

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

6.00pm (Vigil): David Heap RIP (Christine Heap)

Sunday, 15th May 5th SUNDAY of EASTER (C) Jn13:31-35

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: June Carver RIP (St Thomas of Canterbury friends)

11.00am: Welfare of David & Michael (Angela Nichols)

12.15pm: *Baptism of Archie Nicholas Mccoppin*

6.00pm: Gertrude Kiely RIP Birthday anniv. (John Kiely)

Monday 16th May St Simon Stock Jn 14: 21-26

7.30am: Welfare of David & Michael (Angela Nichols)

12 noon: Rhys Scott on his 21st birthday (Mum & Gran)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 17th May Feria Jn 14: 27-31

Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse

12 noon: Joan Coleman RIP (Mary Acteson)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00: Alpha Online

Wednesday 18th May St John I, Pops Jn 15: 1-8

7.30 am: June Carver RIP (Anne Rooke)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Ann Strain RIP (Jeanette da Silva)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00pm: RCIA

Thursday 19th May St Dunstan Jn 15: 9-11

7.30am: Helen Cary Good Health (Trudy Fretwell)

12 noon: Emma Windess Good Health (Sam Lovell)

7.30pm: Pub & Prayer

Friday 20th May St Bernardine of Sienna Jn 15: 12-17

12 noon: Maureen & George Handley RIP Birthday
anniversaries (Catherine Handley)

7.30pm: Bob Peet RIP (Frances Peet)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Saturday 21st May St Christopher of Magallanes &
Companions** Jn 15: 18-21

10:30am-11:30am Reconciliation

12.00 noon: Matthew Chacko RIP (Annamma Abraham)

6.00pm (Vigil): Thanksgiving for Jomon Abraham

Sunday, 22nd May 5th SUNDAY of EASTER (C) Jn14:23-29

8.00am: Robert Kohlhammer RIP (Maggie Smith)

9.30am: Long-Castro Family Welfare

11.00am: People of the Parish

6.00pm: Welfare of Nicola (Fr Anthony)

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

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, Sr Anne Bross, Barbara Markham, Patricia Gray, Patrick Sellars, Sr Margaret McGrath, Angela Nichols, Tom Carr, Sandra Monger, Philomena Brown, Stuart Allen, Mary Jeffries, Gerry Cash, Noreen Egan, Josie Price, Vasilii & Alevtina Rudenko and Germaine Reid

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Philomena Wickenden, Francis Mills, Shaena Metherell, Nora King, June Carver, Brian Barry, Terry Spratley, Olive Reardon, Mary Rear, Ron Godsall, Florence Perry, Robert Cookman, Brian Henley, Fr Anthony Hale CP, Joyce Harlow, Fr Denis Paul and Fr Gordan Thompson.

There are no 1st anniversaries in May

No second collection this week May 22nd: SVP

Queens Jubilee 5th June, our social committee are hoping to hold a small celebration and are in **need of volunteers**, if you can spare an hour or two, please get in touch email; socialstthomasrc@gmail.com or 07805490217

FACT The Catholic national prisons charity – 'I was in prison and you visited me'. Fact provides a considerable number of valuable strands of work in the Archdiocese to support prisoners and their families. We're going to talk about our work and share the voices of people who can be on the margins at a fantastic diocesan Roadshow in Amigo Hall on Saturday 11th June, to be opened by Archbishop Wilson. It would be lovely to meet you there. Note that we are providing a simple lunch! See the poster in the Narthex and you can also find more information and registration here: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/justpeople-roadshows>

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2022

For faith-filled young people

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

From Fr Anthony ...

Today in Rome the Pope will canonise 10 people. To canonise someone is to put them among those we believe are with God. Four of them are women, six of them are men, five of these are from Italy, three from France, one from India and one from Holland. The last time a canonisation ceremony was held in Rome was in 2019, when the Pope declared Cardinal John Henry Newman and Sr. Dulce of Brazil, saints, among others.

I want to focus on Charles de Foucauld, one of the Frenchmen. He was born in Strasbourg on 15th September 1858. He was brought up by his grandfather after the death of his parents and after his first communion at fourteen drifted away from his faith. He went to a military academy and just barely passed. As a soldier he was posted to North Africa taking his mistress with him whom he passed off as his wife. This relationship didn't flourish after he was dismissed from the army. His contact with the Arab world encouraged him to learn Arabic and he returned to Morocco to map hitherto unknown area of the country. He did this travelling disguised as a Jewish rabbi. While in Morocco he encountered men for whom God mattered more than all else. This changed him within and his cousin Marie was a great influence on him. She introduced him to a priest, Abbe Huvelin, who persuaded him to go to Confession. Charles wrote later: "As soon as I believed there was God I realised that I could do nothing else but live solely for him. My religious vocation dates from the same hour as my faith. God is so great."

He went to the Holy Land and the experience gave him the inspiration to live the simple life of Nazareth. He had this great desire to imitate Jesus in his simplicity and hiddenness of life. In these years he was searching to live a hidden and simple life which led him to be Trappist monk first in France and then he moved to a more remote monastery in Syria where life was simpler and poorer. At the age of 43 he was ordained a priest and he decided to go where the most forsaken people were. He returned to Algeria to build a religious house for a community of hermits who would live the life of Nazareth in the desert. No one joined him. He said "I wish to preach the gospel with my life." This he would achieve by sheer goodness and kindness. He moved deeper into the desert and settled in a small centre called Tamanrasset. He lived among the Tuareg tribesmen and compiled a dictionary of their language.

On 1st December 1916 he was seized by some tribesmen as prisoner. When some French soldiers appeared on the horizon, the young lad who was guarding him shot him dead. A few yards away, his monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament was found buried in the sand.

"And thus he died the deeply holy, very eccentric, self-denying, compulsive letter writing, lover of Jesus, dreamer of great dreams, the unrepeatably and inimitable Charles de Foucauld, saint of the Sahara." (Mgr Tony Philpot)
"Our entire existence, our whole being must shout the gospel from the rooftops. Our entire person must breathe Jesus, all our actions. Our whole life must cry out that we belong to Jesus, reflect a gospel way of living. Our whole being must be a living proclamation, a reflection of Jesus" (St Charles de Foucauld.)

St Thomas Social committee are holding a Walk and picnic on the 22nd of May. Meet up at 10:30 am and walk to Toddlers Cove for a BYO picnic. More details are on the posters in church. All are welcome.

The Union of Catholic Mothers are holding a Cake and Plant sale on the 29 of May. Donation of plants and seeds welcome. Raising fund for the Priest Training Fund and future projects.

Secretary to Episcopal Vicar for South East London and Commissions for Racial Equality and Education

This is initially a 12 month contract for 3 days per week, based in Blackheath to support the newly created Episcopal Vicar function. This is a senior secretarial position which requires someone with considerable previous secretarial experience and excellent organisational skills. Must be very self-motivated.

Diocesan Central Services Administrator

Based in Bowen House, SE1 this is a full time administrative position which will provide support for a variety of functions as well as covering reception duties. Must have previous admin/secretarial experience and be very adaptable to changing priorities.

Full details of both jobs are available on the Diocesan website: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies/>

Rising household bills?

Could you host our students this summer?

£1000 per month, or £250 per week, tax free!
Twin beds or single room for our short stay and long term students.

Please contact Concorde International for further details,
Email: homestay@concorde-int.com or 01227 451035; or call Lara 07946 473280

The Synod

As you are likely aware, the diocesan Synod Synthesis has been published. There is a clear thirst for personal faith formation, a growth in small group formation and particularly training for mission and evangelisation.

In addition, there is a call for the raising up of lay leaders and for a deeper appreciation of the baptismal vocation of each one of us. Some Definite Service, as a model of mentoring and support, of parish planning and prayerful conversation, is developing across the diocese as one of the key ways in which we are journeying together towards becoming a missionary and evangelising archdiocese.

We encourage you to read the synthesis, if you have not done so already, and to consider where you might respond to the encouragements and the challenges found therein.

We particularly ask you to consider how you might support Some Definite Service. https://mcusercontent.com/1724d3fc3199029ad7bb33a0a/files/903f68a8-0fc4-6ca7-8541-0caf3f9b41b2/SouthwarkSynthesis_Final.pdf

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April 100 Club Winners

No: 76: Fr Anthony
No 84: Kate Gee

March 100 Club Winners

No: 8 Claudine Nutley
No: 55 Nora King

Our Church Shop for your First Holy Communion Memories

"When you hear 'The body of Christ', you reply 'Amen.' Be a member of Christ's body, then, so that your "Amen" may ring true!" (St Augustine)