

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): 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*)

Monday 10th Jan: Feria

Mk 1: 14-20

7.30am: The Todd Family (*Jeny Todd*)

12 noon: Private Intentions (*Jacob Family*)

6.00 pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 11th Jan: Feria

Mk 1: 21-28

12 noon: Private Intentions (*Jacob Family*)

6.00 pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 12th Jan: St Aelred of Rievaulx Mk 1: 29-39

7.30am: Thanksgiving (*Ruth Amisshah*)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Private Intentions (*Jacob Family*)

Thursday 13th Jan: St Hilary

Mk 1: 40-45

7.30am: Holy Souls (*Dominique Brayshaw*)

12 noon: Private Intentions (*Jacob Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Friday 14th Jan: Feria

Mk 2: 1-12

12 noon: Private Intentions (*Jacob Family*)

After Mass, Adoration until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Margaret Smith - RIP (*Jeannette Da Silva*)

Saturday 15th Jan: Feria

Mk 2: 13-17

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Vivienne Bee - RIP (*Grainne Evans*)

6.00 pm (Vigil): Jean & Bab Giberson - wellbeing (D Brayshaw)

Sunday, 16th Jan: 2nd Sun in Ordinary Time (C) Jn 2: 1-11
PEACE SUNDAY (PAX CHRISTI)

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Maureen Kathleen Denton - RIP (*Jo Howes*)

11.00am: Michael & Margaret O'Driscoll - RIP (*Josie Carr*)

6.00 pm: Deceased members: MGilley Family (*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 Dittich, 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: 8/9 Jan: No second collection this weekend.

Next weekend: 15/16 Jan: No second collection this weekend.

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.

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.



2022 SOUTHWARK DIRECTORIES.

Ring-bound copies of the directory will be available in the Shop at £4.00 each from 9th January 2022.

Canterbury Food bank Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal.

Parishioners are requested to drop off donations at the hall foyer on Sunday, 16 January 2022 between 10.30 to 11.30 am

From Fr Anthony ...

I have been in contact with a friend who is now a grandfather. He tells me dearly wishes his grandson to be baptised. He says his son and partner are not religious. He also told me he has spoken with the other grandparents saying: "It would be nice if he was baptised because he is special." Their reply was "We don't do that in our family. It is not our tradition." For some today baptism is a cultural and ritual moment. It is something that we do because we are Catholic or Christian.

It is good on this feast of the Baptism of the Lord to remind ourselves of the importance and necessity of baptism in the mission of the Church. The necessity of being baptised should not be treated lightly. In the Instruction of Infant Baptism it states: "it is a necessity that has lost none of its importance and urgency, especially when what is at stake is ensuring that the child receives the infinite blessing of eternal life."

In the gospel we hear for this Sunday Jesus is baptised by John. While at prayer "the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven "You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you."

The identity that we received in our baptism is that we too are God's chosen and beloved child. Thus, what more important gift can be given to our child than this gift of eternal life?

God loves us from the first moment of being. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you."

I exist because our Heavenly Father loves me and chose me. In Baptism we are given that gift of eternal life and we become part of the community or family of God. We were indelibly marked and joined to Jesus. From that moment we are reborn and we are able to grow and experience God's love within the community of the church. We are able to grow and become like Jesus because of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us.

For parents it is painful when they have brought their child for baptism and nurtured their faith and ensured that they receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation and encounter Christ in the Eucharist, only to see them drift away or neglect the gift they have. It is important to remember that God never abandoned them and ceases to love them once he has chosen them.

Let us pray today for all parents as they carry out their responsibility in awaking their children's faith and helping them to love Christ as a close friend.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER PROGRAMME:

Growing in Faith Together consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for: engaged couples who have completed their marriage preparation course and want to continue exploring their faith together; or

married couples to enrich their friendship and love.

There are two opportunities to attend the course. The first course runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning on 18 January 2022. The second course runs on Saturday mornings from 10.30-11.30am beginning 19 February 2022.

To register follow the link:

[Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis \(rcaos.org.uk\)](https://www.rcaos.org.uk)

You are welcome to attend as a couple or as individuals.

SAFE DISTANCING AT MASSES.

Parishioners are reminded that the 6pm Mass on Saturday night and the 8am Mass on Sunday morning will have every other pew closed off to allow for safe distancing. For those who feel more comfortable with this arrangement please attend one of these two Masses. All other Masses will no longer have cordoned-off pews but we ask everyone to respect the one metre distance between groups. Track and Trace compliance, face coverings and the sanitising of hands on entry and exit still apply please. Thank you.

