

# NEWSLETTER

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

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Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**

Parish Priest:

**Canon Anthony Charlton**

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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)

6.00pm (Vigil): Carmel Flaherty - RIP

**Sunday 4th Aug: 18<sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time (B)** Jn 6: 24-35

8.00am: Welfare of Geraldine Ahern

9.30am: UCM and Families

11.00am: Rosemary Harris - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Sofia Morris*

6.00pm: Philip Hoblely - RIP

2nd Coll. ACN  
Gaza Appeal

**Monday 5th Aug: Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major**

Mt 14: 13-21

12 noon: Thanksgiving - the Father of All Mankind

**Tuesday 6th Aug: Transfiguration of the Lord** Mk 9: 2-10

12 noon: Intentions of Robert Ashley-Thomas

**Wednesday 7th Aug: St Sixtus II, Pope & Comp.** Mt 15: 21-28

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Jimmy Flaherty - RIP

*Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass*

**Thursday 8th Aug: St Dominic** Mt 16: 13-23

7.30am: Mihan Mohit -4th birthday

12 noon: Scott Allan - RIP

*Scripture group meeting in the upper room after Mass*

**Friday 9th Aug: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)**

Mt 25: 1-13

12 noon: Mary Wright - RIP

6.00pm: *Vespers with the Junge Domkantorei München*

7.30pm: *Charismatic Prayer Group in the Hall*

**Saturday 10th Aug: St Lawrence** Jn 12: 24-26

9.00am: *Baptism Preparation Meeting*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Teresa Kelly - RIP

2.00pm : Ukrainian Community Mass

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Tom Clowes - RIP

**Sunday 11th Aug: 19<sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time (B)** Jn 6: 41-51

8.00am: Ruben Ramirez Guerrero - RIP

9.30am: Chinnamma Francis - RIP

11.00am: People of the Parish

*Baptism of Maeve O'Sullivan during Mass*

12.30pm: *Baptism of Jaziel Da Souza*

6.00pm: Julie Buclez - 60th Birthday

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 4th Aug: 18<sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time (B)** Jn 6: 24-35

10.00am: People of the Parish

**Sunday 11th Aug: 19<sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time (B)** Jn 6:41-51

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, Marjery Craig, Juliet Nakabugo, Marie David Ambroisine, Pauline Ryan, Mary De Wolf, Brian Collins, Louis de Marigny and Audrey Green

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

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, Françoise Heaton, Sheila Elliott, Ron Cameron, Mary Wright (Woodman), Tita Riley, William Humphries, Sister Katherine Owens, Teresa McGaughey and Mary Edgington.

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

Marie Kelly, William Quinn, Marion Weber, Sr Mary Antonia McGovern and Barbara Markham

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

This weekend: **03/04 August** : Aid to the Church in Need Gaza Appeal

Next weekend: **10/11 August** : No second collection

There will be no Scripture Group after Thursday midday mass during the month of August. We recommence on the first Thursday in September.

**Beginning Experience Weekend** - a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. This next programme will be held on **4-6 October**; for further details please contact: Mary: 07730 884315, or Maura: 07795 498445, or email [BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com](mailto:BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com)

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

##### For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.



**St Thomas' Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised...our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 10th August 2024** at 9.00 am in the Presbytery. Places are limited so call or email the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from office, online or in the Narthex)

## How to Receive the Eucharist

In last week's newsletter, we have considered Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist; it is now appropriate to consider how to receive the Eucharist with due reverence.

The most ancient way to receive Communion is on the hand. This was the common practice of the early Church; it gradually disappeared in the ninth century just to make a come back after the Second Vatican Council. Fourth century Father of the Church Cyril of Jerusalem wrote about making a throne with our hands to receive the King of Glory. The correct way to receive Communion on the hand is to place your left hand on the top of you right hand. The minister will place the Body of Christ on your left hand. After responding 'Amen' to the words 'The Body of Christ', communicants pick up the host with their right hand and put it in their mouth. Left-handed people may swap hands. Dos and Don'ts: Please make sure your hands are clean—you are receiving God. Put the host into your mouth before walking away—the minister needs to be sure you have consumed it. Please don't hold your hands parallel to each other—this confuses the minister. Please don't lap the host from your palm or flip it from one hand to another. Please don't close your hand once you have received the host or snatch it from the minister's fingers. Remember who you are receiving!

The alternative way to receive the Eucharist is on the tongue. In a sense, this way is easier: when the minister says 'The Body of Christ', you respond 'Amen', open your mouth and wait. Dos and don'ts: Please look at the minister in the face—it makes sure your mouth is properly aligned. Raise your tongue slightly, but don't stick it out unnecessarily. Don't panic: if your tongue is not too dry, the host won't fall off. Don't lick the minister's fingers; don't bite the minister's fingers. If you are on crutches or carrying a baby, you may want to receive on the tongue.

We also need to consider how we approach the minister. 'Going up for Communion' is not just joining a queue; it is taking part in a procession. Please be mindful of the people in front of you and following you. You may want to bow or genuflect before receiving; please make sure you don't get in the way of the person behind you. If you want to receive Communion kneeling, please do it in a measured way so as to minimise disruption.

No way to receive Communion is better than the other. What really matters is that you remember who you are receiving and express your understanding through your actions.

## ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

Friday Evening Prayer (Vespers) with the Junge Domkantorei Munchen Choir will be said in St Thomas' on Friday, 9th August at 6pm. Please join us.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY.** Children's liturgy will not take place during August, liturgy will re-commence on the 8th of September 2024

### 2024 Building A Better Marriage days will be held in

Worcester Park St Matthias parish Sat, Sept 28 [worcesterpark@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:worcesterpark@rcaos.org.uk);  
Wimbledon The Sacred Heart parish Sat Oct 26 [wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk);  
Woolwich St Peter the Apostle parish Sat Nov 2 [woolwich@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:woolwich@rcaos.org.uk)

### MARY'S MEALS INITIATIVE

Mary's Meals would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency\* no matter how old or obscure. After the summer break especially if some of you have travelled abroad, we would like you to put all your foreign coins/notes aside; we will be collecting all your foreign currency in September/October with special Mary's Meals envelopes available at the back of church. Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign currency you can help feed the next hungry child. \*We will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender



Diary Note: **Thursday, 15 August is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** As this is a Holy Day of Obligation, there will be three Masses at 9.30am, 12 noon and 8.00pm

"Pilgrim's Progress to Rome, an eight-day trek in Autumn 2025, is a charity fundraising challenge organised by the charity Life. Life supports women in unexpected and crisis pregnancies and those experiencing pregnancy loss. Life are calling all those with "an adventurous spirit and a compassionate heart", to email [emilytraynor@lifecharity.org.uk](mailto:emilytraynor@lifecharity.org.uk) to receive more information."

### Special Second Collection Gaza Appeal



Aid to the Church in Need

Jerry Lohan is visiting our parish this weekend, 3/4 August 2024 on behalf of Aid to the Church in Need and will have some items for sale to raise money for their work. Aid to the Church in Need supports persecuted Christians in over 140 countries around the world and is currently involved in 5,000 projects. ACN work directly with bishops, priests and religious sisters and brothers to make sure that any aid goes directly to those for whom it is intended. Many of these religious risk their own lives every day to provide help and spiritual support to our suffering brothers and sisters. Your kind prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

### Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ weekend retreat. Fri 4 - Sun 6 October 2024

For anyone who has experienced bereavement, whether recently or some time ago. We grieve, remember, hope and give thanks for our loved ones in the light of the Resurrection of Jesus. Cost £260 Single shared £230. For more information and bookings contact: Tel: 01622 717 272 or email: [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria