

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

2nd Coll. World
Communication

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Confirmation of Aya and Sebastian

Sunday, 21st May: Seventh Sunday of Easter Jn 17: 1-11

8.00am: David Heap - RIP (*Christine Heap*)

9.30am: Becky Judge - RIP

11.00am: Joseph Evans - welfare (*Evans Family*)

12.15 *Baptism of Cecilia Reis*

6.00pm: Geertruida Maria Hogt - RIP (*Anka Wolbert*)

Monday 22nd May: St Rita of Cascia Jn 16: 29-33

7.30 am: Gerald Abraham Samuel - RIP

12 noon: Jennifer Scott - birthday

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 23rd May: Feria Jn 17: 1-11

7.30am: NO MASS

12 noon: Tansey Kelly, Doreen Durban & Mary Jones - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 24th May: Feria Jn 17: 11-19

7.30am: Intentions of Pauline Ventress (*Sue Purbrick*)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Patrick Dowling - RIP (*Evans Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.00pm: RCIA Mass

Thursday 25th May: St Bede the Venerable Jn 17: 20-26

7.30am: Ann Johnson - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

12 noon: Betty Scott on her 90th Birthday

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: *Young Adults prayer in the Church*

Friday 26th May: St Philip Neri Jn 21: 15-19

12 noon: Requiem Mass of Wilmot and Anita Johnson

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Adriana de Contreras - RIP (*Yadira Ross*)

Saturday 27th May: St Augustine of Canterbury Lk 10: 1-9

10:30 - 11:30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Bishop Hendricks - welfare

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Betty Scott's intentions

7.00pm - 10pm: *Vigil for Pentecost*

Sunday, 28th May: Pentecost Sunday Jn 20: 19-23

8.00am: Francis Somers - RIP (*Carmelo and family*)

9.30am: Filipino Community and Families

11.00am: People of the Parish

Baptism & Confirmation of Martin Kamano

Confirmation of Tobias Edmund Engel

12.15 *Baptism of Caoimhe Kennedy*

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: Charles Gordon - welfare

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2023

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Heinz Vogel, Annie Queenan and Micheline Ambrosine

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Anthony Andrews, Barbara Brett, Pamela Scott, Canon Michael Bunce, Michael Mansbridge, Michael Hood-Cree, Ron Green, Fr James Hurley, Canon Martin Lee, Veronica Troope, Peter Dunbar-Johnson OBE, Sr Rose Pentter, Wilmot Johnson, Mary Mariasy and Fr Patrick Aikens

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

Joyce Harlow and Louis Dirckze

SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **20/21 May: second collection** is for **World Communications Sunday**:

Next weekend: **27/28 May: No Second collection** this weekend

20/21 May: This Sunday is World Communications Sunday

In his message the Holy Father stresses the need to listen before speaking truth with a pure heart to "see beyond appearances and overcome the vague din which, also in the field of information, does not help us discern in the complicated world in which we live."

"The call to speak with the heart," he says, "radically challenges the times in which we are living, which are so inclined towards indifference and indignation, at times even on the basis of disinformation which falsifies and exploits the truth."

You can read the Pope's message at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd23-papal-message/>.

This second collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales which seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching.



Baptism Preparation:

To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 3 June 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)

100 CLUB WINNERS: Congratulations to Mark Bateson (No. 46) and Fr John Howard (No. 89) our Winners for May 2023.

From Fr Anthony...

Whenever I celebrate a baptism, after the child has been baptised, I gather the parents and godparents around the altar for the concluding rite, saying the Our Father and blessing of the parents. I begin this part of the Rite by saying to all present that the Altar we stand around is known as "The Altar of sacrifice" and also the "Table of the Lord." The altar is a place of sacrifice. It transports us back to that moment in time when Jesus divested himself of bodily clothing and divine splendour in order to offer himself on the altar of the cross as victim of sacrifice. It isn't easy to fully comprehend that this one person is at the same time victim, priest, and altar of sacrifice. Jesus is the priest that performed on the altar of his body the sacrifice that reconciled us all with God! This sacrificial understanding of the Eucharist is the heart of Catholic teaching on the Mass.

The dual reality of altar and table sometimes baffles us but it is good to remind ourselves that death is celebrated with a meal. The Mass we celebrate today comes from the Jewish Passover. This ritual is celebrated every year as a memorial of the time when the Jewish people were freed from the slavery

of Egypt and entered the Promised Land. Jesus took the Passover Meal and fulfilled its deepest meaning. He transformed it into the memorial of his own saving death and resurrection. What we celebrate is a "shared banquet, a holy feast, a rite of eating and drinking the body and blood of Christ in Communion. It is therefore, the Paschal meal" (*Joseph Champlin*).

My dear friend Michael Evans wrote a small book, "Why go to Mass?" In it he wrote "People come to Mass seeking meaning for their lives and a sense of value and worth for themselves. The Eucharist gives new meaning and value to God's creation and to the people: the lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayer and work, are united with those of Christ and with his total offering, and so acquire a new value'

The Eucharist is as vital to our spiritual life as ordinary food is to our physical and mental life. Just because there are times when we don't seem to get anything out of the celebration of Mass because of tedious preaching, uninspiring music, a lack of a sense of community, hypocrisy and unsympathetic priests this is no reason for walking away. These are sometimes valid criticisms and we all have a responsibility to use our gifts and talents into the greatest thing we do together, the celebration of Mass.

They gathered with Mary. Pentecost Vigil 2023.

On Saturday 27th May, from 7pm -10pm, we will hold a vigil of prayer for Pentecost. Adoration, Rosary, Confessions, three short meditations on life in the Holy Spirit, concluding with Consecration to the Holy Spirit and Solemn Benediction.

Wednesday tea and coffee after the 12 noon Mass. Join us in the hall for a cuppa and conversation after Mass.

'Caring in a Crisis', Meeting at 7:30pm Wednesday 24th May at St Mary Bredin Street Pastors 'Open House' event, 10am-12pm Saturday 27th May at Canterbury Baptist Church.

DAY RETREAT FOR WOMEN AGED 18 - 40. A free day retreat including formation, Holy Mass, Lunch and sharing, led by Isabel Fawcett, with the theme "The world doesn't need what women have, it needs what women are." (St Theresa Benedicta of the Cross) is being held at St Thomas' on Saturday, 3rd June 2023 from 10h15 am to 4.00pm. To sign up email Fr Mark at markwharton@rcaos.org.uk

Quiz Night - Our Lady Immaculate, Whitsable on Saturday 10th June. Bring your own nibbles and drinks. £5. To book a place contact whitstable@rcaos.org.uk, 01227 272758

WANTED REGISTERED NURSE - To join HCPT Group 587 on our Pilgrimage to Lourdes 25th August – 1st September. Assisted funding.. for more info contact anniejudge@hotmail.com, 07866515797

Walk and picnic 28th May meet in front of the church after the 9:30am mass to walk to Toddler Cove. Everyone welcome. See posters for more information.

Funeral Masses:
for the late Wilmot Johnson is at Barham Crematorium on Friday, 26 May at 2pm

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST MEETING

In the church hall on Saturday, 24 June from 10am to 11.30am. All current, past and potential future extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist are invited to join us for this important meeting

Promise Auction we held our 1st ever auction in September last year and would appreciate feedback from all those who supported this event. If you bid on an item or donated items and contact hasn't been made to arrange collection or if you had a wonderful experience to share, please contact the social committee via emailsocialstthomasrc@gmail.com
Our next **Promise Auction** is on the **16th September 2023**

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on: Saturday, 10 June 2023 at 3.00pm; Bishop Hendricks presiding.
CELEBRATION OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: will be celebrated on Sunday, 11 June 2023 at the 9.30am and 11.00 am Masses

Mary's Meals is recruiting a supporter engagement officer for London and the Southeast. The full job advert can be found here: [Supporter Engagement Officer - London and the South East of England | Mary's Meals UK \(marysmeals.org.uk\)](#). To apply, please send your CV and covering letter to: jobs@marysmeals.org

Following the footsteps of the Saints

Called to action by our faith- Saturday 10th June

You are invited to CAFOD's International Office on Saturday 10th June for a short time exploring our faith, why we Campaign & how you can help. The morning will include guest speakers & a chance for discussion in workshops to explore activities such as [Live Simply](#). Our unfair Food System and Liturgy resources. The morning will run from 10.30-1pm at CAFOD's Office in Lambeth North SE1. For further information contact Sarah or Celeste southwark@cafod.org.uk for booking please see <https://cafod.org.uk/news/events> or Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/following-the-footsteps-of-the-saints-called-to-action-by-our-faith-tickets-627182769547>