

# NEWSLETTER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

Telephone: **01227 462896** Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk) Web Site: [www.stthomasofcanterbury.com](http://www.stthomasofcanterbury.com)

Parish Priest: **Canon Anthony Charlton** email: [anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priest: **Fr Sylvester Adeniyi** Parish Deacon: **Rev. David Avery** email: [davidavery@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:davidavery@rcaos.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: **Miss Linda Scott**

University of Kent Chaplaincy: **Fr Tom Herbst** (01843 230 774) email: [tjherbst@gmail.com](mailto: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)



### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) John Todd - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)  
8.30 pm - 6.30 am *Rumanian Orthodox Easter Celebration*  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2nd Sunday of Easter** Jn 20: 19-31  
*DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY*  
8 am Mary Wright's intentions  
9:30 am People of the Parish  
11 am Brendan McCormack - RIP (*Dorene McCormack*)  
3.00 pm *Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church*  
4.00 pm Confirmation in the Hall  
6 pm Ruby Cookman - RIP (*Bob Cookman*)  
**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April St Catherine of Siena** Jn 3: 1-8  
7.30 am Kathleen Haley - RIP (*Karoline & James Haley*)  
**10 am** Lucija - RIP (*Virginus*)  
7 - 8.30pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
7.30 pm *First Holy Communion Parents' Meeting in Hall*  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April St George (Feast transferred)** Jn 3:7b-15  
NO MORNING MASS  
12 noon Doris Barratt (*Christine Boorman*)  
**Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> May St Joseph the Worker** Mt 13: 54-58  
NO MORNING MASS  
12 noon Rosa Taylor - RIP (*Joe and Family*)  
7 - 8.30pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
**Thursday 02<sup>nd</sup> May St Athanasius** Jn 3: 31-36  
7.30 am Francis Brown - RIP (*Family*)  
12 noon Anthony Jaconelli - RIP (*Shirley, Joyce & Rodney*)  
*Scripture group in Upper Room*  
7.45pm *Prayer and Pub*  
**Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> May Sts Philip and James, Apostles** Jn 14: 6-14  
7.30 am Morning Prayer  
12 noon Requiem Mass of Daniel Bannon  
NO EVENING MASS  
8.00 pm *Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
**Saturday 04<sup>th</sup> May The English Martyrs** Jn 6:44-51  
10.30 - 11.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*  
12 noon M Abraham - RIP  
4.30 - 5.30 *Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)*  
6pm (Vigil) Annie Galvin (*E Corcoran*)  
**Sunday 05<sup>th</sup> May 3rd Sunday of Easter** Jn 21: 1-19  
8 am People of the Parish  
9.00 am First Holy Communion Lessons in the Hall  
9:30 am Celia Welch - RIP & intention of UCM members  
11 am Alfi McKay - RIP & Lucy McKay (*Jim & Family*)  
2.00 pm Filipino Celebration of Flores de Mayo in church  
4.00 pm Confirmation in the Hall  
6 pm Julia Pilkiene - RIP 10 years (*Family*)

### From Fr Anthony ...

I am sure that most of you are aware of the process by which an adult becomes a Catholic Christian in the church. It is known as Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. The RCIA as it is known consists of various stages. Firstly there is an enquiry period at the end of which the person is formerly welcomed into a period known as the catechumenate which comprises of a systematic formation in the faith. At the beginning of Lent there is a Rite of Election when the person is called to the Sacraments of Initiation by the bishop. The time during Lent is known as a period of purification and enlightenment. It is a time for prayer and reflection. At the Easter vigil the adult is baptised and confirmed and receives Communion for the first time. In our parish this Easter, Amir was baptised and Alex and Chris were received into full communion. Also at the vigil Darren and Angus completed their initiation when they received the sacrament of Confirmation with the other three. Now the final stage is called the period of Mystagogia. Mystagogical Catechesis is the period of catechesis, from Easter to Pentecost, that instructs the neophytes, the new faithful, in the significances of the signs and symbols of the Sacraments and sacred liturgy, so as to increase their full, conscious, active participation in the life of the Christian community. "Mystagogia" is a strange word that is gradually returning to the Christian vocabulary. It means "going deeper into the mysteries"—that is, into the truths of the faith. Mystagogia describes the ancient custom of spending the first week of Easter with the newly baptised; helping them experience the depths of the truths they have accepted in their Baptism, Confirmation and first Eucharist. The Easter season is a time of "Mystagogia" for everyone, not just for new Christians. The newly baptised, or neophytes, continue to meet with one another after Easter until Pentecost, gradually taking their place in the Church, to discuss and discover the living of a sacramental life; living out the Gospel and becoming involved in the parish. Topics often covered are evangelisation, stewardship and lay ministry. As it is for all Christians, it is a lifelong process of entering ever more deeply into the death and resurrection of the Lord. As a parish, this is an ideal time for us to reflect on what we have celebrated. Here are some questions we can ask ourselves. How am I living a sacramental life? How do I see my place within the Church and the parish? Am I a missionary disciple? Am I a good steward of my gifts and talents? Do I use them for the building up of the community? What difference does the Eucharist make to my life? Am I open to the working of the Holy Spirit in my life? Hopefully in the coming weeks between Easter and Pentecost we will be able to reflect on these areas of our lives as a member of the body of Christ, the Church.

## PARISH MATTERS



**Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 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 schedule  
**Parents Meeting:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April in the Hall  
**CONFIRMATION 2019:** Sessions in the Hall as per schedule



**INTRODUCTORY TALK ON THE HOLY LAND.** Luke Lavan, a parishioner who teaches archaeology at Kent University, is giving us an introduction to the Holy Land exploring the themes of places, people and texts reflecting his studies on the region. This will take place on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May at St Thomas' Hall at 7.30pm. All Welcome, especially Holy Land Pilgrimage participants.



**POLISH NATIONAL HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS:** The Polish community invite you to join in their National Heritage Day celebration taking place in St Thomas' Church Hall on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May at 11am.

### CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY EVENTS:

**Poetry in a Quiet Garden,** 2-5pm Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Eudæmonia Quiet Garden (Broad Street)  
Introduced by Victoria Field, a quiet afternoon using poetry to structure the silence. Victoria was formerly Poet in Residence at Truro Cathedral and has a wide experience of using poetry to explore spirituality, ending with afternoon tea. No charge (Donations to Quiet Garden Trust welcome) but please book, as numbers are strictly limited, by email to [petertoon@aol.com](mailto:petertoon@aol.com) or by phone to 01227 451991

**'Thy Kingdom Come' Prayer Evening:** 6:30pm Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at St Mary Bredin. All are welcome for an evening of worship and prayer.

The National Pray for Schools Fortnight running 12<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May! As part of the fortnight, there is an evening of prayer for our local schools on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7.30pm - 9.00pm at Canterbury Baptist Church. We'd love you and your congregation to come and join us as we intercede for our local children, youth and teachers. (all welcome).

More details on the posters in the Narthex for all the above.

**Canterbury Medieval Pageant** St Thomas's is again taking part in the Family Trail for the Medieval Pageant on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July. If you could volunteer time and talents to this event, please contact Linda in the office.

### SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**This weekend- 27/28 April** - St George's Cathedral - our Diocesan Mother Cathedral. This collection goes towards the upkeep

**Next weekend - 04/05 May** - There is no second collection

### PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS 2019:



Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7.30 pm: First Holy Communion parents meeting in the Church Hall  
Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Parish Liturgy Meeting



### DIVINE MERCY THIS SUNDAY - 28th April 2019

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said in the Church at **3.00pm**.



### FLORES DE MAYO 2019:

The Filipino Community will celebrate Flores de Mayo, a religious festival to Honour the Holy Mother of God, on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 2pm In St Thomas' church. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration.

The March for Life UK will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May starting outside Westminster Church House, 25 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BN at 2pm. There will also be events in the morning from 9:30am until 1:30pm, for more details and local coach information see [www.MarchforLife.co.uk](http://www.MarchforLife.co.uk)

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** HCPT Group (5)87: **4th - 11th October 2019** staying at Hosanna House. All ages welcome. For more information please talk to Father Anthony or Annie Judge on 07866 515797 or [anniejudge@hotmail.com](mailto:anniejudge@hotmail.com).

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Some places are still available on the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Paul Hendricks. Dates: 23-30 August 2019. For details please see: [www.tangney-tours.com/CA](http://www.tangney-tours.com/CA) and its special section for Southwark.

### 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 Louie Kitt, John O'Driscoll, Fr Kevin St Albyn, Margaret Jones and Veronica Derbyshire

### Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Canon John Bailey, Marissa Arevalo, Teresa Wicker, Vincent Ciudad, Lawrence Ajewole Adeniyi, Raphael Adeniyi, John Todd, Frederick Prior, Christine Mahy, Father Alexander Fraser, Fr Alan Wright, Itohan Erhahon (sister of Fr Valentine), John Reidy and Daniel Bannon

### Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 20/21 April 2019:

**Offertory:** There was no church offertory collection. Our grateful thanks for your generous contribution to the Priests' Easter Collection.

**2nd Collection:** (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>) South Sudan raised £1709.31 (Friday 19<sup>th</sup>) Holy Places raised £433.30