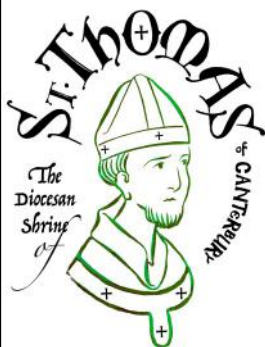


# NEWSLETTER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate Canterbury Kent CT1 2HJ

Telephone: **01227 462896** Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)

Web Site: <https://stthomasofcanterbury.com>  **St Thomas of Canterbury**

Parish Priest: **Canon Anthony Charlton** email: [anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priests: **Fr John Howard** email: [johnhoward@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnhoward@rcaos.org.uk)

**Fr Mark Wharton** email: [markwharton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:markwharton@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:** *Chaplain:* **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) People of the Parish

2nd Collection: **SVP**

**Sunday, 15th Jan: Second Sunday (A)** *Jn1: 29-34*

**PEACE DAY**

8.00am: Sisters of St Clare (Largo) (*G & E Yates*)

9.30am: Becky Judge - RIP (*Judge Family*)

11.00am: Ric Pavis - RIP (*P M Cullinane*)

4.00pm: *Confirmation Session in Hall*

6.00pm: Alex Joseph Melnyk - RIP (1st Anniv.)

**Monday 16th Jan: Feria** *Mk 2: 18-22*

7.30 am: Susan & Thomas Kelly - RIP (*Trudy Kelly*)

12 noon: John Aitken Gray - RIP (*Myrna Gray*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Tuesday 17th Jan: St Anthony** *Mk 2: 23-28*

7.30am: Franz Forrester - RIP (*Forrester Family*)

12 noon: Tony Ashman - RIP (*Catherine Ashman*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Wednesday 18th Jan: Feria** *Mk 3: 1-6*

**CHURCH UNITY WEEK**

7.30 am: Isobel Gray - welfare (*Angela Sheehy*)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Sr Mary Ludovinia (Nazareth House) (*G & E Yates*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Thursday 19th Jan: St Wulstan** *Mk 3: 7-12*

7.30am: Ibeto Vivian - exam success

12 noon: Guy Joseph - RIP (*Mrs Brayshaw*)

7.30pm: *Young Adults prayer in the Church*

**Friday 20th Jan: St Sebastian** *Mt 3: 13-19*

12 noon: Nenetie Guillaume - RIP (*Mark Lyons*)

*Adoration to 1.30pm*

7.30pm: Sr Stella Clifford - RIP (*UCM*)

**Saturday 21st Jan: St Agnes** *Mk 3: 20-21*

10:30am-11:30am Reconciliation

12 noon: Fr Michael Stack (*G & E Yates*)

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

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm: (Vigil) Joseph Kunnasseril - RIP (*Jimmy*)

**Sunday, 22nd Jan: Third Sunday (A)** *Mt 4: 12-23*

**SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Sandra Monger - RIP (*Judge Family*)

11.00am: Brian Henley - RIP (*Ignacio Family*)

4.00pm: *Confirmation Session in Hall*

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

2nd Collection: **Peace Sunday (Pax Christi)**

### PARISH MATTERS

#### Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Luisa Ward, Janette Hughes, 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, Heather Dandison, Tony Whitehurst, Maria Krynicki, John Kieley, Richard Sexton, Michael Hood-Cree, Frank Basquil, Anita Johnson, Judith Parsons and Therese Punnett

#### Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Sandra Monger, Fr Tom Herbst (OFM), Raymond Guy, Michelle Rising, Manual De Medeiros, Cecelia De Medeiros, Eric Pavis, Canon Colm Acton, Sue Nolan, Sr Stella Clifford, Mary Dittrich, Christopher Power, Anthony Andrews, Barbara Brett and Pamela Scott

#### Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in January 2023:

Robert O'Shea, Michael Wise and Philomena Wickenden

#### SECOND COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **14/15 January: SVP** (envelopes available in the Narthex)  
Next weekend: **21/22 January: PAX CHRISTI** (envelopes in the Narthex). The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice

**WANTED! HCPT GROUP 87** need a **nurse and helper** for the children's Easter Pilgrimage (9 - 15 April 2023). Financial assistance is available. Please see [www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk) to see what we do or as Annie Judge on 07866 515797.

#### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2023

##### For Educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023.

Forms for the FHC Programme available in the Narthex or on the webpage.  
Sessions: 9.00am to 10.00am on Saturday mornings starting 25 February 2023.  
Completed forms, together with child's baptismal certificate must be returned to the Presbytery before 30 January 2023. First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 11th June 2023 at 9.30 & 11.00am Mass.

## From Fr Anthony...

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this coming Wednesday, 18th January and ends on the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, 25th January.

The theme for this year was selected by the Minnesota Council of Churches in the USA in the aftermath of the extrajudicial killing of George Floyd and the trial of the police officer responsible for his death. These events brought anguish but also time for the Christian communities to contemplate ways in which they may be complicit in racial injustice. Christian unity is needed as a source of reconciliation and unity.

The theme, taken from the first chapter of the Book of Isaiah (vs 12-18) reflects the prophet's concern for the oppressed who suffer from injustice and inequality, fed by hypocrisy that leads to disunity. He teaches that God requires righteousness and justice from all of us, to create the peace and unity that God desires. These virtues originate in God's love for all and racism runs counter to this vision. Isaiah's challenge to do good and seek justice together applies equally to us today.

What is the point of praying for Christian Unity? The bishops who met at the Second Vatican council stated very clearly: "The restoration of unity among all Christians is one of the principal concerns of the Second Vatican Council. Christ the Lord founded one Church and one Church only. However, many Christian communions present themselves to men and women as the true inheritors of Jesus Christ; all indeed profess to be followers of the Lord but differ in mind and go their different ways, as if Christ Himself were divided. Such division openly contradicts the will of Christ, scandalises the world, and damages the holy cause of preaching the Gospel to every creature. [Decree on Ecumenism: Unitatis Redintegratio](#). In *Vatican II Documents*. Unity is God's gift so we must pray for it. Only God in Christ can reconcile us but praying for unity shows we desire to be used by God in his work of reconciliation. Disunity weakens our witness in the world. Praying opens us to God's healing touch. Jesus prayed that "all may be one". This will only happen when Christians pray for unity and work for it in our own local context.

***Lord Jesus Christ, at your Last Supper you prayed to the Father that all should be one. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who bear your name and seek to serve you. Strengthen our faith in you, and lead us to love one another in humility. May we who have been reborn in one baptism be united in one faith under one Shepherd. Amen***

**CAFOD VOLUNTEERING** The church relies on people getting involved. Our church, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be to get more involved in the life of our church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish?

**CAFOD**, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give time and join them in their mission. Training and support are provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch with Celeste and Sarah: [southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:southwark@cafod.org.uk) and let's transform the world in 2023 together!

**Union of Catholic Mothers** are supporting **Canterbury Food bank reverse advent calendar appeal**. donations can be left in the All Saints Chapel from the 22nd to 29th January 2023. There will be a cake sale on the 29th (donations welcome on the day) all proceeds going to the food bank.

A French Catholic student from La Roche-sur-Yon, in western France will be studying at CCCU from January to May 2023. He is looking for a place to settle during those months and is wishing to stay with a family to host him for four months in Canterbury? He is 19 years old and currently studying in Political Science. All my studies have been done in Catholic institutions, such as Notre-Dame de Sion, in Paris, and now the ICES, in La Roche-sur-Yon. If you can help, please contact Fr Anthony

### Have your say on assisted suicide inquiry

Following the launch of a new Parliamentary inquiry into assisted dying, the Catholic Union of Great Britain is asking lay Catholics to provide their views in an online survey. The results from the survey will shape the Catholic Union's response to the call for evidence, which closes on 20 January 2023. Details, including the survey can be found here: [www.catholicunion.org.uk/2022/12/catholic-union-to-make-voice-of-the-laity-heard-on-assisted-suicide-inquiry](http://www.catholicunion.org.uk/2022/12/catholic-union-to-make-voice-of-the-laity-heard-on-assisted-suicide-inquiry)

**FUNERAL SERVICES** will take place in St Thomas; for the late: Barbara Brett on Tuesday, 24th January at 12 noon ;and Anthony Andrews on Friday, 27th January at 3.00pm; and Sr Stella Clifford on Monday, 6th February 2023 at 12 noon

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** The following Raffle winning prizes must please be claimed from the Presbytery (bring your ticket to identify your prize): 106(pink); 700 (white); 44 (pink); 29(green); 423 (blue); 743 (white); 441 (blue)

### CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY

**Dwelling in God's Presence', 12-1pm every Thursday at St Andrew's URC**  
Rev Bernard Fidler of St Andrew's and King James of Favour House Church invites you to join them for an hour's prayer watch – simply dwelling in God's presence, in whatever way is most appropriate for you. All are welcome, - relaxed and informal atmosphere. If you can't make it in person, please make time in your diary between 12 and 1pm each Thursday to pray wherever you are. The prayer watch begins this Thursday but will of course happen during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, on Thursday 19th January.

### Connecting Canterbury are looking for volunteers ...

Please see poster in the Narthex

This year the **World Day of Prayer** service has been planned by the Christians of Taiwan and will be held on **Friday 3rd March 2023 at 11am at St Stephens Church, Hales Place**. Canterbury. There will be a soup lunch afterwards, all are most welcome to attend.

Escorted **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland**, 15th March 2023: £699.00 per person sharing. Price incl. flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel full board. All entertainment and excursions included with special St. Patrick's Day Celebrations. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com). See Poster in Narthex.

**Taizé Evening of Prayer** celebrating "The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: **Belonging, Unity, Justice**" takes place on **Tuesday 24th January 2023 from 19.30 to 20.30** in St Thomas' Church. Please note the service **will be live-streamed**. We will celebrate through Singing, Silence, Readings and Intercessions. Come and pray for our world.