

NEWSLETTER



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

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

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

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton email: anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr John Howard email: 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

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 from 1.00pm to 1.30pm for lunch)

ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED

2nd coll.: Catholic Youth Services

6.00 pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

7.00pm: Eddie Glimor book launch in the church

Sunday, 21st Nov: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (B) Jn 18: 33-37

8.00am: Dr Kazimierz Krynicki - RIP

9.30am: John Vibal - welfare

11.00am: John Aitken-Gray - RIP (Myrna Gray)

4.00pm: Confirmation Session in the Hall

6.00 pm: Timothy and Clea Andradi - RIP

Monday 22nd Nov: St Cecilia Lk 21: 1-4

7.30 am: Foundation Mass : The Gill Family - RIP

12 noon: Angela Harrison - RIP (Angela Nichols)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

6.00 pm: Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 23rd Nov: St Clement Lk 21: 5-11

12 noon: Anna Koeller - RIP (Jo Gazzard)

6.00 pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 24th Nov: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac & Comp. Lk 21: 12-19

7.30 am: Francis Brown - RIP

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Marie Sheridan - RIP (E Murphy)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

6.30 pm: Red Wednesday Event outside Church

7.30pm: RCIA in the Hall

Thursday 25th Nov: St Catherine of Alexandria Lk 21: 20-28

7.30 am: Marie Sheridan - RIP (Sue Nolan & Family)

12 noon: John and Winifred Saunders - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30 - 8.30pm: Young Adults Prayer live in church

Friday 26th Nov: Feria Lk 21:29-33

12 noon: Beverley O'Grady on her birthday (Forrester Fam)

After Mass, Adoration until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Marie Sheridan - RIP (Jenny Todd)

Saturday 27th Nov: Feria Lk 21: 34-36

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: James Silcock on his birthday

3.00pm Celebration of Confirmation Mass

6.00 pm (Vigil): Marie Sheridan - RIP

Sunday, 28th Nov: 1st Sun of Advent (C) Lk 21:25-28,34-36

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: for Filipino Community & Families

11.00am: Tom Carr - welfare

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00 pm: Kazimierz Krynicki - RIP

2nd coll.: SVP

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, Simon Lam, Sr Anne Bross (formerly of our parish), Jennifer Lang, Pauline Lilford, Barbara Markham, Patricia Gray, Patrick Sellars, Sr Margaret McGrath, Angela Nichols, Sandra Monger, Philomena Brown, Rhona Rollings, Stuart Allen, Marie Sheridan, Tom Carr, Shaena Metherill, Mary Jeffries, Gerry Cash and Philomena Wickenden.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Apollonia Citro, Bianca Wood, Deideri Maria (Vedova Roffinella), Angelina Glynn, Graham Wheeler, Baby Francis Anthony Delaney, John Farrell, Fr Chris O'Brien, Tracy Samuels, Josephine Howard, Canon Richard Hearn, Edward Asplin and Fr Robert Ellis.

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

Anna Koeller and Ellen Fitz-Gerald

COLLECTIONS: Our retiring collections:

This weekend: 20/21 Nov: Catholic Youth Services: This collection, taken on National Youth Sunday, supports youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

Next weekend: 27/28 Nov: Collection for the SVP.

Porchlight Shoebox Appeal. A table is available in the All Saints Chapel for collection of donations until 12 December. A list of needed items is on the church website, poster & Facebook page.

The Passage, fundraising concert at the Royal Festival Hall on Thursday 25 November. Full details and booking at <https://passage.org.uk/night-under-the-stars-2021/> or tel. 020 75921856.

From November to January, every gift given to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. This means a gift of just £15.90 will feed, not one, but two children, a life-changing daily school meal for a whole school year! Your kindness brings joy to more than two million children around the world who we serve – including those affected by natural disasters, conflict and the ongoing Covid pandemic. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Programme 2022

If you would like your child to participate in the 2022 programme, email the Presbytery (canterbury@rcaos.org.uk) for a registration form. Children must be Year 3 or above. Completed registration forms must be returned to the Presbytery with the child's baptismal certificate attached by the 23rd January 2022.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER 2021

People Who Suffer from Depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

From Fr Anthony ...

I have very fond memories of celebrating the Feast of Christ the King with some of our parishioners when we were on pilgrimage in the Holy Land two years ago. This was in the parish of the Annunciation at Beth Jala which is a part of Bethlehem. It was a most joyous Mass and a large framed picture of Christ the King was processed into the Church at the beginning of Mass and placed on the sanctuary.

In the Gospel of John today, we hear Pilate say "So you are a king then?" Jesus answers, "Yes I am a king". Yet he was not a political figure or a ruler in the secular sense.

Questions perhaps we need to ask ourselves today in accepting Jesus are: "Is Jesus my king?", "Do I live my life today listening to the truth?", "Do I live my life with Christ ruling in my heart?", "Am I happy for him to rule in my heart as king?"

Jesus will only rule where men and women acknowledge and live according to his rule. Jesus is not a king that forces himself on us. He is not a dictator who dominates through conquest. He reveals himself to us and it is up to us to accept the truth of who he is.

And so some more questions for us having Jesus in our lives: "What does it mean to have Christ as my king?", "To what extent am I willing to give my life to be ruled by Jesus?", "Is there any area of the my life, any aspect of my life that I withhold from Christ?", "Do I let Christ have the last word, in my relationships, in my work, my career, the choices I make, in my family, in my friends, in the way I love?"

And further questions on how we might demonstrate that Jesus is our king and is in our lives: "Am I committed to promoting the reign of God, his kingdom, of carrying his word to an unbelieving world?", "Am I prepared to promote love, justice and peace?", "Am I willing to be voice to the voiceless?", "Am I willing to stand up and be counted?", "Am I am willing to reach out with compassion to help the poor, the powerless and vulnerable and those on the margins?"

It was Pope Pius XI who instituted this feast after the First World War and rise of Communism and Nationalism. This is what he wrote in his encyclical announcing the feast;

"If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all men, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all men, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire. He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone". (*Quas Primas*, 33)

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL RECEPTION YEAR 2022/2023

Parents/carers must complete and submit 'Supplementary Information Form' (as well as completing the online application) **before the closing date of the 17th January 2022**. This is for children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018. Copies of supplementary forms are available in the Narthex.

Canon Anthony will be signing forms for Parish families on Tuesday, 23rd November from 3.30pm - 5.30pm and 7pm to 8pm in the Presbytery. More information on the school website or from Laura at St Thomas' School on 01227 462539

Christmas Fair: Sunday. 12 December 10:30- 12:30 in Hall.

We would be grateful for donations for the following stalls:
Raffle: unopened bottles (Wines, Spirits), chocolates, smellies etc.
New items for our tombola and lucky dip.

Any contribution is appreciated. No donation is too small.

Donations can be made up to the 10th December .

Home made cakes (on the day please)

Lots more stalls and activities including Father Christmas.

If you can help on the day or would like to book a Stall to promote your business (limited availability) contact [07805490217](tel:07805490217) or socialstthomasrc@gmail.com. All proceeds go to church projects.

Quiz night A huge thank you to all our amazing parishioners who supported our quiz night - it was well attended and everyone enjoyed a fun night. A final figure of the amount raised is not known yet but we'll update when possible.

100 Club Winners: Congratulations to our £20 November Draw winners: Phil Gascoyne (No. 12) and Samantha Jeeves (No. 65)

CONFIRMATION: Please keep in your prayers all those who will be confirmed next Saturday, 27th November 2021 at 3pm.

Laudato si: A webinar on 30th November, 5.00-6.15pm <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafof/Livesimply> will give a practical run-through of how to use the Platform and give further advice and ideas on how parishes, families, schools etc can journey towards integral ecology (in the Pope's words). Please also see poster in the Narthex for ideas for a Merry, Sustainable Christmas.

The **Union of Catholic Mother's** are supporting **Canterbury Food Bank** in their **Reverse Advent Calendar**. Please join the UCM in collecting for this worthy cause. A list of needed items is on posters in the church and our facebook page *UCM St Thomas' Catholic Church Canterbury*. Collection information to follow.

FIVE BIBLE STUDIES ON THE ADVENT SUNDAY GOSPELS

Join Mauro Iannicelli for five Wednesday sessions: 24 Nov; 1 Dec; 8 Dec; 15 Dec; 22 Dec; from 7-8pm (UK Time). Free, LIVE on YouTube. Info & Registration: <https://comeandsee.org/advent>

100 CLUB Please renew your subscriptions or apply as a new member before 17 December 2021 to be included for 2022.

CATCHING LIVES WINTER SHELTER VOLUNTEERS: Catching lives are seeking volunteers to help in various capacities with the Winter Shelter. See poster in the Narthex for contact details.

Red Wednesday On Wednesday 24th November, churches around Britain will be floodlit in red to highlight Christians persecuted for their faith. At 6.30 pm outside St Thomas, there will be a short session of prayer and testimony. Please join us.

The **Union of Catholic Mother's** are holding a meeting in the church hall after the 9:30am mass on the 5th December. All are welcome to attend.

HCPT PILGRIMAGE: HCPT Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust are actively planning Pilgrimages to Lourdes next year 2022. We are hoping our children's group 87 will take part in the Children's Pilgrimage at Easter and our Summer group 587 to travel to Hosanna House on May 27th (date tbc)

HCPT CHRISTMAS GRAND DRAW tickets are available in the Narthex and Saints Chapel

All proceeds are allocated to groups 87 and 587 to help fund HCPT's life-changing pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes for disabled and disadvantaged children and adults.

If you can help by taking a book of 10 tickets to sell we would be very grateful. Please return all monies and counterfoils in the envelope provided to Annie Judge or place in the Presbytery letter box before Christmas so they can be entered and allocated to our groups 87 and 587. (For info contact anniejudge@hotmail.com)