

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HU

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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, 23rd March 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: Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule
CONFIRMATION 2019: Sessions in the Hall as per the schedule
JOURNEY IN FAITH: Sessions in the Presbytery as per published schedule



PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS 2019:
Sat, 30 March, 10am -1pm : Readers Morning in the Hall
Tues, 26th March, 7.30 : Lenten reflection on the Pope's letter on spirituality - Guadate et Exultate in the Hall

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE CHURCH

Sunday, 17th March, 2 nd Sunday of Lent	3.00 pm
Sunday, 24th March, 3 rd Sunday of Lent	4.30 pm
Sunday, 31st March, 4 th (Laetare) Sunday	3.00 pm
Sunday, 7th April, 5 th Sunday of Lent	4.30 pm
Sunday 14th April, Palm Sunday	3.00 pm

CHURCH DIARY 24 MARCH TO 10 APRIL

Please note that due to the absence of Father Sylvester, some adjustments have needed to be made to the Parish Diary. These include the cancelling of Masses which has resulted in Mass Intentions needing to be moved. Please see the schedule at the back of church for details. If this has affected your requested Mass please contact Linda in the office. Thank you

GET YOUR DANCING SHOES ON! Monthly Parish Tea Dances with Stuart and Hannah starting on Sunday, 14th April at 12noon in the hall. No partner or experience required. More info to follow.

CTC Lent Lectures, 'Saints through the Ages': St Peter's Anglican Church: Tuesdays 12.30 followed by light lunch (£4 suggested donation). See poster in Narthex.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - please remember:

The priest will consecrate hosts that are to be distributed in Holy Communion at the Mass. Please do not go to the Tabernacle to bring down the Ciborium. The Ciborium in the Tabernacle is only brought down if there are not sufficient hosts consecrated at the Mass for everyone. This applies to weekdays as well as Sundays. The symbolism of receiving hosts consecrated at Mass is important. Thank you. Canon Anthony

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, Pauline Ryan, John O'Driscoll, Fr Kevin St Albyn and Margaret Jones

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

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 02/03 March 2019:
Offertory: £998.18 loose & £531.47 Gift Aided -Total £1529.65
2nd Collection: for Poor Parishes raised £502.92

From Fr Anthony ...

As children we would often stay with our aunt and uncle in Malvern and love to climb the Malvern hills. The highest point is the Worcestershire Beacon which is 425 meters above sea level. From there you have wonderful views over Herefordshire and Worcestershire. But this was just a hill. Being up there I always had a great feeling of being away from it all and seeing things from a different perspective. In today's gospel we read that Jesus, with his disciples, went up a mountain to pray. When we go to the Holy Land in November the guide will take us to Mount Tabor. The guide book says "This is a perfect breast-shaped mountain that inspires awe and wonder as it rises majestic and beautiful from the plain of Yizreel to a height of 600 meters." Traditionally this is the place where Jesus was transfigured. In scripture, mountains are places where God is encountered. Elijah encountered God on Mount Horeb and Moses encountered God on Mount Sinai. God revealed himself to them. Peter James and John saw Jesus transfigured. They had an encounter with Jesus in his glory. "The aspect of his face changed and his clothing became brilliant like lightning They saw his glory". When the cloud covered them with shadow a voice came from the cloud saying "This is my Son, the Chosen one, listen to him." This Lent there are no mountains or high places in Canterbury to climb to encounter God. Let us try to come away and leave behind the noise and busyness of our everyday existence so that we have some time to pray. Those words that Peter James and John heard "Listen to him", can be for us an invitation to pray. Let us try to create pockets of silence during these weeks of Lent to listen to Jesus. Every devout Jew is required to listen in order to be penetrated by God's will: "Hear O Israel (Deut 6:4)" This is the first words of the Shema, the prayer each Jew recited morning, afternoon and evening. Listening is the most fundamental attitude required of Israel. It is a command also given to each of us. To listen is not just an invitation to lend an attentive ear but it also means we are asked to open our heart to God. We are invited to open our heart to Jesus.

Here are some words of St Augustine to encourage us.

"Return to your heart! Come back! To where? To the Lord! It is quick! Return immediately to your heart! Exiled from your own self you wander outside. You fail to know yourself, you who want to know the source of your existence. Come back! Return to the heart!...See there what you can learn about God, for the image of God is there. In your interior person dwells Christ. In your interior person you are renewed after God's image."

Give me a listening heart this Lent .

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) People of the Parish
Sunday 17th March Second Sunday of Lent (St Patrick) Lk 9:28b-36
Fr Vincent Oates speaking at all Masses: Red Box Appeal
8 am Mickey Guilfoyle, Patrick & Con Lyons, Mr & Mrs Kelly - RIP (Bernadette Lyons)
9 am First Holy Communion Classes in the Hall
9:30 am Justine Yvonne Gribbin - 100th birthday (Anna)
11 am Alain & Danielle Bardelang - RIP (C & L Smith)
12.15 Parish AGM with Bring and Share lunch in the Hall
3.00 pm Stations of the Cross
6 pm Kathleen Haley - RIP (Haley Family)
Monday 18th March St Cyril of Jerusalem Lk 6: 36-38
7.30am Noreen O'Keefe - RIP (Philip & Kathleen Sheridan)
12 noon Diana Barson - RIP (Alison Jordan-Hargreaves)
7-9 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday 19th St Joseph, Spouse of the BVM Mt 1:16,18-21,24a or NO MORNING MASS Lk 2: 41-51a
12 noon Funeral of Teresa Wicker
7.00 pm Stations of the Cross - led by the UCM
Wednesday 20th March FERIA Mt 20:17-28
7.30am Kathleen Haley - RIP (Haley Family)
10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
12 noon Sheila Rooke on her Retirement (Tessa Metcalfe)
7 - 8.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 21st March FERIA Lk 16:19-31
NO MORNING MASS
12 noon Intentions of Mary Irwin (Isabel Murphy) Scripture group in Upper Room
7.45pm Prayer and Pub
Friday 22nd March FERIA Mt 21: 33-43, 45-46
7.30 am Morning Prayer
12 noon Funeral of John Todd
7.30 pm Olga Douglas - RIP (5th Anniversary) Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 23rd March FERIA Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
9.00 am Baptism Course in Presbytery
10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)
12 noon Family Welfare (Angela Nichols)
4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
6pm (Vigil) John Todd - RIP (Crow Family)
Sunday 24th March Third Sunday of Lent Lk 13: 1-9
8 am Intentions of Father Sylvester (E Murphy)
9 am First Holy Communion Classes in the Hall
9:30 am Celia Welch - RIP & intentions of UCM families
11 am Francis Bown - RIP (His family)
12.15 Baptism of Teddy Michael Sammut
2.30 pm Syro Malabar community Mass
3.00 pm Stations of the Cross
6 pm People of the Parish

GIFT AID SUNDAY