

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>

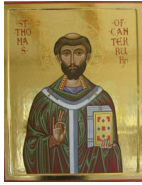
Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**

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

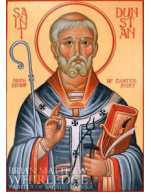
Fr Giovanni Prandini

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 Col.: **SVP**

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*)

1.30pm: *Baptism of Jack Joseph and Verity Marchington*

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

Monday 20th Nov: Feria

Lk 18: 35-43

7.30am: Mary Jones & Doreen Durnam - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

12 noon: Daphne's intentions (*Angela Nichols*)

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

Tuesday 21st Nov: Presentation of the Virgin Mary Lk 19: 1-10

7.30am: NO EARLY MASS TODAY

12 noon: John Aitken Gray - RIP (*Myrna Gray*)

2.40pm: *Funeral of Lewis Rising at Barham Crematorium*

7.00pm: RCIA

Wednesday 22nd Nov: St Cecilia

Lk 19: 11-28

RED WEDNESDAY

7.30am: Maurice Silcock

10:30 -11:30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: The Gill Family (*Foundation Mass*)

Tea & Coffee in the hall after Mass

Thursday 23rd Nov: St Clement I

Lk 19: 41-44

7.30am: Marianne Hambrook - special birthday (*Tessa Metcalfe*)

12 noon: Deceased relatives & friends of Purbrick & Clarke Family

7.30pm: PRAYER and PUB

Friday 24th Nov: St Andrew Dung-Lac & Comp. Lk 19: 45-48

12 noon: Canon Michael Bunce - RIP (*Sue Purbrick*)

Adoration and Benediction after Mass until 1.30pm

6.00pm: Live streamed Evening Prayer

7.30pm: Welfare of Christine

Saturday 25th Nov: St Catherine of Alexandria Lk 20: 27-40

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Una Murray (*Christine Glover*)

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

4:30 - 5:30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): Anthony Manners - RIP (*Patricia Manners*)

Sunday 26th Nov: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Mt 25: 31-46

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Filipino Community and Families

11.00am: Tom Pilkington - RIP

6.00pm: Francis Paterson - RIP (*Geraldine Yates*)

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

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

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 26th Nov: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Mt 25: 31-46

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 & 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, Nicholas Murphy, Cecilia Adekunle, Deirdre Mills, Judith Ross, Lewis Rising and Sr John Baptist.

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

Next weekend: **25/26 November** . No second collection this weekend.

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 is open for all.



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...

As November is the month when we are encouraged to remember to pray for those who have died, it is a good opportunity for us to reflect on how we prepare for death and for the funeral rites of our loved ones. For the Christian, death is the passage to the fullness of true life. We call the Christian's day of death their *dies natalis*, the day of their heavenly birth, where "there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness [for] the world of the past has gone". Death is the prolongation, in a new way, of life as the Liturgy says: "For your faithful, O Lord, life has changed not ended; while our earthly dwelling is destroyed, a new and eternal dwelling is prepared for us in Heaven". The first words of the introduction to the Order of Christian Funerals are; "In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life."

I am often aware when families come to prepare the funeral service for their loved ones that they are unsure what to suggest for readings and music. That they are much more comfortable in giving thanks for the person's life reflects this. They chose favourite songs and music that meant something to the deceased. Occasionally I have celebrated the funerals of a practising catholic only at the crematorium when the family have not realised the importance of celebrating a Requiem Mass. It will help our family and friends if we let them know what our wishes are regarding our own funeral. I recommend an excellent website <https://www.artofdyingwell.org/>. It has been created by The Centre for the Art of Dying Well at St Mary's University, London. The aim is helping people to live and die well and be supported in their grief. Available in the parish office is a leaflet "Instructions for my Funeral Mass". This is something that you can fill in so that it will be so much easier for your family and friends to make the necessary arrangements.

Our funeral liturgy is rich in symbolism and here at St Thomas' we always encourage the funeral Mass to be celebrated at midday where the people of the parish can support the bereaved with their presence and warmth of fellowship. We use a white pall that is placed at over the coffin to remind us of the gift of everlasting life given to us at baptism. We place a bible, which could be the bible belonging to the deceased, and a crucifix, again this might be one from the family home on the pall. The words spoken that remind those present that the deceased will be greeted with the words, "Come blessed of my Father!" When the cross is placed on the coffin we pray that our loved one shares in Christ's victory over sin and death. The Pascal candle stands by the coffin as a sign of Christ's undying presence. The priest might wear a white vestment that expresses the hope of Easter, the fulfilment of baptism and the wedding garment necessary for the kingdom. The wearing of purple or violet vestments recalls "the eschatological expectation of Advent and the Lenten preparation for the paschal mystery."

PARISH MATTERS

100 CLUB Forms for 2024 membership are available in the Narthex or the Office. Please return completed forms with payment by Fri, 8 Dec 2023 to the office.

Red Wednesday. This is an annual international event promoted by the Catholic charity, Aid to the Church in Need under the direct sponsorship of the Holy Father. Each year, Catholics gather outside churches and buildings lit up in red to draw attention to the grievous persecution of Christians in many countries. Join the Canterbury team at 6pm on Wednesday, 22nd November, outside St Thomas's for a short but moving event. Any questions to Julian on julian.brazier53@gmail.com.

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.

HCPT Christmas GRAND DRAW tickets available in the Narthex and Saints Chapel. We'd be grateful if you could take a book, or more, in the envelope provided, to sell. Please return to the presbytery or Annie Judge by 25th Dec. You can also enter the draw online : www.raffleplayer.com/HCPT. (Please select group 587). Group 587 thank you for your support.

***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.

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

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.

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

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CANTERBURY NEWS

Service for Ukraine – commemorating the Holodomor, 7pm Sat, 25th Nov at All Saints: You are invited to take part in an interdenominational Christian Service to pray for justice and peace in Ukraine and to commemorate the Holodomor – a genocide of the Ukrainian nation committed in 1932-33 by the leadership of the Soviet Union, which killed millions of Ukrainians. The service will feature the Canterbury for Ukraine Ladies' Choir, and refreshments will be available afterwards.

'Rest ... A winter retreat for parents and carers', 9:30am-12:30pm Saturday 25th November at Ashford Road Community Association Hall, CT1 3XR - more information and booking at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rest-a-winter-retreat-for-parents-and-carers-251123-tickets-750176306527>

Quiz night. Thank you to all who came and tested their knowledge against our fantastic quiz master. We made £575 which will go towards parish projects.