

# 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) Joseph Kunnasseril - RIP (*Jimmy*)

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

**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*)

**Monday 23rd Jan: Feria** Mk 3: 22-30

7.30 am: Sue Nolan - RIP (*Callaghan Family*)

12 noon: Joel Pinto - birthday (*Ferreira Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

6.30pm: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

**Tuesday 24th Jan: St Francis de Sales** Mk 3: 31-35

7.30am: Allan Lloyd - RIP (*Scott Family*)

12 noon: Requiem Mass of the late Barbara Brett

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00pm: Taize Evening: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Wednesday 25th Jan: Conversion of St Paul** Mk 16: 15-18

7.30 am: Irene Eirimm - RIP (*Forrester Family*)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Patricia Metcalfe - welfare

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Thursday 26th Jan: Sts Timothy and Titus** Mk 4: 21-25

7.30am: Sean Blake - welfare (*Brigid Rowe*)

10.00am: Funeral of the late Christopher Power at Barham

12 noon: Nora (nee) Duggan - RIP (*Hugh Connolly*)

7.30pm: Young Adults prayer in the Church

**Friday 27th Jan: St Angela Merici** Mt 4: 26-34

12 noon: Diane Silcock-Stone - birthday

Adoration to 1.30pm

3.00pm: Requiem Mass of Anthony Andrews

7.30pm: NO EVENING MASS

**Saturday 28th Jan: St Thomas Aquinas** Mk 4: 35-41

10:30am-11:30am Reconciliation

12 noon: Philomena Wickenden - RIP (1st Anniv.)

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meeting in Upper Room

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm: (Vigil): Brett Pereira - birthday (*Pereira Family*)

**Sunday, 29th Jan: Fourth Sunday (A)** Mt 5: 1-12

8.00am: Harry and Maureen Waltham-Smith - RIP

9.30am: Filipino Community and Families

11.00am: Sue Nolan - RIP (*Sherington Family*)

6.00pm: People of the Parish

### 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, Therese Punnett and Andrew Burton

#### 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: **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  
Next weekend: **28/29 January:** No second collection this weekend

**WANTED! HCPT GROUP 87** need a **nurse and helper** for the children's East-er 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.

*Thank you!* For your generous donations to the Gift Amnesty Appeal.

#### 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.

Pope Francis has declared this 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Sunday of the Word of God and is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God.

It is an opportune moment for us at St Thomas Parish to reflect on what ways is the Word of God a part of our daily life. It is important to remember that all Sacred Scripture (all 46 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament) is but one book, and this one book is Christ, "because all divine Scripture speaks of Christ, and all divine Scripture is fulfilled in Christ" For this reason, the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord's Body. She never ceases to present to the faithful the bread of life, taken from the one table of God's Word and Christ's Body. If we look at our sanctuary here at St Thomas, we have the Ambo (where the Word of God is proclaimed) and the Altar on which we celebrate the Eucharistic prayer and on which the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. The Ambo and the Altar are two tables from which we are fed. We are fed and nourished by God's living Word and we are fed and nourished by the Christ really and truly present under the appearance of bread and wine.

We read these words in the New Testament "For the word of God is living and active" (Heb. 4:12) and "it has power to build you up and give you your heritage among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32; see 1 Thess. 2:13). What are the ways in which we make Scripture a part of our daily life? First of all, do I own bible? Do I read it? For the last two years one of the most popular podcasts has been "Bible in a Year" presented and read by the American priest Fr Mike Schmitz <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration> you can listen to it on any podcast platform. We can use the daily Mass readings as part of our prayer. The monthly booklet, "Bible Alive" and "My Day by Day" are available at the back of the church. They are a great help with our daily reflection the readings. There is a group of parishioners that meets every Thursday after 12noon Mass who reflect together on the following Sundays Gospel.

The Jesuits have some good resources. I have found the weekly resource on the next Sundays readings helpful [https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/2023/01/13/third-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-a-22nd-january-2023/?mc\\_cid=6b952&mc\\_eid=e34715a245](https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/2023/01/13/third-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-a-22nd-january-2023/?mc_cid=6b952&mc_eid=e34715a245)

The Jesuits also have a podcast that will introduce you to praying with scripture known as Lection Divina [https://pray-as-you-go.org/series/16-how-to-pray-with-lectio-divina?mc\\_cid=6b952&mc\\_eid=e34715a245](https://pray-as-you-go.org/series/16-how-to-pray-with-lectio-divina?mc_cid=6b952&mc_eid=e34715a245)

Here is a prayer we can say before we read the Scriptures.

*Lord, as I read Your Word, please help me to know, love, and understand You better.*

*Help me to recognize how You want for me to apply Your Word to my life.*

*Holy Spirit, may You enlighten my mind and enkindle in my heart a greater love for You and for others in my family and in the world as I read Your Word. 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

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. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com). See Poster in Narthex.

**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

### Sunday of the Word of God

This Sunday is the *Sunday of the Word of God*.



Pope Francis issued a 'Motu Proprio' instituting the Sunday of the Word of God. It will be marked each year on the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time.

The Holy Father had proposed the idea at the conclusion of the Year of Mercy when he wrote: a Sunday given over entirely to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people.

This Sunday, please remember in your prayers all who proclaim, share and teach the Word of God.

**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)

**Growing in Faith Together**, a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang, consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom for **married couples** and **engaged couples** who have **completed marriage preparation**. The **LENTEN course** runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning **28th Feb 2023** and continuing on **MAR 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th & 4th APRIL 2023**. To register during **FEBRUARY** click on the link below: [Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis \(rcaos.org.uk\)](http://Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk))

**HCPT NEWS:** Many thanks to all who supported the HCPT Grand Christmas Draw which raised **£1215** for our Groups 587 and 87  
Please save the date: **HCPT Barn Dance Saturday 25th February** at St Anselm's Catholic School. Details to follow

**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.