

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

6.00 pm (Vigil): Peter, Philomena and family - wellbeing

Sunday, 2nd Jan: 2nd Sunday after the Nativity (C) Jn 1: 1-18

8.00am: Wellbeing of the Delaney Family

9.30am: Michael Simpson - RIP (*Charlotte Crowther*)

11.00am: John Crowley - welfare (*Josie Carr*)

6.00 pm: People of the Parish

Monday 3rd Jan: Feria of Christmas Time Jn 1: 29-34
(Public Holiday)

10.00am: Bridie Filmore - RIP

Tuesday 4th Jan: Feria of Christmas Time Jn 1: 35-42

12 noon: Wellbeing of the Brown Family

6.00 pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 5th Jan: Feria of Christmas Time Jn 1: 43-51

7.30am: Canon Richard Hearn - RIP

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Beryl Fletcher - RIP (*Tessa Metcalfe*)

Thursday 6th Jan: Epiphany of the Lord Mt 2: 1-12

9.30 am: Pat Geoghegan - RIP (*Oliver Mannion*)

12 noon: Francis & Michael Joe Keavney - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

8.00pm: Philomena Wickenden - welfare (*Mary Alexander*)

Friday 7th Jan: Feria of Christmas Time Mt 4:12-17,23-25

12 noon: John Sheehan - RIP (*Sue Nolan and family*)

After Mass, Adoration until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Alexander Grogan - RIP (*Grogan Family*)

Saturday 8th Jan: Feria of Christmas Time Mk 6: 34-44

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Bishop Colin Davis (Mill Hill) - RIP

6.00 pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday, 9th Jan: Baptism of the Lord Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

8.00am: Christina O'Sullivan - RIP (*Tony O'Sullivan*)

9.30am: Becky Judge - RIP (*Annie & John*)

11.00am: Chris Dyckhoff SJ - RIP

6.00 pm: Maureen and Syd Pepper - RIP (*Denise Pepper*)

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

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, Tom Carr, Shaena Metherill, Mary Jeffries, Gerry Cash, Philomena Wickenden and Vasily Rudenko.

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, Fr Robert Ellis, Lis Rowe, Marie Sheridan, Joan Coleman and Jason Hoford.

Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in January:

Sylvia Guy, Layla Daniella Green and Paul Victor Card

COLLECTIONS: Our retiring collections:

This weekend: 1/2 Jan: No second collection this weekend.

Next weekend: 8/9 Jan: No second collection this weekend.



Diary Note:

The Feast of the EPIPHANY is on THURSDAY, 6th January 2022 and is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be three Masses: 9.30 am, 12 noon and 8.00pm

Masks at Mass (and in our shop too!) The return to stricter Covid restrictions means that people must now wear face masks, sanitise their hands, keep a social distance and be aware of fellow worshippers' safety when at Mass and in the church shop.

Thank you

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.

Mary's Meals: From November to January, every gift to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk

The Union of Catholic Mother's are supporting **Canterbury Food bank** in their reverse advent calendar appeal in December. Parishioners are welcome to join us in supporting this worthy cause. A list of needed items is on posters in the church and our facebook page. Collection details to follow in the new year.

From Fr Anthony ...

As we begin the new year we are tempted to make New Year resolutions. If you recall I declared mine on the First Sunday of Advent which was the beginning of the liturgical year. I wrote then that I wished to pray for the grace to live in the present moment and live each day to the full. I looked for various means to make myself more attentive to what Christ is showing me now. The resulted in me making three resolutions.

My first resolution was I was going to be more faithful in doing an Examen at the end of the day. The Daily Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and discern his direction for us. The Examen is an ancient practice in the Church that can help us see God's hand at work in our whole experience. The second was I resolved to be more attentive to the Word of God. I decided to keep a copy of the gospel close to me and prayerfully read the gospel of Luke, and use it as a source of prayer. We are in year C and this the year when the Gospel of Luke is used most Sundays. My third resolution was, in the light of the synodal process to listen what has been said and pay attention particularly to what parishioners have said about their hopes and concerns for the church as lived out in this parish of St Thomas, and work with you to see how we can truly be Christ present her and now in Canterbury.

Well I am in the sixth week and have to confess I haven't been 100% successful. But don't let that put you off considering ways you can be more open to how Christ is speaking to you. We need to be practical and specific if we are the resolutions we make are to impact our lives. It is also good to share them with someone you trust that will be an encouragement and help us to keep our feet firmly on the ground.

This past year I have been listening to *The Bible in a Year* podcast, where the American priest Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. This is a way of seeing the world through Scripture. I have spoken to some who have found this very helpful and others who have found the 25 to 30 minutes difficult to sustain every day. If you want to know more here is the link <https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/>

The Bishops of England and Wales on their website "The God who Speaks" has some good suggestions about how we can make Scripture more a part of our prayer and life. This including listening to Gospel of Luke. Taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible, this four-part audio series features the voices of over 30 Catholics living and working in England and Wales. You can find it here. <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/bible-basics/scripture-seekers/audio-gospels/the-gospel-according-to-st-luke/>



Thank you! Fr John and myself thank you for all your cards and gifts that we have received this Christmas. We are overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity.

Fr Anthony



2022 SOUTHWARK DIRECTORIES.

Ring-bound copies of the directory will be available in the Shop at £4.00 each from 5th January 2022.

MASS STIPENDS: Please could those parishioners who requested Masses to be said during December 2021 and have not yet been able to submit a stipend offering, contact Linda in the office regarding the offering. Please could any Mass stipends, stole fees and hire fees be paid either before the event or, at the latest, within the month that the event takes place to facilitate financial processes. Thank you, Linda

LIVESTREAMING IN CHURCH . Parishioners are reminded that we use livestreaming for all Masses. If any services are to be recorded we will inform the parish of those specific services.

Building a Better Marriage:

Dear husband and wife,

During the restrictions due to the Covid pandemic, an **online** 'Building a Better Marriage' opportunity is being held from 9am - 1pm on Saturday JAN 8th 2022. The course offered means that you can attend the course from your own living room and **there is no group sharing!**

Recent Building a Better Marriage courses received the following comments from married couples who logged on ...

'The topics were chosen well and we could really relate to them. The personal stories you shared were very insightful and helped us to reflect on our own relationships more deeply... It was relaxed and you put us at ease, being friendly and personable...'

'We thoroughly enjoyed attending the course and have certainly been practicing a few of the things we learnt already. It puts a smile on our faces when we do because we know that we are certainly richer from participating in the course.'

For further information contact: Carole - Tel: 07983524727 - email: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk