

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 Priests: **Fr John Howard** email: johnhoward@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Mark Wharton email: 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: **Fr Mark Wharton** (markwharton@rcaos.org.uk)

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): Teresa Kelly - RIP (*Bernadette Lyons*)
Sunday, 12th Mar: Third Sunday of Lent (A) *Jn 4: 5-42*
8.00am: Holy Souls
9.30am: Noreen Murphy & Margaret Halpenny - RIP
10.30am - 1.00pm: *Lenten Lunch*
11.00am: Marjorie Davis - welfare (*Hilary McKernan*)
4.00pm: *Confirmation Session in the Hall*
4.30pm: *Stations of the Cross*
6.00pm: People of the Parish

Monday 13th Mar: Feria *Lk 4: 24-30*
7.30 am: Jeremy Page - RIP (*Forrester Family*)
12 noon: Michael Mullins - RIP (*Bernadette Lyons*)
4.00pm *Reception of the body of Canon Michael Bunce into church*
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 14th Mar: Feria *Mt 18: 21-35*
7.30am: Holy Souls
11.00am: Requiem Mass for the late Canon Michael Bunce
12 noon: NO MASS
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer
7.00pm: Zoom Lenten Reflection on next Sunday's the Gospel

Wednesday 15th March: *Mt 5: 17-19*
7.30am: M Abraham - RIP (*Jomon Family*)
10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation
12 noon: Harry and Chantelle - welfare
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer
7.00pm: RCIA

Thursday 16th Mar: Feria *Lk 11:14-23*
7.30am: Holy Souls
12 noon: Nora King - RIP (*Elizabeth Murphy*)
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer
7.30pm: *Lenten Reflection in the Church*

Friday 17th Mar: St Patrick *Mt 13: 24-32*
12 noon: Teresa Kelly & Maria Sadler - RIP (*Bernadette Lyons*)
Adoration to 1.30pm
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer
6.45pm: *Stations of the Cross*
7.30pm: Patricia Gray - birthday remembrance (*Brown Fam.*)

Saturday 18th Mar: Feria *Lk 18: 9-124*
9.00 - 10am: First Holy Communion in the Hall
10:30 - 11:30am: Reconciliation
12 noon: "Happy Birthday Gerry B" (*Tessa Metcalfe*)
4.30pm: *Legion of Mary meeting in Upper Room*
4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm: (Vigil): People of the Parish
Sunday, 12th Mar: Fourth Sunday of Lent (A) *Jn 9: 1-41*
LAETARE SUNDAY (MOTHERING SUNDAY)
8.00am: Intentions of Sean Clancy
9.30am: Thanksgiving (*Vibal Family*)
11.00am: Thanksgiving (C Stone)
4.30pm: *Stations of the Cross*
4.00pm: *Confirmation Session in the Hall*
6.00pm: Margaret - RIP (*Sandra Browne*)

2nd Coll.
**Poor
Parishes**

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, 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, MSue Nolan, Sr Stella Clifford, Mary Dittrich, Christopher Power, Anthony Andrews, Barbara Brett, Pamela Scott, Canon Michael Bunce, Michael Mansbridge, Michael Hood-Cree, Ron Green and Fr James Hurley

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

June Carver, Nora King, Charles Barry, Olive Reardon, Terence Spratley, Mary Rear, and Ronald Godsall

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **11/12 March:** for the **SVP**

Next weekend: **18/19 March:** for the **Poor Parishes** (formally the Needs of the Diocese, this collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese.

For those who Gift Aid their offertory donations

Envelopes are now ready for collection from the Saints Chapel.

Boxes of weekly envelopes for those who donate cash in the offertory at Sunday Mass.

Special Collection Envelopes cover certain 2nd collections and are for those who give by standing order.

Worship meeting at St Thomas Catholic Church every **first and third Saturday** of the month from **4pm to 6pm** in the St Thomas' church hall - it's open for all.



Baptism Preparation:

To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1 April 2023** at 9.00 am in the Presbytery. Places are limited so call the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from office)

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH 2023

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

LIVESTREAMING IN CHURCH . We use livestreaming for all Masses. If any services are to be recorded we will inform the parish of those specific services.

From Fr Anthony...

Last week we were on the top of a high mountain with Peter, James and John. There they had the extraordinary and wonderful experience of seeing Jesus transfigured. Today Jesus is travelling through hostile territory, the land settled by the Samaritans who have no dealings with the Jews. The disciples, who were travelling with him, leave him alone by Jacob's Well to go and buy food. As Jesus rests by the well in the midday sun, a woman comes to draw water and Jesus asks her for a drink. This begins a conversation that eventually leads to the woman leaving her jar by the well and running back to the town, proclaiming to everyone: "Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did. I wonder if he is the Christ."

The thirst that Jesus has is not just a physical thirst but a thirst or desire that this woman comes to have her own thirst quenched by the living water that he is offering her. No reason is given for her having had five husbands and is now living with a man that is not her husband. My guess is she is looking or thirsting for ultimate meaning in a relationship which has not satisfied her. This encounter with Jesus means that he is able to offer her the one thing that will satisfy the deep longing in her heart. Jesus promises the water that he shall give will turn into a spring inside her, welling up to eternal life. This living water will be truly satisfying. What a change has taken place in the Samaritan woman after meeting Jesus. She is no longer a lonely figure coming to draw water at the wrong time of the day but has become a person who eagerly runs and calls others to meet the man who had changed her life and can change their lives too.

Those who are to be baptised at Easter (known as the elect) will be at Mass this weekend to celebrate the first of three scrutinies. These rites are meant "to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good." Here is the prayer or exorcism that the priest says this Sunday:

God of power, grant that these catechumens, who like the woman of Samaria, thirst for living water, may turn to the Lord as they hear his word and acknowledge the sins and weaknesses that weigh them down. Protect them from vain reliance on self and defend them from the power of Satan. Free them from the spirit of deceit, so that, admitting the wrong they have done they may attain purity of heart and advance on the way of salvation.



The **Social Committee** are holding a **Lenten Lunch** on Sunday, 12 March from 10:30-1pm. Tea and coffee provided. Free to attend, everyone welcome.

DIARY DATE: On the Anniversary of **St Oscar Romero's** martyrdom, Friday, 24 March, we are having Mass at 6.30pm followed by a talk at 7.30pm. More details on the poster in the Narthex.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY NEWS

Lent Lectures at St Peter's Anglican Church at 12 noon, followed by Lunch - £5 donation. Our theme this year is Encounter and we have the following speakers:

Tues 14 Mar. Lisa Carlson Canterbury BID

Tues 21 Mar. Dean David Monteith

Tues 28 Mar. Archdeacon Will Adam

Commemoration of Lady Loretta, 11am Saturday 4th March at St Stephen's

11am – Two short Reflections followed by questions and discussion:

Social, religious & political context of Lady Loretta's life (Rev Dr Kevin Maddy)

What can we learn from the anchoresses in the 21st Century? (Dr Peter D Toon)

12 Noon – Midday prayers and dedication of Memorial Plaque to Lady Loretta,

led by Canterbury Gregorian Music Society

Mass of Inauguration of CARITAS Southwark takes place at St. George's Cathedral on **Sat 18 March at 12:30pm**. CARITAS Southwark is a great initiative to encourage us to actively engage with our faith in words and deeds. If you are interested in representing our parish at this event, contact Father Anthony.

You are invited to a **free Makaton Taster Workshop** with John-Paul Riordan (a Makaton Tutor and parishioner) on **Thursday 30/3/23** from **14.00 to 16.00** in room **Ng07** at **Canterbury Christ Church University** (North Holmes Road, Canterbury, CT1 1QU). Makaton is a sign and symbol language programme used by many children and adults in our parish and the wider local community. Everyone is welcome (including accompanied children). No need to book, just turn up. No signing experience needed (experienced signers are welcome too). For a campus map go to <https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/campusmaps/venues>

Every Tuesday during Lent from 7 - 8pm there will be an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on next Sunday's gospel led by Fr Anthony: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81636628648?pwd=Y0R0bm9seDBEWXk3aGZJMDg4VEpiUT09>

Concorde International in Kent News

Free English classes in March at a local Study Centre in Canterbury: <https://www.facebook.com/ConcordeEnglish>

Recruiting friendly local homestay families

Please contact Lara: 01227 451035

Why do MPs want Catholics arrested for silently praying outside Abortion Centres? Come and find out at 7pm Thursday 16th March 2023. Venue; St Wilfrid's Hall, The Oratory, Brompton Rd, London SW7 2RP.

[The entrance to which is in the forecourt of Oratory House.] And Learn about the Life-Saving Peaceful Prayerful Outreach that is 40 Days for Life as we reach the halfway point of this Lent's 40 Days for Life Campaign in Brixton. For more details contact Gabriella on 07745-711064 or Good Counsel on 02077231740