

NEWSLETTER

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

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ

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Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

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

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ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 710236**

Email: hersden@rcaos.org.uk



Parish Priest:

Assistant Priests:

Parish Administrator:

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)

Canon Anthony Charlton

email: anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk

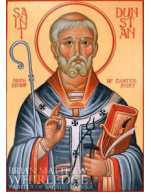
Fr Giovanni Prandini

email: giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Mark Wharton

email: markwharton@rcaos.org.uk

Miss Linda Scott (based at St Thomas')



ST THOMAS'

ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED

2nd Coll. Archbishop's Appeal

6.00pm (Vigil): Fred Regan (*Regan Family*)

Sunday 12th Nov: 32nd Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 25: 1-13

8.00am: Welfare of the Family and Friends of Mary Wright

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mattie Egan - RIP (*Chris Duff*)

6.00pm: Joseph Puthuppallil - RIP (*Saju Jose*)

Monday 13th Nov: St Frances Xavier Cabrini Lk 17: 1-6

7.30am: Betty Scott - RIP

12 noon: Janice Waldschutz - RIP

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 14th Nov: Feria Lk 17: 7-10

7.30am: NO EARLY MASS TODAY

12 noon: Philip Craven - RIP

Wednesday 15th Nov: St Albert the Great Lk 17: 11-19

7.30am: Mrs Lynn Ray & Family - welfare (*Nicole Orzech*)

10:30 - 11:30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Cathal Hynes - RIP (*Eleanor Plews*)
Tea & Coffee in the hall after Mass

Thursday 16th Nov: St Edmund of Abingdon Lk 17: 20-25

7.30am: Thanksgiving (Kaitlyn G-Kanny)

12 noon: Ric Pavis - RIP (*Pavis Family*)

7.30pm: PRAYER AND PUB TONIGHT

Friday 17th Nov: St Hilda Lk 17: 26-37

12 noon: In thanksgiving (*George*)

Adoration and Benediction after Mass until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Deceased Clergy of the Canterbury & Thanet Deaneries

Saturday 18th Nov: Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter and Paul Lk 18: 1-8

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Deceased members of the Ross Family

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Rita Dempsey - RIP (*Dempsey Family*)

Sunday 19th Nov: 33rd Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 25: 14-30

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Thanksgiving & birthday wishes (*Vibal Family*)

11.00am: Philomena Wickenden- RIP (*Dory Ignacio*)

6.00pm: Con McManus - RIP (*Hugh Connelly*)

2nd Col.:
SVP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 12th Nov: 32nd Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 25: 1-13

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 19th Nov: 33rd Sun in Ordinary Time Mt 25: 14-30

10.00am: People of the Parish

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 Basquil, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Heinz Vogel, Micheline Ambrosine, Jean Crane, Joyce Wharton, David Tully, Pat Andrews, Gerry Buckels, Deirdre Mills & 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 Penner, 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, Nicholas Murphy 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: **11/12 November** : Archbishop's Appeal - see next column →

Next weekend: **18/19 November** . **SVP** - please give generously as usual.

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.

HALL STAGE : The Hall stage is being used for productions of Hamlet by the Shakespeare Festival on 17-18th and 24-25th November 2023. If you have any items stored on the stage please remove these before Monday, 13 November.



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 2 December 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 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...

Next Sunday, the 19th November, is the Annual World Day of the Poor and Pope Francis, in his message, stresses that "a great river of poverty is traversing our cities and swelling to the point of overflowing; it seems to overwhelm us, so great are the needs of our brothers and sisters who plead for our help, support and solidarity." "We are living", he continues, "in times that are not particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor. The pressure to adopt an affluent lifestyle increases, while the voices of those dwelling in poverty tend to go unheard." Faced with problems of this magnitude", Pope Francis writes, "our responsibility is clear. We must heed Tobit's words to Tobias: 'Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor'".

Who are the poor? The Joseph Rowntree Foundation recently released research says that 3.8 million people experienced destitution in the UK last year. People are unable to meet their most basic needs to stay warm, dry, clean and fed. I have been reading a recent study aimed to research the nature and extent of poverty in the Canterbury district. It said that although Canterbury may seem relatively affluent, many people live well below the standard expected in our society. In some parts of the district over 40% of children live in poverty. Meals provided by the Food Bank have increased from 39,000 per year in 2019 to 100,000 in 2022.

The report shows that many people in poverty are hardworking, resilient and brave but all face challenges in addition to making ends meet. These include the complexity of claiming benefits and completing on-line claim forms, lack of advice about claiming benefits, the five week wait to receive Universal Credit, the two-child limit on benefits and the bedroom tax. The pressure to take paid work, even for lone parents with young children, means that many take insecure jobs on low pay and find themselves moving on and off benefits repeatedly. The high cost of child care adds to financial problems, now made worse by the rising costs of food and fuel. Two leading poverty charities have produced research showing that the benefits given to low-income households are at least £140 a month below the real cost of food energy and everyday basics. This report sets out recommendations for local government, for central government and also recommendations for charities and volunteer organisations.

The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is one such voluntary organisation and members of our parish group will be speaking at the end of all Masses this weekend. Their vision is that, inspired by Christ's message to love our neighbour as ourselves, every person in need is inspired by hope together with a sense of dignity, worth, well-being and peace of mind. They see their mission as seeking and finding those in need, providing practical support and fellowship in a spirit of justice, while tackling the causes of poverty.

The Pope ends his message by saying: "This year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. In a page of her autobiography (Story of a Soul) she tells us: "I have come to realise that perfect charity means putting up with other people's faults, not being at all taken aback by their faults, being edified by the smallest acts of virtue that we see practised. But above all, I have come to realise that charity must not remain locked in the depths of one's heart: 'No one', Jesus says, 'lights a candle to put it under a bushel basket, but puts it on a candle-stand, so that it can give light to everyone in the house'. For me, that candle represents the charity that must give light and bring joy not only to those dearest to me, but to everyone in the house, with the exception of none"

PARISH MATTERS

100 CLUB Forms for 2024 membership are now available in the Narthex and from the Office. £25 annual membership. Please note both current and new members must complete forms each year to comply with the Small Lottery Regulations. Please return completed forms with payment by Fri, 8 Dec 2023 to the office.

HCPT (GROUP 587) SUMMER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES
24 May - 31st May 2024. £960 (accommodation only £645). For more information contact Annie Judge (07866515717 / anniejudge@hotmail.com) or chat with Father Anthony. There are also leaflets in the Narthex.

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023.

Every gift is welcome. Find out more, or donate:

online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal;

Scan QR Code using telephone camera;

Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm: 020 7960 2504;

Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes on the pews.



Christmas Fair on Sunday 10th December 10:30- 1pm in the church hall.

We would be grateful for donations. For our raffle: unopened bottles (Wines, Spirit etc), chocolates, smellies etc. New items for our tombola. No donation is too small. Donations can be made up to 10 Dec by leaving in the box in the All Saints Chapel or the church office (during office hours). Home-made cakes (on the day). Lots more stalls and activities including Father Christmas. If you can help on the day or would like to book a Stall to promote your business (limited availability) contact socialstthomasrc@gmail.com. All monies raised go to our church projects

CHURCH CLEANING. Please join us to spruce up the church for Christmas by helping put the shine into the brassware, the gloss into the woodwork, capturing the cobwebs, and putting the sparkle into the glass on Saturday 9th and 16th December from 1.30-3.30 pm. All equipment will be supplied.

"CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal: Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

MASS INTENTIONS and MASS STIPENDS: A Mass stipend is "a donation given by the laity to a priest for celebrating a Mass for a particular intention." The donation of a stipend for the celebration of a Mass dates back to the eighth century and the donor decides upon the amount of stipend given as a gift to the priest. It does not form part of the income for the Parish. Here at St Thomas' we are blessed with daily Masses and five weekend Masses, which may be celebrated for various intentions. If you would like a Mass said for a specific intention, please contact Linda in the office. When a Mass intention is requested, please let Linda know the amount of the donation, when it will be paid (before or during the month of the Mass requested please) and how it will be paid (cash, cheque, contactless or online) as this will help her greatly with finance processing each month.

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