

# NEWSLETTER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HU

Telephone: 01227 462896 Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)

Web Site: [www.stthomasofcanterbury.com](http://www.stthomasofcanterbury.com)

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

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)



### From Fr Anthony ...

Most of us have heard of the internationally renowned sculptor, Antony Gormley, and his piece "The Angel of the North". It was completed in 1998, and is a steel sculpture of an angel, 20 metres (66 ft) tall, with wings measuring 54 metres (177 ft) across and stands on a hill overlooking the A1 and A167 and the East Coast Main line. Well, he has an exhibition at the Royal Academy in Piccadilly, London which ends on 3rd December. The human body is at the core of his wide ranging practice. He says that he sees the body as a vessel for feeling. I was there last Thursday and came away admiring his ingenuity and creativity but feeling myself not uplifted but somewhat down-hearted and depressed. I have been trying to understand why his sculptures evoke this reaction in me. In the notes on the exhibition it says that Gormley describes the body as; "a place of experience, emotion, consciousness, memory and imagination." The first piece you see as you enter the courtyard in front of the Royal Academy is a small sculptor which is a life size form of a new-born baby made of solid iron. It is just lying on the pavement, lost and abandoned. Throughout the exhibition he depicts various forms of the body. One room is full of iron cast figures, some standing on the floor, others suspending from the ceiling and still others projecting out from the walls at different angles. I know Antony Gormley is trying to get us to reflect on ourselves, and the space we occupy but what I get from this is a deep sense of isolation, detachment and loss. We are relational beings and this sense of the need for companionship and the other is nowhere to be seen, experienced or hinted at. The medium he uses is iron and concrete that seems to emphasise hardness and coldness. Perhaps my reaction to his art says more about me than about him. Our bodies are made for relationship and love. We experience this through family and friendship. The greatest act that we can be part of each week is the Eucharist, the Mass. We are called to come together to pray and listen and be fed. We become more closely the Body of Christ. Jesus shares his very self with us. When we receive the Host and the Chalice we hear the words: "The body of Christ, the Blood of Christ." In faith we say "Amen" We are responding to the invitation to share in the ultimate act of love which is his death on the Cross and his resurrection. Our bodies are sacred and made in the image and likeness of God. When we receive communion we become what we eat. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. It means we need to look after our bodies, cherish and value them and therefore we treat each other as unique and special. Through the body we express love and kindness, compassion and service. We are relational beings not destined to live in isolation and loneliness.

### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

2nd Collection:  
Archbishop's Fund

6pm (Vigil) Maximilian Ty - RIP & intentions of Leo & Gemmy  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November Thirty Second Sunday (C)** Lk 20: 27-38

8 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Margaret Clark - RIP (Clark Caballero Family)  
Coffee in the Hall  
11 am Carr Family (Josie Carr)  
4 pm Polish Community Mass  
6 pm Archbishop Michael George Bowan - RIP  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November St Martin of Tours** Lk 17: 1-6  
7.30 am Margaret Jones - RIP (Joannie & Roger Wynde)  
12 noon Connor Chambers - RIP  
7 - 9 pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November St Josaphat** Lk 17: 7-10  
7.30 am John Turner - RIP (David & Josephine Lewis)  
12 noon Eileen Leighton - RIP (Pat Gibson)  
7.30 pm RCIA in the Presbytery  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov St Frances Xavier Cabrini** Lk 17: 11-19  
7.30 am Pam Dodds on her Birthday (Renn Family)  
10.30 - 11 am Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)  
12 noon Welfare of Alan, Macella & Laura chambers  
7.30 - 8.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
8.00 Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November Feria** Lk 17: 20-25  
7.30 am For al the faithful departed  
12 noon Michael Lambe - RIP (Chris Shaw)  
Scripture Group in Upper Room  
7.45pm Prayer & Pub  
**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November St Albert the Great** Lk 17: 26-37  
7.30 am Morning Prayer  
12 noon Zsuzsanna Chisholm (Tim Morris)  
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7.30 pm Deceased members of the Jean Louis Family  
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November St Edmund of Abingdon** Lk 18: 1-8  
9.00 am Baptism Course  
10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)  
12 noon Deceased family and friends of Nichols Family  
4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)  
6pm (Vigil) Rita Dempsey - RIP (Al and Tim)  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November Thirty Third Sunday (C)** Lk 21: 5-19  
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR  
8 am Intentions of Sarah Ryan (Pauline Ryan)  
9:30 am Margaret Jones - RIP (Group 87 HCPT)  
Coffee in the Hall  
11 am Welfare of Angela & Michael Donovan  
Baptism of Thomas Edward Acteson during Mass  
Baptism of Emma Lipinsky  
1.00 pm  
6 pm People of the Parish

### PARISH MATTERS



**Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised....our next preparation meeting will be in the Presbytery on **Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 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 - application forms available in the Narthex

**RCIA 2020:** Tuesdays at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery.



**The Union of Catholic Mothers** say thank you to all who supported our cake sale £52.02p was raised for Fr Freddy to support his work in South Sudan.

**Tickets on sale after masses on the 2nd & 3rd or from the presbytery for the Quiz night 9th November 7-10pm.**

A family friendly evening tickets in advance £5 adults and £1 children which include tea, coffee, squash and light snacks. BYO alcoholic drinks. Raffle on the night. Prizes for winners. For more details email: [socialstthom-asrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthom-asrc@gmail.com) or see church facebook page

Save the date: **Christmas Fair 8th December:** Raffle, Tombola, Father Christmas, Games, Stalls and lots more.

**CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY** - please see the notice board in the Narthex for upcoming events.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Julia is relocating to Canterbury to take up a lectureship at the new medical school. Julia is seeking a room or apartment. If you can assist her, please phone: 07834 415672

**St. Thomas' Primary School Open Days:** We are having our open days for prospective parents of children due to start school in 2020 on:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 9:15 a.m.,  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 9:15 a.m., and  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 1:30 p.m.

Booking is essential, please contact the school office - details on poster in the Narthex

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, one to one or at social events. Visit [www.catholicsingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicsingles.org.uk), tel. 0161 941 3498 or see notice in the Narthex for more information.

**Barn Dance** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at St Anselm's School, Old Dover Road, Canterbury. Dancing to live band 'Re-Jigged'. Raffle. In aid of HCPT group 87 taking children with special needs to Lourdes for a special Children's Pilgrimage next Easter. Bring your own food and drinks. Tea and coffee provided. £6 (under 14 £3) To reserve a ticket contact: Annie 07866515797 email: [anniejudge@hotmail.com](mailto:anniejudge@hotmail.com)

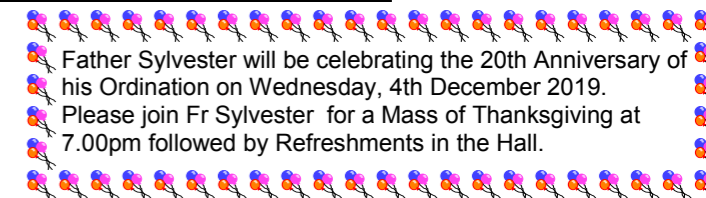
You are cordially invited to a lecture, sponsored by the University of Kent's Staff Association, on: **'The Enduring Appeal of Holy Relics: The case of Thomas Becket'** at the University of Kent, Rutherford Lecture Theatre One on Wednesday 13th November, 2019 at 18h00

Based upon his new book *The Relics of Thomas Becket*, John Butler's (Emeritus Professor of Health Services Studies at Kent Uni.) talk explores the continuing fascination that the Church of England has with holy relics, using St Thomas Becket as a case study. The talk introduces the startling revelation that the relics of St Thomas have been used as instruments of international diplomacy.

### SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**This weekend - 09/10 Nov - Archbishop's Administration Fund:** this collection helps to meet the cost of the central administration of the diocese.

**Next weekend - 16/17 Nov - no second collection this weekend**



Father Sylvester will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of his Ordination on Wednesday, 4th December 2019. Please join Fr Sylvester for a Mass of Thanksgiving at 7.00pm followed by Refreshments in the Hall.

**CATHOLIC MENS GROUP:** Fr Sylvester invites all Catholic Men (25 yrs and above) for a get together on Wednesday, 27th November from 4.30 to 5.30 pm in the Church Hall

**ADVENT STOCK IN THE SHOP!** We have a wide selection of Advent Readings, chocolate advent calendars, advent wreaths and candles. Please come in and support our parish shop

**SWEEPING THE CHRISTMAS COBWEBS!** Please join us for a church cleaning work party on Saturday 7th and 14th December from 1pm - 3.30pm. Refreshments will be provided. Let Linda in the office know if you can join us on either day.

### Vocations Weekend for young women

**Theme: Discernment and Vocation**

**Dates: 29 Nov - 1 Dec 2019 in Liverpool**

Organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

**There is nothing quite like religious life - it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God.** *If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.*

**For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at**

[lynnecj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnecj@hotmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### WELCOMING PILGRIMS

We want to set up a parish group to welcome pilgrims to St Thomas's Church. We want to provide some guided tours of our church and some opportunities to venerate St Thomas's relics outside of Mass times. We want to be ready before July next year. Anyone interested in hearing more, without any commitment at this stage, is invited to an initial meeting and discussion from 10.30 to 11.30 on Saturday 9th November 2019 in the Upper room.

Any queries about this meeting to: Helen Natrass

[helennatrass@btinternet.com](mailto:helennatrass@btinternet.com)

### 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, Pat Gibson, Phyllis Stirton, Fr Louie Kitt, Jenni Aldridge, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, David Bull, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Elizabeth Gilhenny and Bill Parker

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

Tsige Buta, Agnes Natrass, Ossie Correa, Elizabeth Simpson, Tony Ashman, Dr Kazimierz Krynicki, Gillian Dyche, Fr Gerard O'Brien, Fr Gregory Moore, Bernadette Lee, Rachele Castro, Brenda Pearce, A Charles Ryan, Fr Wilfrid McGrea, Margaret Jones, Jean Gale, Agnes Kabdebo-Gedeon, Tony Dyer, Fr Jim Kirby, Connor Chambers, Archbishop Michael Bowen, STL, PhL. Catherine Ferguson, Wim Van Vuuren and Fr Tom Craig Fuller

**Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 26/27 Oct 2019:**

**Offertory:** £960.61 loose & £700.21 gift aided: Total **£1660.82**

**2nd Collection - SVP - raised £692.02**