



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 St Thomas of Canterbury

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton email: 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

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)

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.



Cake Sale The Union of Catholic Mother will be holding a cake sale today after the 9:30am Mass. We are supporting a young parishioner who is fundraising for Lepra. Come support us.

Building a Better Marriage Saturday 4th April 2020

Married couples! You can give each other a wonderful gift by spending a day exploring your relationship more deeply to gain valuable insights into your communication. Couples who have attended the course noted the positive changes it made to their marriage. There is no group sharing and this is not marriage counselling or guidance but a chance to make your marriage even better.
Contact: Carole - Tel: 07983524727 – email: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

Funeral Service: The funeral service of the late Phyllis Stirton, a long-standing parishioner of St Thomas', will take place 11am on Saturday 22 February in Gloucestershire.

Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from 3rd to 5th April 2020 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex.
For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 Maura 01322-551503 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

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.

"The God Who Speaks" – Year of the Word 2020

To mark the special Year of the Word Archbishop John Wilson is inviting all Parishes in the diocese to join him for a special diocesan gathering in Aylesford on **Saturday 27th June**. More details will be published in due course, but please save the date in your diary.

HCPT GROUP 587 SUMMER PILGRIMAGE HOLIDAY TO LOURDES. 22nd-29th May 2020 . Any age welcome. Come and join us. Find out more. Contact group587@hcpt.org.uk or Annie Judge mob:07866515797 or Fr Anthony canterbury@rcaos.org.uk Leaflets in the Narthex

Fully escorted **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine**, Ireland, celebrating the feast of St. Patrick. 16th 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

SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend - 08/09 February - Racial Justice Sunday - a collection to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society
Next weekend - 15/16 February - no second collection

SECOND COLLECTION: RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This weekend is *Racial Justice Sunday*. Our theme this year is 'You are at the heart of the Church' and celebrates the contribution Travelling Communities make to the Church in England and Wales". Historically, Gypsies, Roma and Travellers have experienced discrimination both in the wider society and, sadly, within the Church.

The aim of this *Racial Justice Sunday* is to celebrate the contribution that the Travelling Communities make within our parishes and to encourage parishioners to be more welcoming towards fellow Catholics who come from a Traveller background. It is an opportunity for all Catholics to pray for, reflect on and respond to Racial Justice matters within the Church and wider society. Today we are encouraged to discuss overt and covert forms of racism experience by fellow Catholics from the Travelling communities. To support the Church in its work with Travellers, our second collection this weekend is for Racial Justice Sunday.

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: 7th March, 4th April and 2nd May** All welcome.



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 Parishioners' 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.

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, Fr Paul Perry, Anne Queenan and Margaret Stevenson

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, John Leonard Perl, Des Fisher, Tony Weber and Phyllis Stirton

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 01/02 Feb 2020:

Offertory: £863.88 loose & £518.36 gift aided: Total **£1382.24**
2nd Collection - There was no second collection this weekend

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil)	Margaret Kelly - RIP (Mary Stevens)
Sunday 9th February 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 5: 13-16	
8 am	People of the Parish
9:30 am	Michael McDermott' recovery (Noreen Egan)
11 am	Hubert Schlarmann - RIP (Sheila)
12.15	Baptism of Zymirah Muingilu Odofin
4 pm	Mass for the Polish Community
6 pm	Fiona Galt's intentions
Monday 10th February St Scholastica Mk 6: 53-56	
7.30 am	NO EARLY MASS
9.30 am	Funeral Service for the late Tedina Linehan
12 noon	Margaret Kelly - RIP (Mary Stevens)
7 - 9 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm	Liturgy Committee Meeting in Presbytery
Tuesday 11th February Our Lady of Lourdes Mk 7:1-13	
World Day for the sick	
7.30 am	Kathleen Daubney and Family - welfare
12 noon	NO MIDDAY MASS TODAY
7.30 pm	RCIA
Wednesday 12th February Feria Mk 7: 14-23	
NO EARLY MASS	
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
12 noon	Community of Maris Sisters
7.30 - 8.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 13th February Feria Mk 7: 24-30	
7.30 am	Part & Flanagan Families - RIP (Mrs Bage)
12 noon	Mary Mattie Linehan - RIP (Thomas)
Mass in Italian (Gospel in English)	
Scripture Group	
7.45 pm	Prayer and Pub
Friday 14th February Sts Cyril and Methodius Lk 10:1-9	
7.30 am	Morning Prayer
12 noon	Welfare of Collette Renault
Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament	
7.30 pm	Ben Mutch - RIP (Mutch Family)
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Saturday 15th February Feria Mk 8: 1-10	
9.00 am	Baptism Course
10.30 - 11.30	Reconciliation (Fr Peter Geldard)
12 noon	Melba Pearle's intentions (Pat Moore)
4.30 - 5.30	Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)
6pm (Vigil)	Michael Mooney - RIP (Mary Stevens)
Sunday 16th February 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 5: 17-37	
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

Please note there is no morning Mass on Mon 17 Feb 2020

From Fr Anthony ...

At the end of the celebration of Mass the priest or deacon has a choice of Dismissal.

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

Go in peace.

This makes it clear to us that what we begin at the celebration of the Eucharist we continue when we leave the church.

The dismissal sends us out to be a witness to Christ in our lives. We take Christ we have encountered in Mass and witness to him in our everyday life. We are a light in the world.

What enables us to give light to all around us is Mercy.

Our works of mercy is living the light in action.

Today's Gospel encourages us to think in terms of mercy. When Pope Francis called for a Year of Mercy in 2016 we were able to reflect of the seven Corporal and spiritual words of mercy. We don't stop living out the spiritual and corporate works of mercy when that year ended. We are still called to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the sick and those in prison, shelter the homeless, and burying the dead. We are still asked to be honest with people about their sins, share knowledge with those who are ignorant, work with people who are in doubt, comfort those who feel emotionally distressed, loving even when wrong is done to us, forgiving every offence and praying for the living and dead. This is the way our light is seen.

It is important for us to remember that Jesus did not say You are to **become** salt.. the light.

He said "You are. We are not salt or light through our own efforts. This is a dignity and responsibility given by God and implanted in us. We when allow God's Spirit to live in us and work through us we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Finally a quote from the retired Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk: "Being the light of the world does not consist in standing around looking religious. It involves caring for those who have need of our help, getting our hands dirty in the prosperity and justice for the world around us. That's what makes us bright and surrounds us with the glory of God. That's how we help enlighten the world."

2nd
Collection:
Racial
Justice