

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](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasofCanterbury)

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)

2nd Col.: SVP

6.00pm (Vigil): Emma - thanksgiving

Sunday 18th Aug: 20th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Jn 6: 51-58

8.00am: Fr David Standley - RIP

9.30am: Pauline Ventress birthday wishes

11.00am: Jacinta and Family - intentions

6.00pm: People of the Parish

Monday 19th Aug: St John Eudes

Mt 19: 16-22

12 noon: Elisabeth Altenberg - RIP

Tuesday 20th Aug: St Bernard

Mt 19: 23-30

12 noon: Funeral Mass of Angela Mallion

Wednesday 21st Aug: St Pius X

Mt 20: 1-16

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: UCM Members and families

Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass

Thursday 22nd Aug: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mt 22: 1-14

7.30am: Anna Maria Silcock - RIP

12 noon: N J Abraham and Aleyamma Abraham - RIP

Friday 23rd Aug: St Rose of Lima

Mt 22: 34-40

12 noon: Mary Kulty Abraham - thanksgiving

Saturday 24th Aug: St Bartholomew

Jn 1: 45-51

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Nick Gadd - 60th birthday

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meeting in the Upper Room

6.00pm (Vigil): Alma and Hugh Lloyd - thanksgiving

Sunday 25th Aug: 21st Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Jn 6: 60-69

8.00am: Filipino Community and their families

9.30am: Massimo Tedeschi - RIP

11.00am: David Evans on his birthday

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: People of the Parish

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 18th Aug: 20th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Jn 6: 51-58

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 25th Aug: 21st Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Jn 6: 60-69

10.00am: Thanksgiving - Patricia Papa

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, Francoise Heaton, Sheila Elliott, Ron Cameron, Mary Wright (Woodman), Tita Riley, William Humphries, Sister Katherine Owens, Teresa McGaughey, Mary Edgington, Angela Mallion and Sharon Dobson

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: 17/18 August : SVP

Next weekend: 24/25 August : No second collection this weekend

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

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

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, 07 September 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)

From Fr Anthony ...

Many of us have heard the phrase "You are what you eat". There is much around today that guides us to eat what is said to be good. There are countless books and articles on healthy eating. I have enjoyed Tim Spector's book "Spoon Fed." In it he argues that to find the best way of eating we need to ignore much of what we are told. Spector's myths include the idea that fish is always a healthy option and the dogma that "sugar-free foods and drinks are a safe way to lose weight". He had subsequently written a book, "Food for Life", where he offers more information than ever before. It aims to think about food for "our individual health, the health of our society and the health of our planet".

Today the readings in scripture are about the ultimate good and healthy food for all of us. In the book of Proverbs, we have the image of Wisdom, building a house and preparing a meal and inviting the simple and those without sense to "Come and eat my bread and drink the wine I have prepared." We continue our reading from the 6th chapter of St John. Jesus said: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." Jesus continued, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day. For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink."

For my summer reading I have picked up Christopher West's new book, "Eating the Sunrise. Meditations on the Liturgy and our Hunger for Beauty." Christopher West has written extensively on the Theology of the Body which he based on the teaching of St Pope John Paul II. Here he explores the connection between the Eros (our longing for God) and the Eucharist. He says the whole purpose of the liturgy is to orientate ourselves, our human longing, to the bridegroom who is Jesus Christ. The Eucharist is the sacrament of the Bridegroom and the Bride.

We all worship something, whatever we think will satisfy our hunger. True worship is to take our deepest hunger and thirst to that which truly satisfies. Jesus has become the bread of life. He alone can satisfy us.

Here is a prayer of St John Chrysostom, an Eastern father of the Church, that is said after Communion:

"Therefore, I pray Thee, O Master, for Thou alone art holy, sanctify my soul and body, my mind and heart, my muscles and bones. Renew me entirely. Implant Thy fear in my fleshly members and let Thy sanctification never be removed from me.

Be my helper and defender, guide my life in peace and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand with all Thy saints.

By the prayers and supplications of Thy most pure Mother, of Thy spiritual servants, the most pure angelic powers, and of all the saints who from all ages have been well-pleasing to Thee. Amen".

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome Next Year is a Holy Year and the Theme is Pilgrims of Hope. I would like to take to have a parish pilgrimage to Rome. We have been offered a hotel which is about 6 minutes' walk to the centre of St Peter's square. It is 4 nights from 15th to 19th September 2025. There are places for 32 pilgrims. Pricing information can be obtained from Linda in the office. If you wish to join then fill out the form at the back of the church or contact the Office to secure a place.

The Funeral Mass for the late Angela Mallion takes place here in St Thomas' on Tuesday, 20th August at 12 noon.

The charismatic prayer group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm in the Upper room, starting on Tuesday 20th August.'

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 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria

SPUC Petition Event. Please do support the petition this weekend to remove the government's punitive 2-child benefit cap. Petition cards will be available in church or you can sign online using the QR code or going to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/end-benefit-cap>



HALL KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT: Great News! The hall kitchen is being refurbished (with help from a grant by the National Lottery) between 26th August and 26th September inclusive. We apologise for the inconvenience during the works.

We are looking for volunteers to help clean out the cupboards on **Saturday, 24th August from 10am** for an hour or two. Many hands make light work so please join us. If you have any cardboard storage boxes which we can use, please bring them along to help clear the kitchen.

All are warmly welcome to a **Family Fun Day** in Dane John on Sat. 24th August from 2 to 4pm organised by Christians Together in Canterbury. Bouncy castle and crafts for kids, talks and lively praise and worship for all!

"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 to receive more information."

RCIA: We are beginning our Journey in Faith Sessions at the end of September 2024 for those adults who are thinking about becoming Catholic. These might be people who are baptised Anglican or who have not been baptised. Some have already contacted Canon Anthony and Father Giovanni. If you are interested, please take a form from the Narthex, complete it and return it to the Parish office.