

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

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 ...

This coming Thursday, 15th August, the feast of the Assumption, in England is a Holy day of obligation. It was only in 1950 that Pope Pius XII infallibly proclaimed the truth of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He wrote in his apostolic constitution "the Immaculate Mother of God, Mary ever Virgin, when the course of her early life was ended, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven." Even though it was only infallibly proclaimed then it has been the teaching of the Church from earliest times. The term assumption is a biblical metaphor expressing the final destiny of the faithful. Mary is the perfect reflection of Christ, the template of all Christians. Her assumption is a sign of hope for the world, a guarantee that God will realise his saving plan for humankind. As Mary is now, we are to be. As we celebrate this feast we remember our ultimate destiny to be with God. Father Fio Mascarenhas S.J. in his book on Mary writes that Mary's Assumption is not a personal reward. "It is a pledge of the fulfilment of the promises of God for all of humanity - for she is the model of the people of God, and where she is now, all the elect must hope to be one day!"

The Assumption of Mary has been a subject of Christian art for centuries and its feast day was made a public holiday in England by King Alfred the Great in the 9th century. St John of Damascus describes the origin of this belief in these words: "St Juvenal, Bishop of Jerusalem, at the Council of Chalcedon [AD 451], made known to the Emperor Marcian and Pulcheria, who wished to possess the body of the Mother of God, that Mary died in the presence of all the apostles, but that her tomb, when opened, upon the request of St Thomas who arrived late, was found empty; wherefrom the apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven."

The Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate the feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God on August 15, the same day that the Catholic Church and some Protestant churches celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Mary. When I think of this feast I recall the beautiful Domitian Church in Jerusalem run by the German Benedictines. A focus point is an image of Mary asleep awaiting the assumption and the church is full of wonderful mosaics depicting the life of Mary.

In celebrating this feast this year can we pray for all those who are contemplating their own death. Some people can no longer face the pain and suffering of their illness. They want to hasten their end. I commend them to our loving Mother with the word we say in the Hail Mary "pray for us now and at the hour of our death."

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Agnes Natrass (Yates Family)

Sunday 11th August Nineteenth Sunday (C) Lk 12: 32-48

8 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Mary Kate Ruzicka-Anders - RIP (Pauline Lilford)

11 am Intentions of Robert Ashley-Thomas (Sean Clancy)

12.15 pm Baptism of Rosie Debbie Delgado

4 pm Mass for the Polish Community

6 pm Dominic Hamlyn - RIP (Solly Family)

Monday 12th August St Jane Frances de Chantal Mt 17: 22-27

7.30 am Ambrosine Family's intentions

12 noon Requiem Mass for Kazimierz Krynicki

7 - 9 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 13th August Sts Pontian & Hippolytus Mt 18:1-5,10,12-14

7.30 am Debbie McLearn - good health (Sharon Baker)

12 noon Jack McNulty - RIP (Phyllis Steel)

Wednesday 14th Aug St Maximilian Mary Kolbe Mt 18: 15-20

7.30 am Nathalie on her birthday (Maria)

10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

12 noon Kazimierz Krynicki - RIP (Mrs Krynicki & family)

7.30 - 8.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 15th August Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Lk 1:39-56

9.30 am Ann Silcock - on her birthday

12 noon Ossie Correa - RIP (Noronha Family)

Scripture Group in Recess until September

7.45pm Prayer & Pub is in Recess until September

8.00 pm Ambrosine Family's intentions

Friday 16th August St Stephen of Hungary Mt 19: 3-12

7.30 am Morning Prayer

12 noon Intentions of Angela Nichols and family

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Heather Tellis on her birthday (Bland Family)

8.00 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 17th August Feria Mt 19: 13-15

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Intentions of Sean Clancy

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

6pm (Vigil) People of the Parish

Sunday 18th August Twentieth Sunday (C) Lk 12: 49-53

8 am

9:30 am Agnes Natrass - RIP (Garside Family)

11 am Catherine (Kath) Packer - RIP (Packer Family)

12.15 pm Baptism of Ezra Sagana Sillett

6 pm

Please note: Changes to Mass times for week 19 -23 August detailed opposite

Please note: **Monday, 26 August** is a Bank Holiday and therefore there will only be **one Mass on this day at 10am**. There will be **NO ADORATION** on that evening

PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be **Saturday, 24th August 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).



We are pleased to confirm that Father Sylvester Adeniyi will continue serving the parish community of St Thomas's as Assistant Priest until Summer 2020.



We would like to say a very big **Thank you!** to Lead Sacristan, Una Harris, who has given more than 30 years of faithful service to St Thomas's. To celebrate this wonderful service to the community, Una was presented with the Fideliter Servienti medal by Archbishop Peter Smith at 11am Mass on 16th June. We welcome Pat Moore who will take over the Lead Sacristan duties.

We are still looking for parishioners to help with Sacristan duties at the Masses. If you feel you could help in this important Ministry, please see Fr Anthony or Pat Moore

Sponsored Ride and Stride Event Canterbury 2019 takes place on Saturday, 14 September 2019 from 10am to 6pm. Funds raised during this event are divided equally between the Friends of Kent Churches and the church/chapel of your choice. This is a wonderful way to help raise much needed funds for churches in Kent. Last year we had one brave cyclist who rode for us and we hope to have more this year. There are two ways to help raise funds - by cycling/walking between the churches or being a welcomer at the church to sign in riders/walkers. We are looking for volunteers to undertake either of these roles. If you wish to find out more, please contact Linda in the Office.



Remember to check the notice boards and website for more information not able to fit in the newsletter.

DAY OF RENEWAL - On Saturday, 7th September 2019 there is a Day of Renewal at Aylesford Priory, Maidstone, M20 7BX starting at 9.30 am. The theme for the session is Healing and Empowerment. Please see the poster in the Narthex for the full programme. More information from the Maidstone Prayer group - Mr Joe Smallcombe on 01634 307312 or Mrs Palmyra Willis on 01580 211204

In August, there will be no coffee, in the hall, after the 9.30 Sunday mass. Come along on the 1st September!

Prayer and Pub meetings are in recess until after the summer break - see you in September.

OPEN AIR MASS RAFFLE PRIZES. Please check the list in the Narthex to see whether you won a prize at the Open Air Mass. Prizes can be collected from Linda in the office between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. If not collected before 16 August, the prizes will be donated to the next raffle. Thank you

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend - 10/11 August - There is no second collection
Next weekend - 17/18 August - There is no second collection

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK 20 - 23 AUGUST.

Please note that Fr Anthony will be away during this week so there will only be one daily Mass as follows:

Tuesday, 20th : Mass at 12 noon only (NO 7.30 am)

Wednesday, 21st: Mass at 12 noon only (NO 7.30 am)

Thursday, 22nd: Mass at 12 noon only (NO 7.30 am)

Friday, 23rd: Mass at 12 noon only (NO 7.30 pm)



Prayer for Holiday time

We thank you Lord for the gift of Summer. We thank you for this time to relax and be refreshed. Bless and protect all those who are travelling. Jesus said to his disciples come away and rest awhile. Help us to appreciate the importance of resting. May you be in our resting that we may be restored and refreshed to face the challenges of sharing the Good News with others.

Weekend Retreat for bereaved parishioners

Booking forms the "Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ" weekend for bereaved parishioners to be held on the **11-13th October 2019** are available in the Narthex

The Divine Mercy Apostolate of Marian Fathers is organising a **Divine Mercy Pilgrimage** to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Simon Stock; The Friars Aylesford Priory; Aylesford, Kent ME20 7BX on **Bank Holiday Monday - 26th August 2019** from 10 am to 5 pm led by the Rt Rev Bishop Patrick Lynch SS CC - Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark Diocese and The Marian Fathers. See Poster and flyers in the Narthex for full programme details.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY TRAINING

A one-day course on November 2nd 2019 at Aylesford Priory for laity and clergy who are active in the ministry to the bereaved or see it as a ministry that they would like to take on. This course is not suitable for those recently bereaved. **Participants should be recommended by their parish priest.**

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 and Rachelle Castro

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, Christine Mahy, Father Alexander Fraser, Fr Alan Wright, John Reidy, Daniel Bannon, Eileen Donovan, Jean Vanier, Beryl Sammut, Norah Pitt, James Chamarette, Michael Haggart, Tsige Buta, Agnes Natrass, Ossie Correa, Elizabeth Simpson and Dr Kazimierz Krynicki

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 03/04 Aug 2019:

Offertory: £1060.79 loose & £591.00 Gift Aided -Total **£1651.79**
2nd Collection: there was no second collection
Special July collection for Peter's Pence: Raised **£90.00**