



## EYES WIDE OPEN

MARK 6:1-6

They couldn't believe what they were witnessing. Here was the carpenter's son holding forth in the synagogue, preaching as if he were a rabbi, instructing as if he considered himself an expert.

But they knew who he was. They knew his family. They knew his father's carpenter's shop. He was an ordinary Nazarene, one of their own. So where did he get all this wisdom? How could he talk with such authority? Who did he think he was, anyway, to come home, acting like some big shot?

So they wouldn't – couldn't – accept him. They saw him only as the boy next door. Filled with envy and incredulity, they refused to see who he really was.

His neighbours should have known that God was working through Jesus in a special way, that there was something unique and different about this extraordinary young man. But familiarity breeds contempt. They couldn't see past their expectations and prejudices. They were unable to see God's presence in the ordinary and the familiar. Jesus had no choice but to walk away. ■

### SAY

**“Deepen my faith, Lord. Keep me always faithful to you. Amen.”**

### DO

Make a conscious effort to be more alert to what is happening around you. Are there any ways in which you are blind?

### LEARN

To be a prophet is to witness to the Gospel at all times.

Being a prophet is part and parcel of being a Christian.

The Christian is always tuned in to the signs of the times.

### PRAY

Pray for the courage to oppose wrongdoing or discrimination wherever you see it. Pray for the courage to witness to the Good News without fear as Jesus did.

## REFLECT

One of the success stories of the 2010s was the taxi firm Uber. Founded in California in 2009, the ride-sharing start-up, with its user-friendly app and cheap fares, was a darling of the tech industry with a huge valuation on Wall Street.

In December 2016, a software engineer called Susan Fowler quit her job at Uber. Early the following year, she wrote an explosive blog about her time with the firm. She described how she was harassed at Uber, starting with her first day on a new team. When she complained, her bosses ignored her or tried to intimidate her. Fowler's allegations exposed a widespread culture of harassment at Uber. Its chief executive was forced to resign, its value fell, and the broader tech industry had to confront its woeful history of discrimination against women and minorities.

Susan Fowler helped ignite the MeToo movement, which highlights sexual harassment of women in the workplace. The culture of abuse of power and white male supremacy is so pervasive that

many people are unable or unwilling to see it. Some months ago, the head of the United Nations declared that gender inequality and discrimination against women is the “one overwhelming injustice across the globe – an abuse that is crying out for attention. Everywhere women are worse off than men, simply because they are women.” Women are far more likely to be sexually assaulted, discriminated against, or aborted, simply because of their gender. A glaring injustice that many ignore or refuse to see.

At Uber, many people saw the way Susan Fowler was treated but they looked away. They refused to see. They didn't want to be involved. It can happen with us too. Even with perfectly good eyes, we can fail to see, or be oblivious to, so much of what is happening around us. We can be blind.

Blindness takes many forms. We can be so busy today that we simply don't have time to step back, look around, take note. Busyness prevents us from taking a closer look.

We can be so caught up in the regular routine of life, so stuck in our ways, that we fail to notice the signs of the times. Oblivious to the Holy Spirit at work in us and around us, we end up blinkered.

Or, like Jesus' townspeople, we can stubbornly refuse to see what is happening right in front of us, refuse to accept the evidence of our eyes – such as the opioid crisis, for example, or the problem of homelessness, or the family member or colleague in distress. Or the judgemental way we look down on the newcomer, the foreigner, the refugee.

We can refuse to acknowledge the challenges confronting our Church or claim they are none of our business.

Sometimes it's easier to be wilfully blind rather than face up to reality, to stay in the darkness rather than see with new eyes. But the Christian is called to see as Jesus sees and then always to respond, with courage, conviction and love. ■

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Your merciful love, O God,  
we have received in the midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your name,  
reaches the ends of the earth;  
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

**GLORIA**

Glorify God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

O God, who in the abasement of your Son  
have raised up a fallen world,  
fill your faithful with holy joy,  
for on those you have rescued from slavery  
to sin  
you bestow eternal gladness.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** Ezekiel 2:2-5

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The spirit came into me and made me stand up,  
and I heard the Lord speaking to me.  
He said, "Son of man, I am sending you to  
the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned  
against me. Till now they and their ancestors  
have been in revolt against me. The sons are  
defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to  
them, to say, 'The Lord says this.' Whether  
they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know  
there is a prophet among them."

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Psalm 122

Response:  
Our eyes are on the Lord  
till he show us his mercy.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes,  
you who dwell in the heavens:  
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves  
on the hand of their lords. (R.)
2. Like the eyes of a servant  
on the hand of his mistress,  
so our eyes are on the Lord our God  
till he show us his mercy. (R.)

3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
We are filled with contempt.  
Indeed all too full is our soul  
with the scorn of the rich,  
with the proud man's disdain. (R.)

**SECOND READING** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to  
the Corinthians.

In view of the extraordinary nature of these  
revelations, to stop me from getting too  
proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an  
angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from  
getting too proud! About this thing, I have  
pleaded with the Lord three times for it to  
leave me, but he has said, "My grace is  
enough for you: my power is at its best in  
weakness." So I shall be very happy to make  
my weaknesses my special boast so that the  
power of Christ may stay over me, and that is  
why I am quite content with my weaknesses,  
and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and  
the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For  
it is when I am weak that I am strong.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Word was made flesh and lived among  
us;  
to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God.  
Alleluia

**GOSPEL** Mark 6:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Mark.

Jesus went to his home town and his  
disciples accompanied him. With the  
coming of the sabbath he began teaching  
in the synagogue and most of them were  
astonished when they heard him. They said,  
"Where did the man get all this? What is this  
wisdom that has been granted him, and these  
miracles that are worked through him? This  
is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the  
brother of James and Joset and Jude and  
Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here  
with us?" And they would not accept him.  
And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is only  
despised in his own country, among his own  
relations and in his own house"; and he  
could work no miracle there, though he cured  
a few sick people by laying his hands on  
them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this oblation dedicated to your name  
purify us, O Lord,  
and day by day bring our conduct  
closer to the life of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

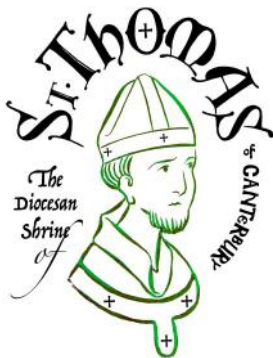
**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that, having been replenished by such great  
gifts,  
we may gain the prize of salvation  
and never cease to praise you.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Unless we look at a person and see the  
beauty that is in them, we can contribute  
nothing to them. One does not help a person  
by discerning what is wrong, what is ugly,  
what is distorted. Christ looked at everyone  
he met, at the prostitute, at the thief, and  
saw the beauty hidden there. Perhaps it  
was distorted, perhaps damaged, but it was  
beauty none the less, and what he did was to  
call out this beauty.

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

# 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: <https://stthomasofcanterbury.com> St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Assistant Priest: Fr John Howard

email: [johnhoward@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnhoward@rcaos.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Miss Linda Scott

St Thomas' Shop (01227 462896): OPEN SUNDAYS FROM AFTER 9.30 MASS UNTIL 12 NOON

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)

The Parish Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays,  
Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 3.00pm  
(closed 1.00pm to 1.30pm for lunch)

### ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED

6.00 pm (Vigil): Mr Natarajan & Family

2nd Collect: Columban  
Missions Appeal

**Sunday, 4th July: Fourteenth Sunday (B)** Mk 6: 1-6

8.00am: for the safe arrival of Peter and Sarah's baby

9.30am: Marion Nash - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)

11.00am: Pat, Eamonn & Michele Scully - welfare

12.15: *Baptism of Keita Berzina*

6.00 pm: People of the Parish

**Monday 5th July: St Anthony Zaccaria** Mt 9: 18-26

7.30 am Margaret Armstrong - RIP (*Leslie Armstrong*)

12 noon: Ossie Correa - RIP (*Noronha Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Prayer

**Tuesday 6th July: ST Maria Goretti** Mt 9: 32-38

12 noon: Rosamma Sebastian - RIP (*Tisha Joy*)

6.00 pm: Live streamed Prayer

**Wednesday 7th July: Translation of St Thomas** Mt 10:1-7

7.30 am: Intentions of the Holy Father, Pope Francis

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Michael Poole - RIP (*Tara & Brian Murphy*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Prayer

7.30pm: Translation Mass at Canterbury Cathedral

**Thursday 8th July: Feria** Mt 10: 7-15

7.30 am: St Thomas' school community

12 noon: Foundation Mass: Charles Jones Hill - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Prayer

7 - 8pm: *Adoration for Young Adults with Fr John*

**Friday 9th July: St Augustine Zhao Rong** Mt 10: 16-23

12 noon: Eileen Jarvis' Welfare (*Angela Nichols*)

*After Mass, Adoration until 1.30pm*

6.00pm: Live streamed Prayer

7.30pm: Fr Jeff Cridland - welfare

**Saturday 10th July: Feria** Mt 10: 24-33

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Becky Judge - RIP

6.00 pm (Vigil): Ignatius Rajoo - RIP (*Chris Kanny*)

**Sunday, 11th July: Fifteenth Sunday (B)** Mk 6: 7-13

8.00am: Priestly and Religious Vocations (*Fr Matt*)

9.30am: Joan Harding - RIP (*Keane Family*)

11.00am: Matthew Cruickshank - welfare (*Fr Anthony*)

12.15: *Baptism of Theodore McDonagh*

6.00 pm: People of the Parish

2nd Collect:  
Apostleship  
of the Sea

We welcome Archbishop John Wilson to our parish on  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 when he will be the principle  
Celebrant at the Translation Mass in Canterbury Cathed-  
ral at 7:30pm Admission by ticket only

### PARISH MATTERS

#### Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Luisa Ward, Janette Hughes,  
Barbara Brett, Mary Dittrich, Pat Gibson, Jenni Aldridge, Mary  
Reynolds, Brian Wicker, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Elizabeth  
Gilhenny, Bill Parker, Lucy Purbrick, Josie Carr, Simon Lam,  
Sr Anne Bross (formerly of our parish), Fr John Slater, Jennifer  
Lang, Pauline Lilford, Barbara Markham, Patricia Gray, Patrick  
Sellars, Sr Margaret McGrath, Angela Nichols, Jean Boyce and  
Sandra Monger

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

Theresa Ramsundar, Canon Frank O'Sullivan, Margaret Willis,  
Rev Paul Saunders, Sylvia Guy, Pat Gill, Baby Layla Green, Paul  
Card, Alan Skeet, Rodolfo Ignacio, Isabella Bannon, HRH Prince  
Philip - Duke of Edinburgh, Dean Brazier, Marion Nash, Fr Kevin  
Alban (O.Carm), Apollonia Citro, Bianca Wood, Deideri Maria  
(Vedova Roffinella) and Angelina Glynn

#### Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are this month:

Anthony Kenny, Maria Daniels and Hannalore Hall

#### COLLECTIONS: Our retiring collections:

**This weekend: 03/04 July: Columban Mission Appeal.** At the  
heart of their work is the call to help people become fully human,  
to help establish a world of peace with justice and care for the  
integrity of creation in solidarity with the poor. We welcome Fr  
John Bowles who will speak to us about their work.

**Next weekend: 10/11 July: Apostleship of the Sea.** This Cath-  
olic Charity (a part of the international network *Stella Maris*) sup-  
ports seafarers worldwide. They provide practical and pastoral  
care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality or belief. Operating  
in more the 250 ports around the world the AOS relies wholly on  
voluntary contributions to continue its wonderful work.

**Father John Boles** is from Stockport in greater Manchester and  
was ordained a Catholic Missionary Priest in 1996. Since that time  
he has worked exclusively in Latin America, mainly Chile and lat-  
terly Peru, having returned from Lima in April of this year to join  
the mission appeals team. The Columban Fathers is exclusively a  
pastoral missionary society. Originally founded in 1918 as the  
Maynooth mission to China. Following expulsion from china after  
1949, the Fathers were asked to serve in other countries around  
the pacific rim, for example, Korea, Japan Taiwan, Hong Kong, the  
Philippines, Fiji Chile and Peru.

#### SECOND COLLECTIONS GIFT AIDING

Thank you to all who so generously support our regular second  
collections. When making these donations, please do not use  
your Parish Gift Aid ordinary envelopes (small envelopes with an  
unique number) for donations to **SVP** or **CAFOD** or other organi-  
sations because we cannot, by law, transfer gift aid donations  
between organisations. SVP and CAFOD gift aid envelopes are  
available in the Narthex or please speak to Linda in the office.  
Your help is appreciated.



## From Fr Anthony ...

If you are baptised then you are called to be a prophet.

Yes! you, who are reading this. After you were baptised, the priest or deacon anointed you with Chrism saying these words. "God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life."

We see clearly in the Old Testament prophets were called to announce a revealed message, on God's behalf. A prophet today is one who reminds people of the living, life-giving word of God which has been forgotten or rejected. We see in today's Gospel, Jesus was not received with open arms. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

How can we be affective as a prophet today? First we must be open to hear God's word. The scriptures need to be part of our daily life. We need to be faithful in being good listeners in prayer. In the first reading today, Ezekiel received God's spirit that enabled him to hear God's word. We have all received that Spirit at baptism and Confirmation. It is necessary to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us to a deeper understanding of God's word.

We also need to accept that there will be much resistance. The reason prophets were needed was that God's people were hard-hearted and obstinate. They didn't necessarily want to hear what God wanted to tell them. As Bishop Pilarczyk wrote "Being a prophet can be dangerous. The prophet finds himself in the middle between the demands of God and the reactions of the people to whom he has been sent to speak....The church carried forward the prophetic mission of Ezekiel and Jesus. The church has been constituted, called and sent by God to speak God's word to the world. And God's word is not always easily understood. God's word is not always easily accepted."

We need to ask ourselves, in what ways do I reflect and proclaim the living and life giving message of Jesus? How am I prophetic in my family, in my community. What do I do if I find some of the Church's teaching difficult to receive?

*"We are literally anointed to speak uneasy truths, summon our world back to uncomfortable goodness, labour for discarded beauty, and suffer persecution for the sake of righteousness.*

*This is the prophetic way of life. This is the way of life of the Christian believer."*

### **Safeguarding – Volunteers - Disclosure & Barring – Re-check Meetings 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

#### **Dear Volunteer,**

We have distributed over 50 form packs to parish volunteers applying for a DBS re-check, in readiness for the meetings in July. If you need to renew your DBS STATUS, PLEASE SEE Linda in the Office for a pack

**Please note:** when completing the 'Volunteer Registration Form', you are not required to provide two referees (page 3).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Safeguarding Representative, Peter Jones on the email [Canterburyysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:Canterburyysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

### **Summertime 2021 Altar Servers Summer Break**

#### **Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 August**

Following last year's cancellation, we are pleased to announce that this annual activity is back for altar servers aged 10 - 15 years within Southwark Diocese. Summertime 2021 will take place at the Oratory School in Reading For more details, please see poster and forms in the Narthex or contact Fr Stephen Boyle, Chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen. Tel: 01322 220075 Email: [dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk)

**100 CLUB WINNERS** Congratulations! Winners of the monthly draw for June 2021 are Hilary McKernan (50) & Annie Judge (33).

**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD** Janice Campion says "I am at present training as a catechist for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and have been deeply moved by this experience. It would be so good to start this in our parish. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 is for children aged 3-6. It came about some sixty years ago through the work of Sofia Cavaletti, a biblical scholar and Gianna Gobbi, a close colleague and apprentice of Maria Montessori, in Rome. The Catechesis recognises the full religious potential of the child. It takes place where children meet themes from Scripture and the liturgy and explore those themes through practical activity and contemplation. Catechists are not teachers but are there to facilitate and participate in this."

If anyone is interested and would like to know more there is a website: [www.cgsuk.org](http://www.cgsuk.org) and you are welcome to email Janice at [janice.campion@googlemail.com](mailto:janice.campion@googlemail.com).



### **Refurbished Church Shop**

Following a blessing by our Archbishop John Wilson on 7th July 2021, the Church Repository will be open from 8th July back in its old place but completely refurbished & with new stock.

**PLEASE COME AND SEE US.**

#### **Opening Times:**

Tuesday - Saturday: 10.30am - 3pm (11.00am Friday)  
Sunday: 9am - 12 noon