

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HU

Telephone: 01227 462896 Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

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

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)



TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) John Edgington - RIP (Mary Edgington & Family)

Sunday 29th December St Thomas of Canterbury

(The Holy Family) Mt 1:18-24

8 am Mr & Mrs Joseph on their wedding anniversary

9:30 am People of the Parish

11 am Kazimierz Krynicki - RIP (Mrs Krynicki)

12.15 Baptism of Benjamin Rüdiger Grass

6 pm Joao Ferreira RIP (Elizabeth Ferreira)

8 pm Sung Vespers in Canterbury Cathedral Crypt

Monday 30th Dec 6th Day in Octave of Christmas Lk 2:36-40

7.30 am Hugh Watson - RIP (Mary Buckenham)

12 noon Intentions of UCM members (Nieves)

7 - 9 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

Tuesday 31st December St Sylvester, Pope Jn 1: 1-18

7.30 am Andre Ambroisine - RIP

12 noon Eileen Calcutt - RIP (Tessa Metcalfe)

7.30 pm NO RCIA this week

11.15 pm Vigil Mass, Mary Mother of God

- James' intentions (C Silcock-Stone)

2020

Wednesday 1st January Mary, Mother of God Lk 2: 16-21

10am Int: Bp Andrew Nkea of Mamfe, Cameroon.

NO ADORATION

Thursday 2nd Jan Sts Basil the Great and Nazianzen Lk 1: 5-25

7.30 am Mass for all Parishioners (Linda)

12 noon Mauro, Giuseppe & Daria (Francesco Sismondini)

Scripture Group in recess until 9th January 2020

7.45pm Prayer & Pub in recess until 16th January 2020

Friday 3rd January Holy Name of Jesus Jn 1: 29-34

7.30 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Hospital Mass

12 noon John Higham - RIP (C Silcock-Stone)

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Rev Fr Paul Perry - health and wellbeing (B Harris)

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 4th January Feria Lk 1: 39-45

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

12 noon Patrick, Con, Sean & Jim Lyons - RIP &

Jim & Mary Kelly - RIP (Bernadette Lyons)

Divine Mercy Chaplet after Mass

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

6pm (Vigil) Andrews Barretto - RIP (Noronha Family)

Sunday 5th January Epiphany of the Lord Mt 2:1-12

8 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Michael Goggin - RIP (Goggin Family)

11 am Tony Ashman - RIP (Ashman Family)

6 pm Gemma Casser-Van Vuuren & sons (Hilary McKernan)

From Fr Anthony ...

"For better or worse, the most influential people in our lives are those with whom we live. The greatest support or barrier to the development of faith comes from the quality of family life in our formative years." Fr S. Flynn.

Today, on this feast of the Holy Family, let us reflect on the importance of family life and pray for our families.

Here are some of the things I suggest that we could pray for.

- That whatever disagreements or rows that might occur within the family, may their day end with making peace. "Never let the sun go down on your anger."
- May their lives be filled with small gestures of affection.
- May the Bible be a part of their life. May they read it together as husbands and wives, parents and children. May the light of God's word help them to move forward as a family
- We pray for young couples who are newly married that in the turbulent and demanding journey of their life of love they may know the wisdom and strength God gives them in the grace of the sacrament.
- We pray that the culture of comfort may not deter couples from having children, of bringing forth new life.
- May fathers and mothers whose lives are filled with the pressures of work always find time to play with their children
- May children and young adults not waste time on hollow things like social media, and playing on their phones and the exclusion of what is really important.
- That we value the elderly in family life, especially grandparents.

It would be good to hear from families in the parish what we need to pray for and focus on.



PARISH MATTERS



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children baptised our next preparation meeting will be in the Presbytery on **Saturday, 18th January 2020, 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 first session is on Sunday, 5th January 2020 in the Hall.
CONFIRMATION 2020: The first Session is on Sunday, 12th January at 4pm in the Hall
RCIA 2020: Tuesdays at 7.30 pm in the Presbytery.



FLOOR REPAIRS During the weeks **6th to 16th January**, the Sanctuary Floor and the Floors of the Sacristies and their foyer will be repaired. **There will be no access to the Upper Room, toilet or kitchen during this activity.** Your understanding during this process is appreciated.

USE OF CHURCH, MEETING ROOMS AND HALL. Please would all groups who wish to reserve use of any meeting rooms, hall or church itself during 2020 please submit your requests to Linda in the office before 31 December 2019 via the parish email address: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

GROUPS' WINTER RECESS:

The **Scripture group** are in recess until 9th January 2020
The **Prayer & Pub** group are in recess until 16th January 2020

St. Thomas' Catholic Primary School is taking applications for their Reception Class intake for September 2020. In addition to the online KCC application form, we ask if you could please complete the school's Supplementary Information Form available from the school office or from our website on <https://www.st-thomas-canterbury.kent.sch.uk/admissions/>. Please send your Supplementary Information Form to the school by post or hand it in at the school office before 15th January 2020 with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.

Canon Anthony will be available to sign supplementary application forms on Friday, 10 January between 3.30pm and 6.30pm at the Presbytery, 59 Burgate

St Thomas Church is to be the venue for the **World Day Of Prayer Service**, celebrating the people of Zimbabwe, on **Friday 6th March 2020 at 14.00**, to which all the church communities and the people of the Canterbury area are warmly invited, with refreshments afterwards in St Thomas Church Hall.

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, Bill Parker, Des Fisher, Fr Paul Perry and Anne Queenen

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, 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, Theresa Hodges, Wim Van Vuuren, Fr Tom Creagh-Fuller, Francis Sullivan, Brian Molloy, Margaret Bromley, Claire Ogilvie, Bernard Sullivan, Anne Rotter, Ben Mutch and John Leonard Perl

Please pray for those whose first anniversaries are this month:

Phyllis Higenbottom, Kevin Hackman, Celia Welch and Serafin Arevalo.

Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 21/22 Dec 2019:

Offertory: £995.25 loose & £498.06 gift aided: Total **£1493.31**
2nd Collection - no second collection this weekend

A LIGHT FOR MY PATH - A prayerful encounter with God through Scripture

St Thomas' Church Hall 7,30pm to 9 pm on the following Wednesdays:

January 15th Reading and praying the psalms

January 22nd Reading and praying the Gospels

January 29th Reading and praying the parables of Jesus

Led by Christopher Chapman, an experienced retreat leader and spiritual director, and author of *Seeing in the Dark, Earthed in God* and *Send my Roots Rain*.

Taizé Evening of Prayer during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Tuesday 21st January 2020, 19.30 to 20.30

Singing, Silence, Readings, Reflection, Intercessions

A part of Christians Together Canterbury's Year of Prayer

CHRISTIAN TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY NEWS

CTC invite you to gather with us at Canterbury Cathedral at **7:30pm on Saturday 18th January 2020** to begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with a service of prayer and worship. More to follow, but please save the date in your diaries.

HCPT GROUP 87 - Easter children's pilgrimage to Lourdes 11th-18th April 2020. If you or someone you know would like to join us as a child/teenager or helper for our pilgrimage to Lourdes please contact us for details and take a leaflet from the church Narthex. Contact : Zuzana Revayova zuzana.revayova13@gmail.com 07776117966 or Annie Judge anniejudge@hotmail.com 07866515797

100 Club Subscriptions for 2020

Old and new members please complete a form and return, together with the £25 membership fee, to the Office before 31/12/2019

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, tel. 0161 941 3498

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend - 28/29 December - SVP - gift aid envelopes available in the Narthex

Next weekend - 4/5 January - there is no second collection