

NEWSLETTER

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

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ

Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: 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)

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

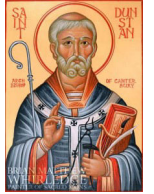
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Executive Principal: **Mr M Walters**; Academy Principal: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 710236**

Email: herstden@rcaos.org.uk



ST THOMAS'

ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED

2nd Coll.SMA

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 29th Oct: 30th Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 22: 34-40

8.00am: Juan Caras - RIP

9.30am: Filipino Community & Families

11.00am: Wim Van Vuuren - RIP (*Bob and Trudy*)

12.15pm: *Baptism of*

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

Monday 30th Oct: Feria

Lk 13: 10-17

7.30am: Somy Jacob (*Priyanka Somy*)

12 noon: Maureen Handley - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 31st Oct: Feria

Lk 13: 18-21

7.30am: NO EARLY MASS TODAY

12 noon: Maria Sadler - RIP (*Bernadette Lyons*)

Wednesday 1st November: All Saints

Mt 5: 1-12

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

9.30am: Deceased members of the Evans & McDonnell Families

10:30 - 11:30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Gislaine & Joseph Jean-Louise - RIP (*Micheline*)

Tea & Coffee in the hall after Mass

8.00pm: Majorie Davis - RIP (*Hilary McKernan*)

Thursday 2nd Nov: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Mt 11: 25-30

7.30am: Peter Stainton - RIP (*Margaret Hinkley*)

12 noon: Teresa Kelly - RIP (*Bernadette Lyons*)

7.30pm: MASS Jennifer Doerflinger-Hill - RIP (*Friends in the UK*)

Friday 3rd Nov: St Winefride

Lk 14: 1-6

12 noon: Fred Regan - RIP (*Regan Family*)

Adoration and Benediction after Mass until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Holy Souls (*Franz Forrester*)

Saturday 4th Nov: St Charles Borromeo

Lk 14: 1, 7-11

9.00am: *Baptism Preparation*

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Christine Strain - RIP (*Jeanette da Silva*)

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Deceased members of the Ascencao family

Sunday 5th Nov: 31st Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 23: 1-12

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: William Edwards - RIP (*FHC Catechists*)

11.00am: Joan & Maurice Crosland - RIP (*Margaret Guye*)

3.00pm: *Blessing of the Graves at Canterbury Cemetery*

6.00pm: Myrian & Andre Ambroisin - RIP (*Micheline*)

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 29th Oct: 30th Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 22: 34-40

10.00am:

Wednesday 1st November: All Saints

Mt 5: 1-12

9.00am: Mass for the Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday 5th Nov: 31st Sun in Ordinary Time

Mt 22: 15-21

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 Kieley, Richard Sexton, Frank Basquill, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Heinz Vogel, Micheline Ambrosine, Jean Crane, Joyce Wharton, David Tully, Pat Andrews, Nicholas Murphy, Gerry Buckels and Patrick Lyons.

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, Fr Kevin St Aubyn, Eva Lee and Cecilia Adekunle

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

Rev. Fr Tom Herbst, Michelle Rising, Raymond Guy, Eric Pavis and Manuel De Medeiros

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **28/29 October:** Society of African Missions Appeal

Next weekend: **04/05 November:** No second collection this weekend



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 4 November 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)

ST THOMAS' FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION: will be celebrated on Sunday, 9th June at the 9.30am and 11am Masses

ST THOMAS' CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on Saturday, 11th May at 6pm

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER 2023

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

From Fr Anthony...

Many of the shops now have various sorts of Halloween decorations. These seem to get more elaborate and creative each year. This is a good reminder for me that we are celebrating the great feast of All Saints. This feast was being celebrated way back in the fourth century. It was in the 8th century that it was being celebrated on 1st November. The feast expresses our unity with all those who have died and are with God, praying for us. We pray in the opening prayer of the Mass that the prayers of the saints will give us an "abundance of reconciliation with God." We acknowledge all the saints as our brothers and sisters. What is a saint? Jesus sets out for all of us how we are to become saints when he gave us the Beatitudes. The list from St Matthew is read as the Gospel for the feast. Jesus is challenging us to a new way of life as he challenged those who sat listening to him beside the Sea of Galilee. This way of life is a way of love. To live the Beatitudes is to be a light shining in the darkness. Our world, filled with violence, hatred and death needs Christ's light shining in our lives. Here is a prayer written by St John Henry Newman and was recited daily after Communion by Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta and her Sisters of Charity. It can be our prayer for the month of November asking for the grace to be a light that shines in the darkness.

Dear Jesus, help me to spread Your fragrance wherever I go. Flood my soul with Your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly, that my life may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus! Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as You shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be mine. It will be you, shining on others through me. Let me thus praise You the way You love best, by shining on those around me. Let me preach You without preaching, not by words but by my example, by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do, the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to You. Amen.

PARISH MATTERS

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES is taking place at Canterbury Cemetery on Sunday, 5th November at 3pm. Please meet at the main entrance to the Cemetery.

Save the date. Christmas Fair: 10th December in the church hall.

Children Liturgy - Request for volunteers

If you enjoy working with children and sharing God's good news, you can join the team running Sunday's 9:30 children's liturgy. Please contact the Parish office or send a message to nievescastrocanterbury@gmail.com if you are interested.

Scaffolding...you may have noticed scaffolding on the front of the church? We have carried out a comprehensive review of all repairs needed to our church buildings. We used drones to check the upper levels and these revealed some cracking of the spire and bell tower and missing louvres around the bell chamber. Not surprising after 148 years! We suspect the metal bands used to keep the stone in place are now corroding and causing the cracking. So we are mending it all and making sure things will last for a good number of years.

We also have scaffolding inside the church as we deal with long awaited repairs to our sanctuary windows and church walls. While we have this scaffolding up we will also take the opportunity to check windows and lights at the upper levels.

It will mean a few weeks of inconvenience and some noise and mess but I know you will understand it will be worth it to keep our building and us safe and sound along with a tidy up for Advent and Christmas.

Mike Lilford

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE PROGRAMMES:

PASSING ON THE FAITH AS GRANDPARENTS

What practical steps can we take and what sort of conversations can we have which will help anchor our grandchildren's faith?

Four online sessions starting Weds eves November 8th, 7:30 – 9pm. Email Lisette on mflife@rcaos.org.uk

PASSING ON THE FAITH FOR PARENTS

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages?

Four online sessions starting Thurs evening November 9th, 8pm – 9:30pm. Email Lisette on mflife@rcaos.org.uk

SVP says thank you. The October collection raised £752.40. We are so grateful for your support. In September we gave out £275 in food vouchers and £40 in energy top ups. We bought storage for children, a reconditioned fridge and some essential clothing. We also helped fund someone's visits to medical appointments. The next SVP collection will be 18/19 November.

Quiz night 11th November a fun family friendly evening. Book a table or join a team.

Tickets available from the Presbytery during office hours, the church shop and socialstthomasrc@gmail.com. See posters for more information. All funds raised going to our parish.

November Prayer Lists for Holy Souls: These are available in the Narthex. Please complete your list and drop it in the marked box in the Narthex. These lists will be taken to the Altar with the offertory at Masses during November.

100 CLUB Forms for membership for 2024 are now available in the Narthex and from the Office. £25 annual membership gives a chance of a monthly prize of £20 and an annual prize of £200. Please remember that both current and new members must complete forms each year to comply with the Small Lottery Regulations. Please return complete forms with payment by Thank you

UNIVERSITY OF KENT CHAPLANCY NEWS

Tuesday 31st November at Eliot Chapel, University of Kent

7.15-9pm. Yes, we are going to talk about Porn!

An evening for those who want to live free from Pornography. Information, Starting points for giving it up, Prayer. All Welcome.

Adoration and Confessions available from 5pm. Mass at 6pm

Wednesday 1st November: Mass for All Saints is at 1.05pm in Eliot Chapel.

Saturday 4th November. Mid-Term day retreat for students in Canterbury.

Meet at Canterbury West Station at 9.50am to take the train to Chartham.

Talks, Mass, Prayer, Lots of Food. A special talk from John Pontifex on working with persecuted Christians and an afternoon learning about Our Lady. All free-returning from Chartham at 7pm.

Book now with Fr Mark via markwharton@rcaos.org.uk