

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. **White Flower Appeal**

6.00pm (Vigil): William Edwards Jr - RIP (*E.M Murphy*)

Sunday, 25th Jun: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Mt 10: 26-33

8.00am: Graces and Blessings Received (*R Ribbans*)

9.30am: Filipino Community and Families

11.00am: Intentions of the Van Vuuren-Casser Family

12.15: *Baptism of Ksenia Paradine and Luigi Luonga*

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: People of the Parish

Monday 26th Jun: St Thomas Garnet

Mt 7: 1-5

7.30 am: Yvonne Ho - welfare (*Sue Purbrick*)

12 noon: Tsige Buta - RIP (*Sherington Family*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 27th Jun: St Cyril of Alexandria

Mt 7:6, 12-14

7.30am: Elsbeth Cassidy - welfare (*Sue Purbrick*)

12 noon: Patsy Fizzgibbon (*Josie Carr*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 28th Jun: St Irenaeus

Mt 7: 15-20

7.30am: Ranjana - RIP (*Fr Anthony*)

10.30am - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Welfare of Angela Greenway (*E. M. Murphy*)

Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Thursday 29th Jun: Sts Peter and Paul

Mt 16:13-19

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

9.30am: Winifred Cobb - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)

12 noon: Robert Kovac - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

8.00pm: Elizabeth - birthday blessings

Friday 30th Jun: The First Martyrs

Mt 8: 1-4

12 noon: Ernest Punnett (*Alison Jordan-Hargreaves*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Jake's welfare

Saturday 1st July: St Oliver Plunket

Mt 8: 5-17

9.00am: *Baptism Preparation Meeting*

10:30 - 11:30am: Reconciliation (NO ADORATION)

11.30am - 5.00pm: *Medieval Pageant*

12 noon: Ellen Moore

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday, 2nd Jul: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Mt 10: 37-42

8.00am: John Mathew - welfare

9.30am: William Edwards Jr - RIP (Ignacio Family)

11.00am: Marco Scaparra - RIP (2nd Anniv.) (*Scaparra Family*)

12.15: *Baptism of Joshua Peter Gowing*

6.00pm: Juan & Miriam - on the occasion of their Wedding

2nd Coll. **Peter's Pence**

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, Barbara Markham, Angela Nichols, Tom Carr, Mary Jeffries, Noreen Egan, Germaine Reid, Heather Dandison, Maria Krynicki, John Kieley, Richard Sexton, Frank Basquil, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Heinz Vogel, Annie Queenan, Micheline Ambrosine and Jean Crane

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Sr Stella Clifford, Mary Dittrich, Christopher Power, 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 Penter, Bruce Johnson, Anita Johnson, Mary Mariasy, Fr Patrick Aikens, Russell Thompson, Gabriel Mendes and William Edwards Jr

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

Carol Winning

SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **24/25 June:** 2nd collection for the **White Flower Appeal - SPUC**
Next weekend: **01/02 July:** Second collection for **Peter's Pence** - the faithful's offerings to the Holy Father support the church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects as well as supporting the Holy See

White Flower Appeal 2023 - The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis. If you would like to donate online please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/whiteflower2023>

The 3rd World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is celebrated on Sun, 23 July. The theme chosen by the Pope is "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50)



Baptism Preparation:

To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1 July 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 or online)

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2023

For the Abolition of Torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

From Fr Anthony...

One of the most significant changes in the way we celebrate Mass since the Second Vatican Council, besides celebrating Mass in the vernacular rather than Latin, is the direction the presiding priest is facing: towards the congregation or with his back to the congregation which sometimes referred to "*ad orientem*" (facing east.) The symbolism of all facing in one direction gives the message of the otherness of God. God out there whom we are facing and to whom we are going on pilgrimage. Gerard O'Mahoney in his book, "The Mass from Start to Finish" says: "The priest then becomes like Jesus the shepherd, leading from the front. In theological terms we are dealing with God as transcendental, out there." When the priest who presides is facing the people we are reminded that God our Father is in the midst of us. Facing the people we are, in theological terms, "dealing with God as immanent, God within."

There is something to be said for both views, and even today some priests have decided to celebrate the Eucharistic prayer with their back to the people. But Jesus is the one presiding facing us. This is the usual way of celebrating Mass. Many claim that this lasted for the first three centuries, and as one writer says it only changed to the other, for reasons of architecture rather than because the new way was more suitable than Jesus' own way. Mass facing the people makes for better communication between priest and people. As we begin our the Eucharistic prayer there is an important dialogue between priest and people:

"The Lord be with you
And with your spirit
Life up your hearts
We have lifted them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is truly right and just."

This provides the tone for the Eucharistic prayer which is a prayer of thanksgiving. We are giving thanks for the presence of Christ amongst us as we lift up our whole selves to God. The whole Eucharistic prayer is addressed to God our Father. We are offering ourselves in all our weakness, with Jesus, to the Father. The preface, which follows, varies from season to season and there is a choice of five for this time of the year. It ends with a song sung by the two seraphim in Isaiah 6:3. And the church has added the words, "all heaven as well as all earth". It is important to note that the Church says that the 'Holy Holy' (Sanctus) should always be sung, along with the Gospel acclamation (Alleluia), the Memorial Acclamation and the great Amen. The acclamations share the 'number-one spot' because they are all fundamentally acts of praise and worship. Our gut-level response, once we realise who God is and how God acts, is to shout with praise.

MASS OF THE TRANSLATION OF ST THOMAS. Please join us for the Mass of the Translation in **Canterbury Cathedral on Friday, 7th July at 7.30pm.** Entrance is via the South Door. Please join us for light refreshments after Mass in the Chapter House.

Vocations day with the Norbertines in Peckham Saturday 15th July
The Norbertine community in Peckham is holding a Vocations Day for young men to visit their priory and discover more about the life of a Norbertine canon. The "Come and See Day" will take place on Saturday 15th July from 10am-4pm. If you are thinking about a vocation and are curious about the Norbertine Order and religious life contact them to book a place: community@norbertines.org.uk


SAVE THE DATE
The Commission for Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation for the *Archdiocese of Southwark* will be holding an **Autumn Assembly on Saturday 23rd September 2023** Entitled: **The Right to Stay: Free to Choose** addressing the motivations that affect decisions taken to leave one's native land. Everyone welcome – more information will follow shortly.

THIS IS REFUGEE WEEK 16th to 25th JUNE. Podcast from Archbishop John Wilson <https://rcaos.org.uk/news-events/news/refugee-week-2023/>

The Universe Provides: Eddie Gilmore will be presenting his new book in word and song in the church on Saturday, July 1st 7pm. Endorsed by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the book is called *The Universe Provides- finding miracles and inspiration in unexpected places.* Signed copies will be for sale and will also be in the shop or can be ordered online: <https://www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk/titles/2373-9781915412485-universe-provides>

CATHOLIC ASSOCIATE LOURDES PILGRIMAGE Fully medically supported pilgrimage to Lourdes, 18 - 25 August 2023. Information: 01732 886666; email chiefs@catholicassociation.co.uk, or visit www.catholicassociation.co.uk

Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life, to Walsingham Sat 5 August, led by Arch. Kevin McDonald. See poster on noticeboard, or go to www.prolifepilgrimage.org Join the 'great prayer for life' (Pope St John Paul II)

 **Fond Farewell!** It is with great sadness that we are saying goodbye to Father John Howard who has been appointed as assistant priest in the parish of Saint Augustine, Tunbridge Wells. We thank him for his three years of prayerful service and dedication to us all. We will miss him, but we assure him of our love and prayers in his new parish. His last Sunday here will be 3rd September. The Archbishop has appointed Father Giovanni Prandini to as assistant priest here. He will be arriving in the first week of September. Fr Giovanni has been the assistant at the Church of the Holy Ghost, Balham.

MEDIEVAL PAGEANT - takes place on Saturday, 1 July in Canterbury. We are again opening our doors as part of the family trail and are asking for volunteers to staff the tables at the church door and in the hall from 11.30am to 5.00pm. If you can help, please contact Linda in the office.

International bring and share meal 12-2pm on the 16th of July. Bring a dish to celebrate your heritage and share. All Welcome.

International Mass on Sunday 16th July at both 9:30am Mass and 11:am we would like to have the readings and prayers in various languages. We would also like to have music from various countries. **Planning meeting on Sunday, 25 June** in the church hall at 10:30am. This is for both the 9:30 & 11am masses. **Summer Fair** 2nd July 10:30-1pm Donations for our raffle Tombola and lucky dip appreciated, also cakes on the day please. Items can be left in the All-Saints Chapel. Funds going to the UCM and the parish. See posters for more info

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, Sept. 23rd, 3pm, at St George's Cathedral: If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please contact the Parish office **no later than 31 July**, You can also get in touch with us at mfikent@rcaos.org.uk : email title: e.g. Ashford, Canterbury. **Marriage & Family Life Kent, RC Arch. of Southwark**

"Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ Weekend" If you are mourning the death of a loved one - this weekend may be for you. Aylesford Priory 6 - 8 October 2023. Cost £230 single, £210 shared. Info: 01622 717272; reception@thefriars.org.uk