

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

No second Collection

6.00pm (Vigil): Winifride & David Browning - RIP (Browning Fam)
7.00pm: *New Parishioner Evening in Hall*

Sunday 30th July: 17th Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 13: 44-52

8.00am: Fr Mark Wharton on his birthday
9.30am: Filipino Community and Families
11.00am: John Barron - RIP
12.15pm: *Baptism - Michael Yiannaki*
Baptism - Leopold George Braumann
6.00pm: People of the Parish

Monday 31st July: Mt 13: 31-35

7.30am: Tisha Joy - thanksgiving
12 noon: NO MIDDAY MASS TODAY
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 1st August: St Alphonsus Liguori Mt 13: 36-43

12 noon: Betty Scott - RIP (*Tessa Metcalfe*)
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Wednesday 2nd Aug: St Eusebius of Vercelli Mt 13: 44-46

7.30am: NO EARLY MASS TODAY
10:30 -11:30am: Reconciliation
12 noon: Eileen & Gerard Kirby - RIP (*Mary Buckenham*)
Tea & Coffee in the hall after Mass
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Thursday 3rd Aug: Feria Mt 13: 47-53

7.30am: Anne Veronica McLaughlin - RIP (*Peter & Family*)
12 noon: NO MIDDAY MASS TODAY
6.00pm: NO LIVE STREAMED EVENING PRAYER
7.30pm: NO Prayer & Pub this evening

Friday 4th Aug: St John Vianney Mt 13: 54-58

12 noon: Ben Mutch - RIP (*Mutch Family*)
6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer
7.30pm: NO MASS THIS EVENING

Saturday 5th Aug: Feria Mt 14: 1-12

10:30 -11:30am: THERE IS NO RECONCILIATION TODAY
12 noon: THERE IS NO NOON MASS TODAY
4.30pm: *Legion of Mary meeting in Upper Room*
4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation
6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 6th Aug: Transfiguration of the Lord Mt 17: 1-9

8.00am: Heather Storey - RIP (*Roberta*)
9.30am: Kearns Family (*Mutch Family*)
11.00am: The Father of all Mankind - thanksgiving
12.15: *Baptism of Derek Jackson Manzino*
6.00pm: Jerry & Anne O'Riordan (*Sr Luch Brody*)

No second collection

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, Micheline Ambrosine, Jean Crane, Joyce Wharton, Gail Wharton, David Tully and Gill Dixon.

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, Veronica Troope, Peter Dunbar-Johnson OBE, Sr Rose Penter, Bruce Johnson, Anita Johnson, Mary Mariasy, Russell Thompson, Gabriel Mendes, William Edwards Jr, Sister Helen Reynolds and Betty Scott

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

Norah Neve, Sean Burke, William Hammerton, Bridget Salmon and Bernard Packer

SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **29/30 July:** No second collection.

Next weekend: **05/06 August:** No second collection



Baptism Preparation:

To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 2 Sept. 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)

Wanted - a new Gift Aid Officer

We are sadly saying goodbye to our current Gift Aid Officer - Peter Sykes - who has done a wonderful job for us for a few years now. Peter is moving away from the Parish later in the year. We would like to have a new Gift Aid Officer in place so Peter is able to train them before he goes. If you feel this work is for you please contact Fr Anthony. A job description is available from the Parish Office. Our Parish claimed over £20,000 in Gift Aid last year so you can see what an important role this is for us. Please consider prayerfully if you think this vital role could be for you. Thank you.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST 2023

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

From Fr Anthony...

If we are going away for a couple of weeks we might like to take a book or two to read. Most Sunday supplements have a feature on "What to read on your Summer break." When I went to Nice recently I ended up reading Agatha Christie's "The Mystery of the Blue Train" - Hercule Poirot solving a murder on the Blue Train that travelled from Victoria to Nice.

I have two books that I will take away with me for holiday reading this year. Yes, they are religious!! The first is a recent book by Matt Anscombe entitled, "Don't Forget the Holy Spirit." (New Life Publishing). He tells his personal story about going to Mass on the feast of the Epiphany in the year 2000 and praying after communion, "Lord show me what I should do with my life." He talks about this as his "first heartfelt prayer made with the Holy Spirit which only the Holy Spirit bestows." Ten years later he was ordained a priest. The blurb on the back of the book reads, "Through personal testimony, Fr Matt Anscombe shares his experience of coming to know Jesus as Lord through the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He also considers the action of the Holy Spirit and the difference the Holy Spirit makes through reflection on his own journey. He urges the reader to be open to a fresh outpouring and further release of the gifts of the Holy Spirit."

The other book is written by the Irish Dominican, Donagh O'Shea, who taught me at the seminary. It is entitled "A Hundred Roads to Here - Introductions of Meditation" (Dominican Publications 2023.) This isn't a book to be read through. He gives a hundred short thoughts that can be read at the beginning of a meditation session. They are meant to lead you to silence. At present I read one of these short introductions before I embark on my half hour of silent prayer. In one piece he talks about the alcoholic who entered the pub to see a notice over the bar that said, "free drink here tomorrow!" In another, he talks about monkeys feeding in a zoo. These pieces are excellent and thought provoking and can help you to prepare for silence. I love his thought 77; "There are many kinds of silence. John the Solitary, a Syrian monk of the fifth century listed a few: 'there is a silence of the tongue, a silence of the whole body, a silence of the soul, a silence of the mind, and a silence of the spirit. And there is also a silence of the heart. Left to itself, the mind would settle like a dish of water. But the restlessness of the heart keeps it agitated. There is a kind of unfocused 'wanting' in us: we want something but we don't know what we want: we just want to be occupied. We want to be occupied because we want to avoid the great silence..."

Whatever book you take with you, enjoy the time - and the silence - you give yourself to read.

Bethlehem Nativity Group: Christian greetings and the Peace of our Lord be with you always. We would love to thank you by allowing our group to come to your church and sell religious articles, the result of which was very beneficial and rewarding for our needy Christian families; which raised £4781.50. Your help is a great support for us, and for our Christian families in the Holy Land. We don't have a word to thank you and your parishioners, but make sure that you are always in our prayers. If anyone has missed the carvings display, you can place an order online directly from them at www.tbng.co.uk. God bless you all. Love and blessings from The Bethlehem Nativity Group

SVP says thank you: The July SVP collection raised £1082.52. Once again, we are so grateful for your generosity in supporting our work of befriending and providing practical help for people in Canterbury. In June we were concerned with supporting 43 families or individuals. We gave out £500 of food vouchers and £120 in energy top-ups. We were also able to buy one family a new washing machine and another some bunk beds. Alongside other kinds of support, we are pleased to provide transport twice a week to enable a beneficiary to attend medical appointments. The next SVP collection is 12th/13th August.

Southwark Justice and Peace Commission Autumn Assembly 23rd September 2023 at St Edmund Catholic Church, Beckenham. Mass 10am continuing 10.20am in the parish hall. Entitled 'The Right to Stay: Free to Choose'. Entrance free. Lunch provided. Everyone welcome. Keynote speaker Bishop Paul McAleenan. To reserve a place email justiceandpeace@rcaos.org

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.

Fr John will be leaving us in early September. We would like to give him a traditional St Thomas send-off. Envelopes for donations are on the pews and at the back of the church. Please drop these into the 1st collection bags or post through the Presbytery Post Box. If you would like to donate online, please use the reference JHGO. Thank you

RIDE AND STRIDE This event takes place on 9 September this year. If you can help staff the welcome table at the church door, please let Linda know before 15 August. If we do not get enough support we will not be able to host this event. So your donation of your time would be most welcome. Thank you, Linda

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**

"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

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 email mfilkent@rcaos.org.uk : email title: your parish e.g. Ashford, Canterbury. **Marriage & Family Life Kent, RC Arch. of Southwark**