

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

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

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Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**

Parish Priest: **Canon Anthony Charlton**

email: [anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priests: **Fr Giovanni Prandini**

email: [giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: **Miss Linda Scott** (based at St Thomas')

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

**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 THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

2nd Col.: **SVP**

6.00pm (Vigil): Tony Gibbins - RIP (Gibbins Family)

**Sunday 14th Apr: Third Sunday of Easter** Lk 24: 35-48

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Mike Campbell - RIP

11.00am: Antonio and Escolastica Peligro - RIP (*Lewis Family*)

12:30pm: *Parish Annual General Meeting in the Hall*

6.00pm: Michelle, Lewis and Selina Rising - RIP (*Campion Fam.*)

**Monday 15th April: Feria** Jn 6: 22-29

12 noon: Victoria Fetherstone-Dilke - birthday wishes

6.00pm: *Evening Prayer*

**Tuesday 16th Apr: Feria** Jn 6: 30-35

12 noon: William Edwards - RIP

6.00pm: *Evening Prayer*

**Wednesday 17th Apr: Feria** Jn 6: 35-40

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Sulpicio, Limnio, Sotero & Domingito Nealega - RIP

6.00pm: *Evening Prayer*

**Thursday 18th Apr: Feria** Jn 6: 44-51

7.30am: Safanya and Family (*Roberta Johnson*)

12 noon: Christine Metcalfe - RIP

6.00pm: *Evening Prayer*

**Friday 19th Apr: St Alphege** Jn 6: 52-59

12 noon: David & Gladys Murphy - RIP

6.00pm: *Evening Prayer*

**Saturday 20th Apr: Feria** Jn 6: 60-69

9.00am: *First Holy Communion Preparation in the Hall*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Veronica on her birthday

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

6.00pm (Vigil): David Heap - RIP (*Christine Heap*)

**Sunday 21st Apr: Fourth Sunday of Easter** Jn 10: 11-18

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Jennifer - RIP (*Graziella*)

11.00am: Josephine Curley - RIP (*Carina, Colette & Camille*)

6.00pm: Rebecca McBrien - RIP (*Connolly Family*)

2nd Col.: Priest's Training Fund

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 14th Apr: Third Sunday of Easter** Lk 24: 35-48

10.00am: People of the Parish

**Sunday 21st Apr: Fourth Sunday of Easter** Jn 10: 11-18

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

10.00am: People of the Parish

#### Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Luisa Ward, Janette Hughes, Jenni Aldridge, Josie Price, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, Joan Sutton, Audrey Martin, Heather Dandison, Maria Krynicki, Richard Sexton, Frank Basquil, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Jean Crane, Pat Andrews, Patrick Lyons, Caine Libin, Matthew Young, Arthur Noronha, William Humphries, Marjery Craig, Juliet Nakabugo, Marie David Ambrosine, Pauline Ryan, Tita Riley, Mary De Wolf, Ron Cameron, Brian Collins, and Louis de Marigny

#### Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Molly Kelly, William Edwards Jr, Nan Weber, William Quinn, Barbara Markham, Sancho Vibal, Eva Lee, Nicholas Murphy, Cecilia Adekunle, Deirdre Mills, Janet Rogers, Judith Ross, Lewis Rising, Heinz Vogel, Bill Parker, Sr John Baptist, Judith Roser, Mary Cawthorn, David Tully, Joe Gunn, John Keily, Mary Jeffries, Germaine Reid, Patricia Gibson, Vince Dalton, Sean Tanzey, Christine Metcalfe, Ken Clark, Fr David Standley, Keith Taylor, Francoise Heaton and Sheila Elliott

#### Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in April 2024:

*Peter Johnson, Wilmot Johnson, Anita Johnson, Brian Henley and Maria Luz Peregrino.*

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

This weekend: **13/14 April: SVP**

Next weekend: **20/21 April: Priest's Training Fund:** this collection helps to meet the cost of training students for the priesthood and the permanent diaconate. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy.

#### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2024

##### For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



**St Thomas' Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 11 May 2024** 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, online or in the Narthex)

## From Fr Anthony...

During these next nine days, some of us will be praying a novena of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life which ends next Sunday; known as Good Shepherd Sunday. I was ordained as a priest 49 years ago this June. This gives me pause to reflect on how it all began for me. Each of us, through our baptism, is called to a life of love and service. We are each called to have Christ as the centre of our life. For me, I realised that God has asked me share in his life in this particular way as a priest. When I look back on my young life, growing up on the Clapham Park Estate, I can see how much being part of the local parish of St Bede's had an important influence on our priorities as a family. I enjoyed my primary school that had just been built. I was a Mass server and my parents, in different ways, were involved in aspects of parish life. My Dad was in the Knights of St Columba and the Guild of the Blessed Sacrament and my Mum, among other things, made marmalade for our Christmas Fairs and Fêtes. Also, crucial for me, was the witness of my parish priest, Father Joe. I do remember being asked, at my interview for the Junior Seminary, why I wanted to be a priest. I said that having the example of Fr Joe and several mission priests that had come to our parish was an attractive advert for priesthood. It was their joy and sense of fun and deep happiness that was infectious. They were deeply human, ordinary, yet showed great love and care. All this encouraged me to open my heart to see if this is what God wanted of me. Much has changed in the last sixty years in the Catholic Church in this country, influenced as we are by the changing attitudes and demands made of us both politically and socially. There is a temptation to look back to the good old days when things seemed simpler and more straight forward. But more than ever the call for every one of us is the call to love and service and we need nurture that call in our family life, our school life and in our parish life. It is essential that we experience a life of care and prayer, a life of joy and wonder. Let us pray for vocations among our parish and families that our young people may hear and experience the call to love and serve in the priesthood and religious life. Amen.

## ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

**HCPT Quiz Night:** Saturday, 20th April 2024 at 7pm in St Thomas's Church Hall. Bring your own food and drinks. Nibbles, tea and coffee available. £5 per person. Tables of 8 to be reserved in advance from Annie 07866 515797 or [anniejudge@hotmail.com](mailto:anniejudge@hotmail.com)

**Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 at St George's Cathedral** If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup>+ wedding anniversary this year, please email us at [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) as soon as possible, and no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> 2024.

### Parish of St Thomas's, Canterbury – Volunteers – DBS Renewal Procedure following 3 year Expiry

Lastly, before making your online renewal application, please send, in good time, to Diane Hollidge via e-mail: [canterbury3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

### Your personal e-mail address and your current volunteer role.

(Note: These are required by the safeguarding office at the Archdiocese in completion of your application.)

*Peter Jones, Parish Safeguarding Representative*

**2nd Collection 20/21 April: Priest's Training Fund:** The priesthood has always been essential to the life of the Church, from the time of Jesus until today. Good Shepherd Sunday is the day we pray for vocations, for our priests, and take up the Priest Training Fund second collection. This fund pays for the formation of men to become priests in our Archdiocese. After their ordination, our priests dedicate their lives to serving Christ and His people in our parishes, hospitals, schools, chaplaincies, prisons and in service to the needy, throughout South London, Kent and Surrey. We are blessed to have 5 men in formation to the Priesthood for our Archdiocese. However, it costs £30,000 a year to sponsor each seminarian. They study for 6 years before being ordained a Catholic priest. We therefore rely on your generous support and prayers. Please support our priests of the future with a gift today. Thank you!

**Donate** Online: [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF)

· Or Scan QR Code using telephone camera (right)

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

· Cash / Cheque – please use the Priest Training Fund envelopes at the back of church.



**Easter Celebration 17th April** thank you to all who supported our event we raised £100 for our parish.

### New Opportunities Fair 28th April 10:30-1pm

Come and meet the organisation supporting our community, if you would like to get involved, please contact [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com)

**Plant and Cake Sale 19th May** in the church hall donations of Plants, seeds and cakes welcome on the day please see poster for more details.

### HCPT (GROUP 587) SUMMER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

**25 May - 1st June 2024.** £960 (accommodation only £645). For more information contact Annie Judge (07866515797 / [anniejudge@hotmail.com](mailto:anniejudge@hotmail.com)) or chat with Father Anthony. There are also leaflets in the Narthex.

HCPT Gp 87 has just returned from the Children's Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Thank you for your support, especially 'ice cream pocket money'. We were one of 104 hcpt groups, 2,010 in total from 13 countries around the world including 70+ priests, 10+ bishops. On the website [www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk) you can watch the Trust Mass, Blessed Sacrament and Torchlight processions as well as lots of fun photos of the children and this Pilgrimage. It was an amazing 'Life Changing Experience' for children and the young helpers. Thank you again for your support over the past many years. Annie Judge and Group 87.

**LISS (Life in the Spirit Seminars):** a 5-week course, encouraging the grace of Baptism in the Holy Spirit in St Thomas' Parish Hall, Tuesdays 23rd April to 28th May, including Pentecost day retreat Saturday 18th May at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Register using QR code or contact Sheldon on [bagley.sheldon@gmail.com](mailto:bagley.sheldon@gmail.com). For online Zoom registration, use: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liiss>



### AFRICAN MASS! AFRICAN MASS!

There will be a special mass celebration for all Africans in the parish this April.

Date: 28th April 2024; Time: 2:00pm (14:00)

Venue: St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church.

There will also be a get-together/bring and share in the church hall immediately after the Mass. All are invited.

**SVP says thank you.** The March Collection, along with part of the collection given at the Maundy Thursday Mass, raised £1234.38 We are immensely grateful for your generosity. During March we gave out £640 in food vouchers. We bought a cooker, some good quality second hand furniture and some new shoes. With the help of the 1485 Trust, we were able to fully carpet a flat. The next SVP collection is this weekend, 13/14 April

**TEA AND COFFEE WEDNESDAYS:** From 24th April, tea and coffee will again be available after the 12 noon Mass every Wednesday in the hall- all are welcome.

**DAY FOR CATECHISTS: Saturday, 20th April 2024 10h30 - 16h00** at Minster Abbey, Thanet. A day for everyone involved in, or thinking about being involved in, catechesis. Please bring a packed lunch. Sign up using the QR code. See poster in Narthex for more details.

