

NEWSLETTER

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

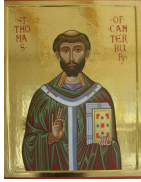
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

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

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN
16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: hersden@rcaos.org.uk



Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**

Parish Priest: **Canon Anthony Charlton**

email: anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priests: **Fr Giovanni Prandini**

email: giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk

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

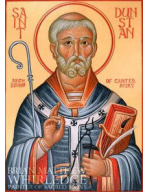
Parish Office open Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), Thurs 10am - 1pm

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): Betty Scott - RIP

Sunday 26th May: The Most Holy Trinity *Mt 28: 16-20*

8.00am: Vinod and Family

9.30am: Filipino Community and families

11.00am: Chris Richmond on his birthday

Baptism of Reginald Ayala

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: People of the Parish

Monday 27th May: St Augustine of Canterbury *Lk 10: 1-9*
Secondary Patron of our Diocese

12 noon: Conversion of Sezwin

Tuesday 28th May: Feria *Mk 10: 28-31*

12 noon: Health and wellbeing of daughter and family

Wednesday 29th May: Feria *Mk 10: 32-45*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Mavis Snape - RIP

Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass

Thursday 30th May: Feria *Mk 10: 46-52*

7.30am: NO EARLY MASS

12 noon: Simon Hall-Raleigh - RIP

Scripture group meeting in the upper room after Mass

Friday 31st May: Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary *Lk 1: 39-56*

12 noon: Ron Cameron—RIP

Saturday 1st June: St Justin *Mk 11: 27-33*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Helen Osula—RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

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

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 26th May: The Most Holy Trinity *Mt 28: 16-20*

Patronal Feast of St Dunstan

10.00am: People of the Parish

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

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, 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 and Mary Wright (Woodman)

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

Hubert Whyte, Mary Mariasy, Gabriel Mendes and Russell Thompson

Funeral for the Late Mary Wright (Woodman) takes place here in St Thomas' on Thursday, 6th June at 12 noon

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **25/26 May:** No second collection this weekend

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

OPEN AIR MASS 30TH JUNE 2024 AT 10AM

On 30th June we will have an Open Air Mass in the grounds of St Anselm's School. There will be usual Saturday evening vigil Mass at 6pm on 29th June but NO Masses will be celebrated in the Church on Sunday. The only Sunday Mass will be the one we celebrate together in the grounds of St Anselm's School. Next planning meeting 17th June at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2024

For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1st June 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)

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Friday we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation: that moment in the Gospel where Our Lady, pregnant with Jesus, goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who is in turn pregnant with John the Baptist. John the Baptist leaps with joy in his mother womb when Mary and Elizabeth meet and Elizabeth exclaims, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb' (Lk 1:42). In a way this feast is a celebration of motherhood; this feast is about an encounter between two mothers and the deep relationship and union they have with the babies they are carrying—something we men will never experience.

The Visitation is also the moment where the Virgin Mary realises what happened at the Annunciation. 'My soul glorifies the Lord; my spirit exults in God my Saviour' (Lk 1:46-47). It is at this moment that Mary realises that she is pregnant with the Son of God; it is at this moment that she starts appreciating the greatness and awesomeness of what is happening. Mary needs someone to tell her what happened in her life to appreciate it fully. God often speaks to us through what other people say. We need to be open to listen His voice even when it comes through us through somebody else's words. This was true for Mary at the Visitation; this is true for all of us every day in our lives.

The Magnificat, this beautiful song that Mary raises after Elizabeth greeted her (Lk 1:46-55), is a song of thanksgiving and adoration. Mary realises that the great things the almighty has done for her are not because of any personal merit of her own, but they are a pure gift from God: God chose her to be the mother of His Son and gave her all the qualities she needed for the 'job'. Now she sees that and she gives thanks to God in return. Gratitude is so important in our life: we too, like Mary, want to recognise that anything we are and we have in this world, we have received from God either directly or indirectly, through other people, and we want to give thanks to Him in return.

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

We've been given a National Lottery Community Grant!

The National Lottery award money to fund great ideas that help communities to thrive. We applied for a grant to help renovate our hall kitchen. We've been awarded £19,666 towards our costs! So Project Hall Kitchen is starting now.

If you are interested in being part of this please contact Tessa Metcalfe on email:

canterburyfcs@rcaos.org.uk



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 10th September and maybe for 11th September, please contact the priests or parish Office if you can help.

Catholic maritime charity **Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea)** is very grateful for this parish's prayer and financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year. To hear a report back on the use of those funds, please join an **online update and thank you webinar on Tuesday 28th May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm**. To register please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024

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.

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

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.

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

UCM Plant & Cake Sale: Thanks to all who supported us - we raised £343.84p

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

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 **29th 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 or by phone on 01795 555708. Refreshments will be provided but please **bring a packed lunch**

Miraculous Medals: Free Miraculous Medals/Information Booklets from the Legion of Mary are available at the doors to the Church after all Masses this weekend. Please take one.

Discernment Workshops 28th May, 11th June, 25th June

A series of **online** workshops looking at the principles and practice of Ignatian Discernment. Open to **young adults (20s and 30s)**. To register please email: FCJCentreStHughs@gmail.com

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s) Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life. Dates: 24 - 26 May 2024. Location: Liverpool. Organised by: the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Information visit our website www.fcjsisters.org or contact Sr Lynne FCJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com