

# NEWSLETTER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

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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) John Todd—RIP

**Sunday 15th March 3rd Sunday in Lent** Jn 4: 5-42

GIFT AID SUNDAY

8 am Phyllis Sirton—RIP (SVP)

9:30 am Wellbeing of the Edwardes Family  
(John & Jackie Thackeray)

11.00am Terry Parkinson—RIP (Sue Nolan & Family)

12.15—13.15 Parish AGM in the Church Hall

3.00 pm Stations of the Cross presented by Filipino Community

6 pm People of the Parish

**Monday 16th March Feria** Lk 4: 24-30

7.30 am Carmela Teran de Miralles—RIP (Wilkin-Miralles)

12 noon Funeral of Margaret Rose Stevenson

7 - 9 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesday 17th March St Patrick, Bishop** Lk 5: 1-4

7.30 am Maria Aprile (Anne Mannion)

12 noon Patrick, Con, Jim & Sean Lyons, Mary & Jim Kelly,  
Sammy & Flo Gunn, Maria Sadler - RIP (B. Lyons)

7.30 pm NO RCIA TONIGHT

**Wednesday 18th March Feria** Mt 5: 17-19

7.30am Amelia Murphy's intentions (Murphy Family)

10.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon Phyllis Stirton—RIP (Pat Gibson)

7.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.00 pm Talk by Fr Tom—"Man Born Blind"

**Thursday 19th March Feast of St Joseph** Mt 1: 16,18-21, 24

7.30 am Intentions of Mary Mariasy

12 noon Intentions of Maria

Scripture Group

7.45 pm Prayer and Pub

**Friday 20th March Feria** Mk 12: 28-34

7.30 am MORNING PRAYER

12 noon Kazimierz Krynicki—RIP (Mrs Krynicki)

Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

7.30 pm Archbishop Peter Smith—RIP

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday 21st March Feria** Lk 18: 9-14

10.30 - 11.30 Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)

12 noon Olga Douglas—RIP (McIntosh & Watkins Families)

4.30 - 5.30 Reconciliation (Fr Sylvester)

6pm (Vigil) People of the Parish

**Sunday 22nd March 4th Sunday in Lent** Jn 9: 1-41

LAETARE SUNDAY (Mothering Sunday)

8 am Phyllis Stirton—RIP (Jean Pegg)

9:30 am Thanksgiving & Anniversary (Nwahiri Family)

11.00am Kazimierz Krynicki—RIP (Mrs Krynicki)

12.15 Baptism of Rene Valentine Gomes

3.00 pm Stations of the Cross

6 pm John Mehlin—RIP (Miriam Mehlin)

### From Fr Anthony ...

The words "Parish Annual General Meeting" can evoke in us a feeling of obligation or even dread, "Well we have to do this." They are often poorly attended. We have ours this Sunday after 11am Mass. This is a moment for us to look back at the past year and look forward to the year ahead. On this Third Sunday of Lent we have in St John's Gospel the meeting between the woman at the well and Jesus. The woman meets the one who tells her the story of her life and then she goes to tell all the village about him and they come to meet him. There are two movements. The first movement is a coming to know and love more deeply Jesus and accept what he has to offer, the living water. The second movement - our mission to bring others to Christ. My great wish as a priest is that all of us who are part of St Thomas of Canterbury parish community will, through the celebration of the sacraments, the community's life and the catechesis, come to deepen our faith in Christ. And as part of this community, to receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This in turn will mean that we become eager and confident to tell others. We will become missionary disciples. On the front cover of our Parish Directory we set out our vision. It reads "What is our purpose? To be a pilgrim people. To celebrate the Eucharist with Joy and Hope. To help parents catechesis their children. To care for the poor and frail. To welcome the stranger and to encourage each other to grow in faith through adult catechesis." St Pope Paul VI in his letter on Evangelisation said, "the Parish exists to evangelise." As we gather this weekend, let us consider three groups of people with whom we need to share the good news of the gospel: a) practicing Catholics called to a deeper and deeper transformation in their life with Christ, b) Catholics who have fallen away from the practice of their faith and c) those who do not yet know the love of Christ, who do not believe in God or who find faith irrelevant to everyday life. Coming to the Parish AGM may be a good step towards actively participating in the living life of our worshipping community to support and encourage each other in our mission.

### 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.



### COVID—19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

Please note: Bishops of England & Wales recommend: **If any of you have cold or flu symptoms please refrain from attending Mass, public events, or the sacrament of reconciliation whilst still symptomatic.** (You may have an ordinary cold but it is important to ensure a precautionary approach.)

**Message from Archbishop John Wilson suspending the sign of peace and reception from the chalice at Mass to reduce risks to COVID-19 Coronavirus transmission.**

I am introducing the following special pastoral measures, effective from 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to 6<sup>th</sup> April when they will be renewed.

The sign of peace is to be suspended at Mass. In order not to create confusion in the minds of the lay faithful, I request that all priests and deacons simply omit any reference to the offering of the sign of peace, prior to the Agnus Dei.

Holy Communion from the chalice shall cease to be offered to the lay faithful. The practice of intinction is not to be introduced as an alternative.

Those who choose to receive Holy Communion on the tongue should be encouraged to receive on the hand instead. Their doing this represents an act of loving charity to their community.

Holy water stoups in churches and chapels are to be emptied.

Churches and chapels that are open daily for private prayer should continue to remain open. Care should be given to ensuring that surfaces of high contact (e.g. light switches, door handles and areas around the door) are regularly sanitized throughout the day.

Ministers should wash and also sanitise their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion. Shared towels should not be used in toilet areas or the sacristy.

Shared hymnbooks and Mass books should cease to be used. Single-use Mass sheets may be used; though these should be disposed of immediately after use.

A decision will be made nearer the time as to whether on Good Friday, the traditional 'Veneration of the Cross' is to be observed by a simple genuflection.

The Decree is effective for four weeks after which these requirements shall either be rescinded or renewed. These requirements are also subject to amendment at any point.

### Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Pat Gill, Angeline Frizell, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Janelle Hughes, Maurice Crosland, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dittrich, Kathleen Hutchinson, Pat Gibson, Jenni Aldridge, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, David Bull, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Elizabeth Gilhenny, Bill Parker, Fr Paul Perry, Anne Queenan and Bernie Fisher.

### 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, Michael Dunne, Ray Scott, Margaret Stevenson, Daniella Rosher and Archbishop Emeritus Peter Smith

### Please pray for those whose first anniversaries are this month:

Marisa Arevalo, Deidre Lovell, John Todd, Theresa Wicker and Christine Mahy

### GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020

Please note all Gift Aid Donors who use the weekly envelopes. **New envelopes will be issued out after all Masses this weekend (14/15th March 2020).**

PLEASE get in touch if you no longer wish to have these envelopes or would prefer to pay via standing order through the bank. We are always looking for new donors for the Parish. You can contribute as little or as much as you want—there are no commitments and you can stop at any time.

In order to Gift Aid you just need to pay tax and the parish can claim back from HMRC 25p for every pound of tax you pay. More information is available from the Parish Office or get in touch via email: [canterburygac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterburygac@rcaos.org.uk).

Thank you

**THE SANTA MARTA GROUP** - an international initiative of Catholic Bishops worldwide, working in partnership with the police and other agencies to bring an end to human trafficking – a form of modern-day slavery, is appealing for volunteers to be trained to assist in creating awareness of the problem of modern-day slavery in our parishes. Two training dates are available: Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at The Hermitage, More Park, West Malling, Kent, ME19 6HN from 10.00am to 2.30pm or Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at St Thomas of Canterbury Hall (**Entry in Canterbury Lane**) Canterbury Lane, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2HJ from 10.00am to 2.30pm. Please, bring a packed Lunch. If you are interested in being a Volunteer, please speak to your parish clergy.

### Funeral Arrangements for the Late Archbishop Emeritus Peter Smith:

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March:** 6pm: Reception into St George's Cathedral followed by Cathedral Mass: Archbishop John Wilson to preside.  
8pm: Vigil Service, after which the Cathedral will close.

### Monday 30th March:

**12.30 pm: Funeral Mass:** Archbishop John Wilson to preside.  
Burial in the Cathedral Crypt at the end of the Mass

**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.

**Table Top Sale** on the **29th March from 10:30am in the church hall.** Sell your unwanted items and help raise funds to support our church. Pre-booked tables only £5 limited availability (tables provided) plus tea/coffee. For more info; [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com) or 07805490217.

**Cake Sale:** The Union of Catholic Mothers are holding a cake sale on the **22nd of March** at 10:30am in the church hall to raise funds for Fr Freddy's work in South Sudan.

The **Union of Catholic Mothers** are doing **#40days40items** challenge if you would like to join please see our facebook page UCM St Thomas' Catholic Church Canterbury for more info.

### SECOND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**This weekend - 14/15 March:** no second collection

**Next Weekend:** 21/22 March: no second collection

**Thank you! Mass Collections at weekend 7/8 March 2020:**

**Offertory:** £831.46 loose & £471.02 gift aided: Total **£1302.48**  
**2nd Collection - for Uma Hoza raised £837.35**