

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: AWAITING APPOINTMENT

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): Elizabeth Brown - RIP (*Brown & Henniker Fam*)

Sunday, 27th Nov: 1st Sunday of Advent (A) Mt 24: 37-44

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Filipino Community and Families

11.am: Deceased members of Evans & McDonnell Families

12.15pm: *Baptism of Nicholas Ellis*

& Maiya Bella Panz-McIntyre

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: James Silcock - birthday

Monday 28th Nov: Feria

Mt 8: 5-11

7.30am Mr & Mrs Mathew - RIP (*Joy Family*)

12 noon: Mary Jones - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 29th Nov: St Culbert Mayne & Comp. Lk 10:21-24

12 noon: Martin Ruane -RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00pm: Advent Reflections on Zoom

Wednesday 30th Nov: St Andrew

Mt 4:18-22

7.30 am: NO EARLY MASS TODAY

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Dan and Francine - 1st Wed. anniv.

3 - 5.30pm *Fr Anthony signing School Forms in Presbytery*

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00pm: RCIA

Thursday 1st December: Sts Edmund Campion,

Ralph Sherwin & Alexander Briant *Mt 7: 21, 24-27*

7.30am: Charlie, Vienna & Baby Charlie - welfare (*Elizabeth*)

12 noon: Union of Catholic Mothers

12.30pm: *Scripture Group Meeting*

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Advent Adoration in the church

Friday 2nd Dec: Feria

Mt 9: 27-31

12 noon: Rodolfo a& Lolita Ignacio - RIP (*Ignacio Family*)

7.30pm: Anthony McPhee - RIP (*Eileen Solley*)

Saturday 3rd Dec: S Francis Xavier *Mt 9: 35 - 10:1, 6-8*

Day of Prayer for Migrants

9.00am: *Baptism Preparation*

10:30am-11:30am Reconciliation

12 noon: Ms Bridget Mary French - RIP (*Ann Nicol*)

2.00pm: *Baptism of Lucas*

4.30pm: *Legion of Mary meeting in Upper Room*

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Denis Corcoran - RIP (*Angela Mallion*)

Sunday, 4th Dec: 2nd Sunday of Advent (A) Mt 3: 1-12

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Sheila & Philip Mazzotti - RIP (*Gill Robinson*)

11.am: Thanksgiving (*Vibal Family*)

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

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, Angela Nichols, Tom Carr, , Mary Jeffries, Gerry Cash, Noreen Egan, Josie Price, Germaine Reid, Anthony Andrews, Heather Dandison, Tony Whitehurst, Maria Krynicki, John Kieley, Richard Sexton and Michael Hood-Cree

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Joyce Harlow, Louis Dirckze, Fr Tony Logan, Sara Baxter, Jean Winning, Patricia Gray, Ingeborg Parry, Sean Stringer, Nora Neve, Stuart Allen, Sean Burke, Bridget Salmon, Bernard Packer, Sr Margaret McGrath and Patrick Sellars (former headmaster of St Thomas of Canterbury school), William Hammerton; Tomasz Vroobel, HM Queen Elizabeth II, Diana Dorman, Bishop Howard Tripp, Sheila Billingsley, Peter Fowler, Sidney Palmer, Anthony McPhee, Sandra Monger, Fr Tom Herbst (OFM), Raymond Guy, Michell Rising, Manual De Medeiros and Eric Pavis.

Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in December: There are no anniversaries in December

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **26/27 November:** Our second collection is for the **SVP**

Next weekend: **03/04 December:** There is no second collection this weekend.



Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 3 December 2022** at 9.00 am in the Presbytery. Places are limited so please call the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from Office).

Christmas Fair on Sunday 11th December 10:30- 1pm in the church hall.

Father Christmas, Raffle prize include hampers, music lesson, cinema tickets &£30 Morrison voucher and lots more.

There will be stalls selling craft, candles, Art books and the church shop. Activities for the children also.

Please do come and support

All monies raised goes to our church projects

We are still happy to receive any donations of items for the fair - please drop them into the parish office.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2022

For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

From Fr Anthony...

We have four whole weeks of the Advent season this year. Here in Canterbury, it is four weeks of festive lights and music and the endless playing of Christmas songs such as "Do they know it's Christmas?", "All I want for Christmas is you" or "Last Christmas", as we walk round the Christmas Market searching for the ideal present. Some of us will be furiously writing Christmas cards hoping they will arrive despite the industrial action of the postal workers. Some of us might have decided this year not to write any cards but give the money we save to charity. It is no good fighting the commercial side of things unless you decide to become a hermit and mutter "humbug."

It is against this background that the liturgy of the Advent season gives us the opportunity to reflect and pray. This year, most of the Gospel readings at Mass, will be taken from the Gospel of St Matthew and this Sunday we have Jesus speaking about the future and the end of time. He is asking us to be ready. "Stay awake, because you do not know the day when your Master is coming...you must stay ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." These words are complimented by what St Paul writes; "The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark".

Is there anything in our life that we don't want others to know about? Perhaps there are thoughts or actions that make us ashamed of ourselves. We need to shake off the darkness that can envelope us if we are not careful. We need to put on the armour of light. Saint Paul says; "Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ."

In the opening prayer of Mass this Sunday, we hear about us "running to Christ." Give us the resolve to run to Christ. During these days of Advent may the Spirit help us to turn to the light and embrace the light. Christ is our light that banishes the darkness that can easily envelope us. In these days of Advent may the spirit help us to come to Christ who wants to embrace us in love, who wants us to experience his love. His love heals and restores us. This Advent may the Spirit help us to run to Christ who is our life. Jesus says "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Jesus you are my light my love and my life.

HCPT - Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust are planning Pilgrimages to Lourdes next year 2023. We are taking our children's Group 87 to take part in the Children's Pilgrimage at Easter and our Summer group 587 on pilgrimage to Hosanna House 25th August (date tbc). Please ask Fr Anthony or Annie for more info if you'd like to join us.

HCPT - GRAND DRAW: Tickets available in Narthex & Saints Chapel exit. All proceeds are allocated to groups 87 and 587 to help fund HCPT's life-changing pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes for sick, 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 by 31st December so they can be entered and allocated to our groups 87 and 587 (More info contact anniejudge@hotmail.com, or 07866515797). Thank you.

Advent Retreat

Irish Chaplaincy is running an Advent Retreat via zoom from December 5th-9th and it's free! There will be a daily conference at 9.30am lasting 30/45 mins, with a reflection from a range of great speakers, including a prison chaplain and an Irish bishop. Contact: eddie.gilmore@irishchaplaincy.org.uk

100 CLUB 2023: We have only had seven responses!!! If you wish to continue your 100 Club membership, or apply to be a member, for 2023, please complete a form which is available at the back of Church, on the website or from Linda in the office and return it before Friday, 9 December 2022.

A free short reflection brought to you each day of Advent:

Advent can be such a busy demanding time, but we encourage you to make some space to reflect and pray this advent. Sign up for our free Southwark Diocesan 'daily advent reflections' to aid your prayer. Every day during advent you will receive an email with a very brief thought for the day based on the daily reading. It is an opportunity to listen to God's invitation to you this advent. All you have to do is sign up and then set aside a couple of minutes each day to reflect! Sign up via the Commission web site: <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk> clicking on the Advent Reflection box. Alternatively, if you are viewing this online, you can sign up directly by clicking here: <https://southwarkdsc.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a3e1dce7f8f666e9d64edd867&id=4f880b3b9c>.

Christmas in Our Hall Foyer

Sunday mornings will have a full display of our Christmas wares. Our shop has the goods too but the foyer will let us spread our wings. Please support your Repository this Advent & Christmas.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS BY ZOOM WITH FATHER ANTHONY:

You are invited to join Fr Anthony, online for a series of Advent reflections to be held from 7pm to 8pm on Tuesday 29th Nov, 6th December and 13th December.

The sign in details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2646167948?pwd=RXlPd3BtUnRMSnUvZzB3Ymx5VmR2dz09>
Meeting ID: 264 616 7948 and Passcode: 467905

ADVENT ADORATION, ROSARY AND REFLECTION Please join us in the Church on Thursday 1st December, 8th Dec and 15th Dec from 7.30 - 8.30pm

SCHOOL FORM SIGNING

If you require Supplementary School Forms for St Thomas of Canterbury Primary School in Canterbury to be signed by Fr Anthony, please come to the Presbytery on:

Wednesday, 30th November between 3pm and 6pm; or
Saturday, 3rd December between 3pm and 4.30pm; or
Monday, 5th December between 3pm to 5.30pm; or
Wednesday, 7th December between 7pm and 9pm; or
Friday, 9th December between 8pm and 9pm

Salvation Army Toy Appeal

Cpts Gavin & Alison write: "Our Christmas Toy Appeal for 2022 has begun! This year we will once again be collecting toys and gifts for families in the Canterbury area who may be struggling this Christmas. Last year we helped over 500 children, and we envisage similar or even higher numbers in the current economic climate. If you would like to donate toys or gifts, they can be received at:

1. Canterbury Salvation Army, Tuesdays and Fridays between 10am and 2pm
2. The Activity Box (Herne Bay), Wednesday-Saturday between 9am and 3pm
3. Whitefriars (Canterbury), Monday-Friday between 1pm and 5pm, Saturday-Sunday between 12pm and 4pm. The Giving Tree is situated in the Marlowe Arcade and gift tags can be picked up from the elves each afternoon.

We would like volunteers to help with the sorting and distribution of the toy parcels. If you can help or would like any further information, please email canterbury@salvationarmy.org.uk.