

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 collection: **Missio**

6.00 pm (Vigil): Maximillian Ty - RIP (*Ty Family*)

Sunday, 24th Oct: Thirtieth Sunday (B) Mk 10: 46-52

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Filipino Community and families

11.00am: Sebastian and Keith Purbrick (*Sue Purbrick*)

12.15pm: *Baptism of Saoirse Orla Wheeler*

4.00pm: *Polish Community Mass*

6.00 pm: Noreen Egan (*Helen Howie*)

Monday 25th Oct: Feria Lk 13: 10-17

7.30 am: Cathy Stayne - RIP (*Fr Anthony*)

12 noon: Man Chan Kiu - RIP (*Sophia White*)

5.30 - 7pm: *SYNOD Consultation meeting in the Hall*

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 26th Oct: Sts Chad & Cedd Lk 13: 18-21

12 noon: Strien Family - welfare (*Mrs Strien*)

6.00 pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 27th Oct: Feria

Lk 13:22-30

7.30 am: Canon William Halloran - RIP

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Man For Wah - welfare (*Sophia White*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: *RCIA in the Hall*

Thursday 28th Oct: Sts Simon & Jude. Apos. Lk 6:12-19

7.30 am: Canon Beausang - RIP

12 noon: Betty Scott - welfare (*Scott Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30 - 8.30pm: Young Adults Prayer live in church

Friday 29th Oct: Feria Lk 14: 1-6

12 noon: Maureen Handley - RIP (*Cathy Handley*)

After Mass, Adoration until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: The Bishop's intentions

Saturday 30th Oct: Feria Lk 14:1, 7-11

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Intentions of Benefactors

6.00 pm (Vigil): Deceased members: Munoz & Ty Families

Sunday, 31st Oct: All Saints Mt 5: 1-12

8.00am: Brian & Mary - 45th Wedding Anniversary

9.30am: Geoff & Barbara Smith - Golden Wedding Anniv.

11.00am: People of the Parish

6.00 pm: Wim Van Vuuren - RIP (*Van Vuuren-Cassar Fam.*)

2nd collection: **Lepra**

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), Fr John Slater, Jennifer Lang, Pauline Lilford, Barbara Markham, Patricia Gray, Patrick Sellars, Sr Margaret McGrath, Angela Nichols, Jean Boyce and Sandra Monger, Philomena Brown, Rhona Rollings, Stuart Allen, Marie Sheridan, Tom Carr and Shaena Netherill

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), Angelina Glynn, Graham Wheater, Baby Francis Anthony Delaney, John Farrell, Fr Chris O'Brien, Tracy Samuels, Josephine Howard and Canon Richard Hearn

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

Patricia Collins

COLLECTIONS: Our retiring collections:

This weekend: 23/24 Oct: Collection for **Missio** - the Church's official organ for the support of foreign missions. This collection goes entirely to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missio works through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need. All donations go directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories - local church directly helping local church.

Next weekend: 30/31 Oct: Collection for **Lepra**. Lepra is a charity assisting those with Leprosy around the world through provision of medical supplies, food and support.

The **Union of Catholic mother's** will be holding their 1st face to face meeting on the 31st October, after the 9:30am Mass, in the church hall. Looking forward to seeing our members.

Porchlight: We will once again be supporting Porchlight in our Christmas shoebox/gift bag appeal. A donation table will be in the All Saints Chapel. Suggested items: nice/luxury Christmas food (although nothing that contains alcohol please), chocolates/sweets, new winter accessories (socks, hats, gloves, scarves), nice toiletries - more along the lines of gift sets (rather than practical items like toothpaste), gift vouchers. More details soon.

SHOP VOLUNTEERS: We are seeking additional volunteers to help run our church shop and can offer hours to suit most people. If you are interested in this Ministry, please contact the Shop Manager via the Parish Office.

From Fr Anthony ...

The man Jesus encountered by the side of the road in today's gospel is Bartimaeus. He is blind and he is a beggar. He hears the commotion of the crowd coming his way and he is told it is because Jesus of Nazareth is coming his way. He has heard much of Jesus especially his teaching and his healing. He shouts out, "Son of David, have pity on me." This is his prayer. Some say it is a model of all Christian prayer. In a way we are all blind since we do not see God, we cannot touch him or hear him. We have a craving to have Jesus close to us. As one writer says: "In the physical absence of Jesus our condition is blindness."

Many people in the crowd tell him to keep quiet. They scolded him. There are voices within ourselves that try to stop us shouting out to Jesus. This come from self-doubt, from feelings of guilt, from voices reminding us of our past failures. All these negative voices try to stop us praying. Bartimaeus shouts all the louder: "Son of David, have pity on me." Mary Healy in her commentary of St Mark writes: "As the catechism points out (2616) "The urgent request of the blind men, "Have mercy on us, Son of David" or "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" has been renewed in the traditional prayer to Jesus known as the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner!" Healing infirmities or forgiving sins, Jesus always responds to a prayer offered in faith: "Your faith has made you well; go in peace."

The Jesus prayer has been widely taught and discussed throughout the history of the Orthodox Church. So the prayer of Bartimaeus is an act of faith in Jesus and then a plea for mercy. Christians changed the words of the first part to a higher act of faith: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God.

There is an excellent CTS booklet on the Jesus Prayer written by Bishop Kallistos Ware. In it he says: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me." The Jesus Prayer is brief and concise – ten words in English, only seven in Greek or Russian – yet at the same time it is remarkably complete. Within this one short sentence we may find combined four 'strands' or constituent elements:

- the cry for mercy;
- the discipline of repetition;
- the quest for stillness (hesychia);
- the veneration of the Holy Name.

Another writer says the prayer begins on our lips in a preparatory act of calling our faculties together for prayer. Then we cease to formulate words but let the phrase settle to the rhythm of our breathing. The prayer is not about the words but about the risen Lord Jesus Christ. Nor is the repetition like the hypnotic trance of a transcendental meditation mantra which induces a mental emptiness. Prayer is an alertness, a constant loving attention to the invisible but present Lord Jesus.

MEMORIAL MASS : A parish memorial Mass for the late Canon Richard Hearn will take place here in St Thomas' on Friday, 5th November 2021 at 7.30pm.

Our Synodal journey starts this week! Join us:
In person at 6pm on Monday 25 October in the Church Hall; or
Online at 7pm on Wednesday 27 October via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85178949757?pwd=OTUUNnB0Q05LeE5YTlFVaE00ZnZlZz09>
(Meeting ID: 851 7894 9757; Passcode: 574625)
No need to book. All welcome. (More dates to be announced soon.) For more details email SynodStThomas@gmail.com

NOVEMBER PRAYER LISTS FOR HOLY SOULS. If you wish to add names to the November prayers for Holy Souls, please complete a form and place in the Holy Souls Box in the Narthex.

FAREWELL: The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Littlehampton sadly announce their withdrawal from Monte Bre Convent on Wednesday 27th October. Sisters Helina and Clare will move to other communities of the FMSL. All the FMSL Sisters who have lived in St Thomas Parish over the years give thanks to God for the blessing of having been part of such a vibrant and welcoming faith community. We assure all our friends in the parish of our ongoing love and prayers. We also ask for your prayers as we move to new pastures with thanksgiving for so many blessings received here in Canterbury.

QUIZ NIGHT: Quiz night 13th November from 7pm . Get a team together (a maximum of 8 per table), and come joins us for a fun, family friendly evening. Tickets on sale after Masses on the 6th & 7th of November. (Tickets £5 adults and £1 child). Please BYO drinks. A raffle will be held on the night of the quiz.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY. We will be reintroducing our Children's Liturgy in the Hall during the 9.30am Mass on a Sunday with effect from Sunday, 7th Nov 2021. Could you help support the children? If children's liturgy is a ministry for you, please contact Nieves Castro on 07932645919 or Linda in parish office .

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2021

Missionary Disciples

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

SAVE THE DATE:

Blessing of the Graves: Sun, 7th November at 2.30pm at Canterbury Cemetery

Quiz Night - Saturday, 13th November at 7-pm in Church Hall
Christmas Fair - Sunday, 12 December, at 10.30 am in Hall

CAFOD: Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal on Family Fast Day - St Thomas' donated £1545.38. Every penny helps us in our work thank you. **Please** pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November using the prayer cards at the back of church; and that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities - those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26 *May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.*

Spiritual Direction / Accompaniment

The Diocese of Southwark has a register of trained **Spiritual Directors**. They can be women or men, religious or lay people. Normally they meet people for about an hour every four or six weeks (but there is no fixed frequency) to listen to you and help you to discern the direction in which you feel God is calling you. Interested? Please see: southwarkdsc.org.uk/spiritual-direction

Appeal for Foundation Committee Members for St Anselm's Catholic School Canterbury

We are looking to recruit a new Foundation committee member to be a part of a vibrant Academy Committee. Being a governance committee member at St Anselm's Catholic School will enable you to become involved in the Catholic life and ethos of the school and to assist the Trust Board in challenging and supporting the school and its leaders. To find out more or get application forms, please contact the Governance Team at governance@kcsp.org.uk. More information about the role at: www.kcsp.org.uk/become-a-governance-committee-member/

SPUC: a 24 hour sponsored Fast will take place on Wednesday, 27th October for the work of SPUC in the legal challenge to the UK Government's expansion of abortion into Northern Ireland, also for abortion by pills in the post without prior face-to-face consultation. To sponsor the Fast please contact Claudine Nutley at email claudinenutley@btinternet.com or tel. 01304 830275