'arcy Campbell, Celia Welch, Sarafin Arevalo, Henriette Soar and Tony Ashman

Thank you! Collections for weekend 26/27 January 2019:

Offertory: £1005.33 loose & £566.18 Gift Aided -Total **£1571.51**
2nd Collection: for SVP raised £523.92

From Fr Anthony ...

This week I wish to talk about a word that is often used in liturgical context, Ministry. We often hear talk about Liturgical ministries. The Priest at Mass presides over the whole assembly. He orchestrates the whole liturgy and speaks the many prayers in your name. As a priest at Mass, I don't speak for myself, but in the name of all of you. The priest leads the prayers.

Let's look at some of the other ministries that are parts of our Sunday Assembly. There are those who are involved in music and I have written in a previous newsletter about the significance of music and what our singing priorities should be. Music should help the whole assembly celebrate Mass actively. We don't say that we "heard" Mass or "attended" Mass. No. All together we celebrate Mass. Music helps us do this.

Another ministry is that of Reader. The Reader proclaims God's word in the assembly and enables us to hear God's word. We have a ministry of Hospitality that communicates God's care for us. They do this by making the environment comfortable. They greet us at the beginning of Mass to help us feel welcome and make sure we have the hymn books and Mass leaflets to help us to actively participate.

Alter servers, who may seem to be serving the priest who presides, are actually serving the assembly. They help things run smoothly by making sure the items needed are ready for the priest when he needs them. By assisting the priest at the altar they help all of us have a smoother more prayerful experience. Finally there are those who are ministers of Holy Communion.

They facilitate the sharing of the Body and Blood of Christ. Where there are not sufficient ordinary ministers for the distribution of Holy Communion in a timely and appropriate manner, extraordinary ministers can be called to assist.

We are **all** called to be part of the assembly. As an assembly we are all gathered in response to God's call to give thanks and praise through God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis has said: "The Mass is not 'heard', it is participated in, and it is a participation in this theophany, in this mystery of the presence of the Lord among us". He went on further to say: "All of you here, we are gathered here to enter into the mystery: this is the liturgy. It is God's time, it is God's space, it is the cloud of God that surrounds all of us"

The Bishops of England and Wales, in their document Celebrating the Mass, wrote "The faithful should not refuse to serve the people of God gladly whenever asked to perform some particular ministry or role in the celebration. Women and men, the young and old, people of every race and way of life should avail of these opportunities so that the liturgy may be seen to be the work of the whole body of Christ.

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil)	Sheila Lloyd (MBE) - RIP (Scott Family)
Sunday 03rd February 4th Sunday (Year C)	Lk 4:21-30
8 am	Bryan John Hardy's Health and wellbeing
9:30 am	People of the Parish
11 am	Celia Welch - RIP (CSS for Parish)
3.00pm	Filipino Community Mass
3.30pm	Confirmation Classes in the Hall
6 pm	Delaney Family's intentions (Philomena)
Monday 04th February Feria	Mk 5:1-20
7.30am	Patricia Palmas - safe delivery of healthy baby (J Fleming)
12 noon	Frances and Michael-Joe Keavney (Mary & Geraldine)
3 pm	Shop Volunteers Meeting
7 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday 05th February St Agatha	Mk 5:21-43
7.30am	Celia Welch - RIP
12 noon	Elizabeth (Lilly) Armstrong - RIP (Phyllis)
7.30pm	RCIA
Wednesday 06th Feb St Paul Miki & Companions	Mk 6:1-6
7.30am	Good Health
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Canon de Loubanque - RIP (Pat Gill)
7 - 8.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 07th February Feria	Mk 6:7-13
7.30 am	Anne Byrne - RIP (A Nichols)
12 noon	Ray Kelly - RIP (M Craig)
	Scripture group in Upper Room
7.45pm	Prayer and Pub
Friday 08th Feb St Josephine Bakhita	Mk 6:14-29
7.30 am	Morning Prayer
12 noon	Neil Howie's birthday (Family)
	Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm	Welfare of Joan and David Fleming
8 - 9pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 09th February Feria	Mk 6:30-34
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Celia Welch - RIP (M Craig)
12.30	Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church
4.30 - 5.30	Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
6pm (Vigil)	Herminio and Philo Correa - RIP (Celine Noronha)
Sunday 10th February Fifth Sunday	Lk 4:21-30
8 am	Imelda Uba - RIP (Sr Elizabeth)
9:30 am	Daniel Edwardes - RIP (Thackray Family)
11 am	Thanksgiving for Anthony Family (V Anthony)
4.00 pm	Polish Community Mass
3.30pm	Confirmation Classes in the Hall
6 pm	People of the Parish