

# 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) St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Sylvester Adeniyi CSSp Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

St Thomas' Shop (01227 462896): open Sunday mornings & weekdays (Times on Shop Door)

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

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Miss Lisa D'Agostini (01227 462539)

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Exec Prin Mr M Walters; Academy Prin: Mr J Rowarth (01227 826200)

Office open: Monday - Friday  
10am - 3pm for all parish business  
(Closed for lunch: 1 - 1.30pm)

### TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil)	Michael Mooney - RIP (Mary Stevens)
<b>Sunday 16th February 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 5: 17-37</b>	
8 am	Patricia Feeley's welfare
9:30 am	Eduard Nelson - RIP (Claudia Vargas)
11 am	People of the Parish
6 pm	Seamus Mallon - RIP
<b>Monday 17th February Feria 8: 11-13</b>	
7.30 am	NO EARLY MASS
12 noon	Joan Marie Bradley - RIP (Rose Marie Bradley)
7 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Tuesday 18th February Feria Mk 8: 14-21</b>	
7.30 am	NO EARLY MASS
12 noon	Mrs Pat O'Conner (James McGovern)
7.30 pm	RCIA
<b>Wednesday 19th February Feria Mk 8: 22-26</b>	
7.30 am	NO EARLY MASS
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Patricia Lawrence - health & wellbeing
7.30 - 8.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm	Confirmation Planning Meeting
<b>Thursday 20th February Feria Mk 8: 27-33</b>	
7.30 am	NO EARLY MASS
12 noon	Matthew Chollam Kattil (Mr Johnson) Scripture Group
7.45 pm	Prayer and Pub
<b>Friday 21st February St Peter Damian Mk 8: 34 - Mk 9:1</b>	
7.30 am	NO MORNING PRAYER
12 noon	NO MIDDAY MASS TODAY NO Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm	John O'Leary & Michael (Webb) Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Saturday 22nd February Chair of St Peter, Apostle Mt 16: 13-19</b>	
9.00 am	Baptism Course
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Peter Geldard)
12 noon	John O'Leary & Michael (Webb)
4.30 - 5.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
6pm (Vigil)	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 23rd February 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 5: 38-48</b>	
DAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED	
8 am	25th Wed. Anniv. Jonathan & Arlyn Enabore (Dory)
9:30 am	Mutch Family (SVP)
11 am	Sean Carr (Josie & Tom Carr)
12.15	Baptism of Philip Charles Alexander
6 pm	Timmy O'Sullivan - RIP (Mary Insall)

2nd  
Collection:  
**Poor  
Parishes**

### From Fr Anthony ...

#### Consecration to Our Lady

One of my favourite places to visit in London is the National Gallery overlooking Trafalgar Square. In the Sainsbury wing there is a painting on two hinged panels known as the Wilton Diptych. It is an extremely rare survival of a late Medieval religious panel painting from England. The diptych was painted for King Richard II of England, who is depicted kneeling before the Virgin and Child. It was Richard II in 1381 in Westminster abbey, in the tiny chapel of Our Lady of the Pew, who dedicated England to Our Lady. He sought her protection in the face of great political turmoil. It is said that this was the first formal occasion when England was known as "Mary's Dowry". England has been known as Mary's Dowry since Anglo-Saxon times. Successive kings and noblemen perpetuated the belief that this county was set apart for Our Lady for all time. Often when we think of a dowry we imagine a payment to a bride or her family before her wedding but the term derives from the Latin word "Dons", meaning gift or donation. England, therefore, was given to the Blessed Virgin Mary as a perpetual gift or donation. In their November 2017 meeting the Bishops of England and Wales agreed to the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary on or around the Solemnity of the Annunciation 2020. The re-dedication in 2020, unlike the dedication of King Richard II in 1381, will not be the gift of the country of England, but the personal gift of the faith of the people of England to the Mother of God, to seek her help in building a strong spiritual foundation for the New Evangelisation. We call upon Our Lady to guide and protect our country in the years to come that the people of our country may work together to build a Common Good, as we seek to embrace the truth of the Gospel, that inspires us to create a culture that respects life, embraces the great diversity of our people, and inspires all to a greatness of heart that will serve our community, seeking the good of others before ourselves, especially the poor and the marginalised of our world. The Re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>, the nearest Sunday to the feast of the Annunciation, is both a personal promise of the people of our country and a renewal of the entrustment vows made by King Richard II.

As the website, <https://www.behold2020.com>, states, "This year, the Christians of England are called to make a personal dedication to Mary, taking up her example as Christ's first disciple. History shows us that when the people pray a surrender to God's will for their lives, society is transformed. By taking up this personal dedication in 2020, you can be a part of the renewal of this nation, drawing ourselves closer to the will of our loving God, through Mary." I suggest that in our parish we do this at the end of the 11am Mass on that date. Our personal promise will us closer to Mary, the first disciple of Christ. In this we unite in her joy by following her openness to God's call. Our communal entrustment unites us together as the people of our country in prayer, by renewing the vows of dedication made to Mary by our ancestors.

## PARISH MATTERS



**Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children baptised our next preparation meeting will be in the Presbytery on **Saturday, 21st March 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:** Sundays as per schedule at 9am in the Hall.

**CONFIRMATION 2020:** Sundays as per schedule at 4pm in the Hall

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



**100 club** The winners of £20 each for the January and February draws are: Mary de Wolf (No. 13), Ron Arcari (No. 97), Mike Garside (No. 71) and Janet Scott (No. 25)



**Save the date.** Sunday 15th March at 12h15 - Our Parish **AGM** will be held in the Hall, followed by tea and coffee.

7th March 2020 at 7pm in the Presbytery - **New Parish-ioners' meeting.** If you are new to the parish and have not yet signed up - please complete a form (at the back of the parish or online) and return to the Parish Office.



**SPECIAL FORTHCOMING MASSES.** Please diarise: Wednesday, 26 February: **ASH WEDNESDAY** - Masses at 9.30 am; 12 noon and 8.00pm

Tuesday, 24th March 2019 - **Feast Day of Oscar**

**Romero.** Extra Mass at 7.30pm with Musical accompaniment Wednesday, 25th March - THE ANNUNCIATION. Midday Mass will have Musical accompaniment

**HCPT GROUP 587 SUMMER PILGRIMAGE HOLIDAY TO LOURDES.** 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Any age welcome. Come and join us. More info at [group587@hcpt.org.uk](http://group587@hcpt.org.uk) or Annie Judge mob:07866515797 or Fr Anthony [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk) Leaflets in the Narthex **WANTED:** 2 strong helpers to assist with luggage and wheelchairs for this Pilgrimage.

**QUIZ NIGHT** in aid of MAP (Medical Aid for Palestinians) will be held in **St Thomas' Church Hall** on **29 February 2020** at **7.35pm.** Please see poster in Narthex. More info from Simon at [sws382@btinternet.com](mailto:sws382@btinternet.com) or phone/text 07849 834859

Fully escorted **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine,** Ireland, celebrating the feast of St. Patrick. 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020. - £599.00 per person sharing. See poster in Narthex or contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

"**With Full Conviction**", presented by the Palmers Players at **2:30pm Saturday 29th February** at the **Friends' Meeting House.**

In this play, three marginalised and broken people encounter one another, and find not only forgiveness and healing, but also a deeper sense of belonging. The play will be followed by a discussion around the issues that it raises, and a short contemplative exercise. There are no tickets for this event, but donations are welcome. See Poster in Narthex.

#### Week of Prayer for Lent: 28 Feb - 6 March

The final event in Christian Together Canterbury's Year of Prayer is at St Stephen's Church (CT2 7JU) 7:30pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February. This also opens a Week of Prayer for Lent. There will be a series of events during the week and the church will be open from 10 - 4, Monday to Friday, with resources for different ways of praying. See poster in the Narthex or visit [www.ststephenscanterbury.net](http://www.ststephenscanterbury.net)

#### SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**This weekend** - 15/16 February - no second collection

**Next weekend** - 22/23 February - **Poor Parishes** - this collection enables the Archbishops to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese.

We welcome Canon John O Toole as an additional resident in the Presbytery, 59 Burgate. Our Archbishop, John Wilson, has appointed him to the role of Episcopal Vicar for Kent until a new Auxiliary Bishop for the archdiocese is appointed by the Holy See. This will be his base from which he will visit parishes in Kent. Canon John is a classmate of mine and we were at school together. It is good to have him here but because of his new appointment he is unable to assist in the parish. We pray for him as he carries out this important role in the diocese.

**CORONA VIRUS:** Here is the advice issued by the Bishops to parishes concerning the CoronaVirus:

At the time of writing there is no need to take special measures on suspending the Chalice or Sign of Peace. Should that become necessary, more detailed pastoral care guidance will be issued.

Ensure that ministers of the Eucharist wash their hands before distributing communion or sanitise them is a good practice to encourage always.

Ensure everyone maintains good hygiene especially at Mass and parish gatherings.

The best way of protecting us from spread is for everyone to use universal good hygiene, which will effectively disrupt spread of the virus. We should be doing this all the time for 'flu:

Catch it - sneeze into a tissue;

Bin it - bin the tissue;

Kill it - wash your hands with soap and water

Do not touch your face unless you've washed your hands

Ask anyone with cold or flu symptoms to refrain from taking communion from the Chalice and receive the host on the hand only. (We should be doing this anyway, every 'flu season.)

Ensure good regular cleaning of surfaces lots of people touch regularly.

Ensure you combat discrimination against Chinese people and others wrongly assumed to have or be spreading the virus.

**Let God Transform your life - Silent prayer workshops** led by John Renn in Saint Thomas' Church, "Upper Room" - above Sacristy from 10 to 11 am on **Saturday: 4<sup>th</sup> April** and **2<sup>nd</sup> May** All welcome.

#### 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, Fr Louie Kitt, Jenni Aldridge, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, David Bull, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Elizabeth Gilhenny, Bill Parker, Fr Paul Perry, Anne Queenan and Margaret Stevenson

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

Wim Van Vuuren, Fr Tom Creagh-Fuller, Francis Sullivan, Brian Molloy, Margaret Bromley, Claire Ogilvie, Bernard Sullivan, Anne Rotter, Ben Mutch, John Leonard Perl, Des Fisher, Tony Weber, Phyllis Stirton, Collette Renault and Michael Dunne

**Please pray for those whose first anniversaries are this month:** Marisa Arevalo, Deidre Lovell, John Todd and Theresa Wicker.

**Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 08/09 Feb 2020:**

**Offertory:** £838.94 loose & £476.06 gift aided: Total **£1315.00**

**2nd Collection** - for Racial Justice of **£232.76**