

# NEWSLETTER

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

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY  
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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)**

**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)

6.00pm (Vigil): Weston J Letner

**Sunday 2nd Jun: Corpus Christi** Mk 14: 12-16, 22-26

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: UCM Members and families

11.00am: Karl Sanne - RIP

6.00pm: David Cocklin - RIP

**Monday 3rd Jun : St Charles Lwang & Comp.** Mk 12: 1-12

12 noon: Pat Kilcullen - RIP

**Tuesday 4th Jun: Feria** Mk 12: 13-17

12 noon: Leelamma Joseph - RIP

**Wednesday 5th Jun: St Boniface** Mk 12: 18-27

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Agata Banza - RIP

*Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass*

**Thursday 6th Jun: Feria** Mk 12: 28-34

7.30am: Freda Gilbride - RIP

12 noon: Requiem Mass for Mary Wright

*Scripture group meeting in the upper room after Mass*

**Friday 7th Jun: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** Jn 19: 31-37

12 noon: Maureen and George Handley - RIP

**Saturday 8th Jun: The Immaculate Heart of Mary** Lk 2: 41-51

9.00am: First Communion Parents' Meeting and Rehearsal

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Patricia Heenan - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Betty Scott and Tsige Buta - RIP

**Sunday 9th Jun: 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)** Mk 3: 20 - 35

8.00am: Shannon McLennon - RIP

9.30am: Tita Riley - RIP

11.00am: William Guiney - 90th birthday

6.00pm: People of the Parish

2nd Col.: SVP

**TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2024** - there will be **NO** 12 noon Mass at St Thomas' today

### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2024

*For migrants fleeing their homes*

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 2nd Jun: Corpus Christi** Mk 14: 12-16, 22-26

10.00am: People of the Parish

**Sunday 9th Jun: 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)** Mk 3: 20 - 35

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 Ambroisine, Pauline Ryan, Mary De Wolf, Brian Collins, 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, Sheila Elliott, Ron Cameron, Mary Wright (Woodman) and Tita Riley

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

*William Edwards*

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

This weekend: **01/02 June** : No second collection this weekend

Next weekend: **08/09 June** : Second Collection for the SVP



**St Thomas' Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 6th July 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)

Archbishop John warmly invites you to join him as he leads the Southwark Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Details of this can be found on the Archdiocesan website: [rcaos.org.uk](http://rcaos.org.uk). Experience the unique spirituality of Lourdes, along with people from parishes around the Archdiocese. More information from <https://rcaos.org.uk/news-events/news/archbishop-john-to-lead-pilgrimage-to-lourdes/>

## Newsletter: June the Month of the Sacred Heart

June is the month of the Sacred Heart. Traditionally, the Church has been focusing on a particular devotion each month of the year—e.g. May has always been the month of Mary—and in June the Church invites us to focus on our devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion became prominent in 17<sup>th</sup> century France following the St Margaret Mary Alacoque's visions of Jesus and his Sacred Heart, although it is also true other mystics before her had developed similar devotions. From France this devotion rapidly spread throughout the world.

However, it would be a mistake to think the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a purely 17<sup>th</sup> French invention. This devotion is rooted in the Gospels and in particular in that moment during the Crucifixion where Jesus' heart was pierced with a lance and water and blood came out of his side. Jesus' heart had to be physically broken for our salvation.

There is another reason why the devotion to the Sacred Heart has become so relevant to us. Traditionally the heart has been regarded as the centre of life, love, passions and emotions. Our devotion to the Sacred Heart is a profession of faith in a God who loves and cares for and about us. This devotion is an antidote against the image of God as an impersonal, impassible architect, a rational God who created us just to abandon us to our devices. It is not a coincidence that the devotion to the Sacred Heart flourished in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a time where the elites were trying to explain away religion and spirituality. It is not a coincidence that the devotion to the Sacred Heart was popular among soldiers in the midst of the atrocities of the First World War.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart is still relevant to us as it was then. In the moments of difficulty, when we cannot make any sense of what is going on in our lives and around us, we may want to turn to the Sacred Heart to remind ourselves that God loves and cares for us even if we cannot see how, even if we don't feel he does.

## ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** : Sunday 2nd June is the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). This feast is an ideal time for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to renew their commitment to their ministry. This will happen at Masses. If you were commissioned to serve in another parish but would like to do so at St Thomas' please talk to either Fr Anthony or Fr Giovanni. Maybe you were commissioned before lock down and just didn't return or stopped being a minister for some personal reason, but would now like to recommit then please come forward on the feast of Corpus Christi

**MISSIO RED BOXES**: Great thanks to all of you who hold a traditional red box or donate directly to MISSIO, the Pope's fund for keeping churches in the many, many needy parts of today's world. In 2022-23, you gave £4,010.93. If you would be very kind and have a box at home, do ring Anne Rooke on 01227 830298 and she will deliver one to you. Thank you all.

**Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille** offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**St Thomas Social Committee** are holding a musical celebration for the parish to share their talents on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2-4pm. If you can sing, play an instrument or have a talent you can share please contact [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com). All participants receive an entry prize.

**Summer Fair 7th July 10:30-12:30**: if you would like a stall to promote your business, please contact [ucmcanterbury@gmail.com](mailto:ucmcanterbury@gmail.com)

**Solitude Group**: The Solitude Group meets on the third Saturday of the month in St Peter's Anglican Church; 10am to 12 noon. Next meeting is 15th June.

**OPEN AIR MASS 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 10am at St Anselm's School**  
Next planning meeting 17th June at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

**Summertime 2024: 29<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August: Altar Servers Trip to Westminster Pastoral Centre, £189. For aged 11-16.** A residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. In an event that has now gone on for more than 20 years, it is a few days for deepening one's catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. For more details of how to get to the venue, with a coach laid on at St. Anselm's Dartford, see your parish priest for a form, or contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, Chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen, [Dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:Dartford@rcaos.org.uk), Tel:01322 220075.

**PILGRIM ACCOMMODATION** : The UK Franciscan family are organising a pilgrimage from Dover to Canterbury. If you are able to put pilgrims up in your home overnight on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September and maybe for 11<sup>th</sup> September, please contact the priests or parish Office if you can help.

If any married couples missed the recent **Building a Better Marriage day** you'll be delighted to learn that **another day** is being held on the **29<sup>th</sup> June** in the Carmel Hall at the Sacred Heart of Jesus church **Sittingbourne** from 9.30am to 4.30pm. (Please note that this is the last opportunity this year to attend the day in Kent) The day allows couples to **privately** explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insight into communication and the call of the Church to be married. The one-day course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives to **make their marriages better** and to improve their communication skills. **There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple. Booking is essential.** To apply please contact the parish office on the following email [sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk) or by phone on 01795 555708. Refreshments will be provided but please **bring a packed lunch**

**Pilates Classes**: We have some spaces for both the Mat (Wed) and Chair (Tues) classes at 10h30 in our parish hall. Contact Jennifer at [jcu.bintley@icloud.com](mailto:jcu.bintley@icloud.com)