

# NEWSLETTER

## CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, CANTERBURY & ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN, KENT

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

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Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)

Web Site: <https://stthomasofcanterbury.com>

Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**



Parish Priest:

Assistant Priests:

Parish Administrator:

**Canon Anthony Charlton**

**Fr Giovanni Prandini**

**Fr Mark Wharton**

**Miss Linda Scott** (based at St Thomas')

**Parish Office** open **Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm)

**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](mailto:markwharton@rcaos.org.uk))

**St Thomas' Catholic Primary School:** Head Teacher: **Miss Lisa D'Agostini** (01227 462539)

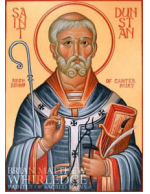
**St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School:** Executive Principal: **Mr M Walters**; Academy Principal: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

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### ST THOMAS'

ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED

6.00pm (Vigil): William Edwards Jnr - RIP (*Trudy Khine-Smith*)

**Sunday 24th Sep: 25th Sun in Ordinary Time** Mt 20: 1-16

8.00am: Gerry Buckels - welfare (*Trudy and Bob*)

9.30am: Filipino Community and families

11.00am: Long-Castro Family welfare

*Baptism of Elisha Lake*

2nd Collection: **SVP**

6.00pm: People of the Parish

**Monday 25th Sep: Feria** Lk 8: 16-18

7.30am: Edward Emslie - RIP (*Tessa Metcalfe*)

12 noon: Gislaïne & Joseph Jean-Louis - RIP (*Micheline*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Tuesday 26th Sep: Sts Cosmos & Damian** Lk 8: 19-21

7.30am: Barbara Markham - RIP (*Angela Nichols*)

12 noon: Anastasia, John & Christine - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Wednesday 27th Sep: St Vincent de Paul** Lk 9: 1-6

7.30am: Thanksgiving & birthday wishes (Vibal Family)

10:30 -11:30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Barbara Markham - RIP (*Mary Reynolds*)

*Tea & Coffee in the hall after Mass*

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

**Thursday 28th Sep: St Wenceslaus** Lk 9: 7-9

7.30am: Judith & Michael on their wedding anniversary

12 noon: Margaret Evans - RIP (*Evans Family*)

7.30pm: Prayer & Pub this evening

**Friday 29th Sep: Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael** Jn 1: 47-51

12 noon: Thanksgiving (*Celine*)

*Adoration and Benediction after Mass until 1.30pm*

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Holy Souls

**Saturday 30th Sep: St Jerome** Lk 9: 43-45

12 noon: Anne & David Spencer - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Ian Risdon - RIP (*Dunne Family*)

**Sunday 1st October: 26th Sun in Ordinary Time** Mt 21: 28-32

**ROSARY SUNDAY**

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Welfare of Pearl Watkins

11.00am: Chris Silcock - birthday wishes

6.00pm: Wim Van Vuuren - RIP (*Gemma*)

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Convent Mass at 11.30am Monday- Wednesday and Friday

Holy Days Mass at 7.30pm

**Sunday 24th Sep: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Mt 18: 21-35

10.00am:

**Sunday 1st Oct: 25th Sun in Ordinary Time** Mt 20: 1-16

10.00am:

#### Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Luisa Ward, Janette Hughes, Pat Gibson, Jenni Aldridge, Josie Price, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Elizabeth Gilhenny, Bill Parker, Lucy Purbrick, Angela Nichols, Tom Carr, Mary Jeffries, Noreen Egan, Germaine Reid, Heather Dandison, Maria Krynicki, John Kielely, Richard Sexton, Frank Basquil, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Heinz Vogel, Micheline Ambrosine, Jean Crane, Joyce Wharton, David Tully, Pat Andrews and Gerry Buckels.

#### 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, Betty Scott, Molly Kelly, Nan Weber, Gail Wharton, William Quinn, Barbara Markham, Sancho Vibal and Fr Kevin St Aubyn Eva Lee

#### Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in September 23:

Kathleen Render and Diana Dorman

#### ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **23/24 September: SVP** collection

Next weekend: **30 September/01 October: No Second Collection**



**St Thomas' Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 7 October 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)

**ACCOMMODATION:** A religious sister is urgently looking for a room to Rent during the current academic year. Please contact Rumbi on her behalf on 07514711996

#### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

*For people living on the margins*

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

## From Fr Anthony...

From this weekend our newsletter is for both the Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury and the Parish of St Dunstan. Father Peter Norris, parish priest of St Dunstan, Hersden, for nine years celebrated his final Mass last Sunday 17th and has now retired to Maidstone. We wish him all God's blessings and thank him for his nine years of pastoral care of the people of Sturry and Hersden. Please continue to remember him in your prayers. Archbishop John Wilson has asked me to be parish priest in his place as well as continuing as parish priest of St Thomas of Canterbury. Hence the one newsletter covering both parishes. I have already met with some members of St Dunstan parish and also with their parish council. They are an enthusiastic group who are committed to working to ensure that there is strong Catholic present in Hersden and Sturry.

From this week there will only be one Sunday Mass at 10am at the Hersden Church. Fr Mark, Fr Giovanni and myself will take it in turns to celebrate this Mass. We are blessed to have at Sturry, the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions on Staines Hill. It consists of St Anne's - which is a care home for elderly sisters, and adjacent to them, a community of sisters in a house called Euphrasie Barbier Convent, that supports the work of the Care Home. We purpose to celebrate Mass for them on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday before lunch. They will also have a Vigil Mass for Sunday on Saturday evening at 4pm.

At the beginning of this month our Archbishop, John Wilson, wrote to all the priests of the diocese saying that as we commence a new academic year and begin a new cycle of parish activities events and initiatives it is tempting just to repeat what had been done before or to focus primarily on implementing the things that are practical, procedural and regulatory. He wants to encourage us to think again with a **missionary heart**, to look at our parish and community and try to discern how things might grow and move forward in new ways. He is asking each parish to do everything possible to complete a **parish plan** for the coming year in relation to the three area of **evangelisation, catechesis and formation**. The Archbishop wants each priest to consider and complete a parish plan, ideally before Advent. The diocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis, a few days after the Archbishop's letter, sent us various materials to assist in the construction of a simple parish plan for the three area of Evangelisation, Catechesis and Formation. I have had preliminary discussion with Fr Mark and Father Giovanni about the Archbishop's wish for a Parish Plan. I can't see how this can be formulated without the help of the people of both parishes. St Thomas' and St Dunstan's are beginning from very different starting points. If you have the inclination to do so then you can see all the relevant resources on this website <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/our-parish-plan>. Let me know your thoughts.

## PARISH MATTERS



There will be a Seminar entitled "**Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in Our Parishes, Schools and Communities**". This seminar will take place at the **Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9.30am to 4.00pm on Saturday 28 October 2023**. You are all welcome. Information and registration, at this link or scan the QR Code; <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-for-promoting-racial-and-cultural-inclusion/what-we-do/>. Or email: [racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk). Please join us for a stimulating and hope-filled day of discussion. **Registration is FREE.**



We wish a warm welcome to all students arriving to study at our local universities. Join us for Mass and other activities either in the church of St Thomas' in the city, St Dunstan's at Hersden or at the University of Kent Chapel in Elliot Building. Information online, in the newsletter and in the Narthex of St Thomas'.

**PRAYER AND PUB:** Prayer and pub meetings recommence in the church on Thursday, 28th September at 7.30pm. All those aged 18 - 35 years welcome.

**OCTOBER ROSARIES:** We are seeking parishioners to lead the saying of the Rosary each weekday from 11.30am in the church. If you can help, please put your name on the form in the Narthex.

**ST THOMAS' CONFIRMATION:** Application forms for the 2023/2024 programme for young people in Year 9 and above are available in the Narthex or from the Parish Office.

**ST THOMAS' FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION:** Application forms for the 2023/2024 programme for children in Year 3 and above are available in the Narthex or from the Parish Office.

**PIANO RECITAL** in St Thomas' church hall on Saturday, October 21st 2023 at 3pm. Kilian Langrieger will play works by Bach, Mozart, Scriabin and Brahms. Advance tickets will be available for purchase for £13 (£10 for students) from the parish shop after all Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses from next weekend. Further info. from Mark Lyons on 01227 533666

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, known as Journey in Faith)** - Come and see evening for those interested in becoming Catholic or those Catholics who have not yet received all the Sacraments. In St Thomas' church on Tuesday, 3rd October at 7pm.

**Catholic Women praying together** (formally Catholic Women of the Year) Annual Mass '*Affirming the Church's Message on Marriage and Family Life?*' Canon Michael Branch, St Georges Cathedral, Southwark, Wednesday 15 November at 2pm. After Mass, there will be light refreshments for which we would be grateful for modest donations.

**PROMISE AUCTION:** The Social Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our **Promise Auction** on Saturday, those who donated experiences and all who came and bid on the night. We raised £2,279.50 for our parish.

**On 15 November a Mass will be offered by Canon Michael Branch at 2pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark.** The theme this year is "*Affirming the Church's Message on Marriage and Family Life?*"

We hope that the Coloma Convent Girls' choir will enhance the liturgy and there will be a happy reception afterwards. Tickets for the occasion will be £25. We hope to have enough to give a donation to charity.

**A Knight at the Ballet:** Join parishioner, Sir David Bintley, for a journey through his experiences working both behind the scenes and centre stage, with The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, New National Ballet of Japan and other international ballet companies. Refreshments included in the ticket price of £10 per person. Sat 7th Oct 2023, doors open 7.00pm for 7.15 pm start. Tickets from the Parish Office or the Parish Social Committee ([socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com))

**Help Your Marriage – Retrouvaille** is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)