

NEWSLETTER

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

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
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Web Site: <https://stthomasofcanterbury.com>

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16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH
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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')

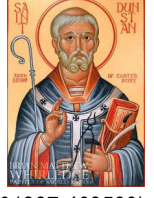
Parish Office open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

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): Fr Tom Ayres - RIP

2nd Col.: Catholic Educ. Serv.

Sunday 8th Sept: 23rd Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 7: 31-37

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Christine Hannant - RIP

Back to School Blessing

11.00am: P Devasia - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Zoe Sandifer*

6.00pm: Maureen and Syd Pepper - RIP

Monday 9th Sept: St Peter Claver

Lk 6: 6-11

12 noon: Jacob - welfare

Tuesday 10th Sept: Feria

Lk 6: 12-19

12 noon: Funeral Mass of the late Joan Sutton

4.00pm: Reception of the body of Brigid Davis into the church

7.30pm: *Charismatic Prayer Group in the Upper Group*

Wednesday 11th Sept: St Ambrose Barlow

Lk 6: 20-26

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Funeral Mass of the late Brigid Davis

NO Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass due to renovations

Thursday 12th Sept: The Most Holy Name of Mary Lk 6: 27-38

7.30am: Richard - RIP

12 noon: Ann Senatore - welfare

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass in the Upper room

Friday 13th Sept: St John Chrysostom

Lk 6: 39-42

12 noon: Patrick - RIP

Saturday 14th Aug: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Jn 3:13-17

10.00am - 6.00pm: *Ride and Stride visitors*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Mary Fleming - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): De Wolf family - welfare

Sunday 15th Sept: 24th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 8: 27-35

8.00am: Maria O'Donnell - RIP

9.30am: James Somerville-Meikle

11.00am: John Wilkins - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Thomas Horka*

6.00pm: People of the Parish

2nd Col.: Evangelii
Gaudium

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 8th Sept: 23rd Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 7: 31-37

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 15th Sept: 24th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 8: 27-35

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, Audrey Martin, Heather Dandison, 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, Audrey Green, Marion Kelly and Augustine Barna

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, Sharon Dobson, Jorge Manuel Gomes, Brigid Davis, Joan Sutton, Nikkie Bachelor, Canon Michael Cooley and Maria Krynicki

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

Eva Lee and Cecilia Adekunle

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **07/08 Sept: Catholic Education Services** - the chief negotiating body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic Education and acts on behalf of the Bishops conference to support Catholic education in England and Wales as well as providing financial assistance for school transport in rural areas

Next weekend: **14/15 Sept: Evangelii Gaudium (Home Missions)** - support for the spreading of the gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelisation

The annual service for those that have been harmed by abuse.

The service will be held on the **25th September 2024 at 6.30pm @ St George's Cathedral** and will be led by **Archbishop John Wilson**.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.



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 ...

Ten years ago this month, I arrived in Canterbury to take up my appointment as parish priest. For me it was the first time working and living outside London. I jokingly said to friends in my first few weeks that one of my favourite things in Canterbury was the High-Speed train to London. I now see things very differently.

As we move into Autumn and restart many of the familiar parish activities it is good for me to reflect where God has been in all the events, activities and lives of the people of this parish community. I need to ask myself "have I responded to what God has asked of me as a shepherd, teacher and sanctifier." I was formed after the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and now, more than ever, I have come to understand the words of the Vatican Document on the Priesthood; "Priests, in common with all who have been reborn in the font of baptism, are brothers (and sisters) among brothers (and sisters) as members of the same Body of Christ which all are commanded to build up." I thank God for the wonderful ways you have been living stones that, through your prayer and service of others, have helped to build up the church. It is heartening to see that all of us have a life of faith and that in many and various ways have grown in faith and closeness to Jesus.

We have all heard many times the oft repeated sentence "The Eucharist is the source and summit of the life of the church." For us at St Thomas's, well-prepared liturgy, prayerfully celebrated is a blessing beyond measure. Thank you to all of you who so willingly give you time and talents freely to enable us to celebrate Mass and the other sacraments with love, dignity and joy. The Eucharist for you and me is the centre of our spirituality and I pray that it will continue to transform our parish community.

The challenge that constantly is in the forefront of my mind is the question, "Who is not at the table?" Together we need to include all those who are scattered. We can't be a holy huddle but need to have the courage to open our hearts and lives to the poor and marginalised. I am aware of those who are already doing this in their quiet way. Thank you.

One of the unique features of St Thomas' is the availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesdays as well as Saturdays. I have celebrated more confessions here in the last ten years than in any other parish. The priest is called to be a practitioner of Christ's mercy. Our spiritual life is predicated on the awareness that all of us need Christ's tender mercy. For all of us conversion of heart is the lifelong and shared endeavour of every Christian. I pray that we will encourage one another on this shared and lifelong endeavour.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

New Members for the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The PPC meets four times a year or more to assist our Priests with the parish's pastoral concerns and some aspects of our legal requirements. There are separate Finance and Liturgical Committees. Please email your nomination, along with contact details, to John Renn at jrennstthomas@gmail.com by Monday 9th September, or put a note in the presbytery letter box. Nominees will be sent an application form. Nominees will be considered at the PPC meeting on 14th October. Canon Anthony, our parish priest, will make the final decision.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding a one-day conference on **Saturday 28th September 2024**, at Holiday Inn Regent's Park, Carburton Street, London, W1W 5EE. Tickets are £40, including lunch. Bookings can be made via the SPUC website at: www.spuc.org.uk/conference-2024 More details from katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk

HALL KITCHEN: Work on the new kitchen is progressing well. Unfortunately, asbestos has been discovered and needs to be abated. There will, therefore, be NO ACCESS to the Hall for the week 23 to 27 September whilst the Asbestos Removal Team is working in the kitchen. Thanks

School feeding charity, **Mary's Meals**, needs **your** help! We are looking to **recruit some new Parish Reps** to raise awareness of our mission and help us to reach more hungry children with food & hope for the future. This is a highly rewarding role, with a very low time commitment. Responsibilities include sharing information & giving updates on Mary's Meals to your parish community. We always welcome new volunteers to our growing family. Joining our network of church representatives is a fantastic way of putting action to help make a difference to the lives of children across the globe. For more info please contact Fran Lawson by email: fran.lawson@marysmeals.org or call 0800 698 1212. Thank you for your support!

SVP says thank you – The August Collection raised £895.94. Thank you so much for your generosity. Whilst we had a rest from our formal meetings and much of our usual work in August, we were able to provide planned support where anticipated. We gave out £560 in supermarket vouchers and continued with our regular visits. The SVP Cost-of-Living Support Fund very kindly enabled us to buy essential carpeting for two families, contributing £860 of the £1014 total cost. The next SVP collection will be 21/22 September.

Welcome to the Franciscan family

In the mural painted in the All Saints Chapel of our Church you will see depicted the first Franciscan friars arriving in Dover on 10 September 1224. Saint Francis of Assisi chose Friar Agnellus of Pisa to sail to England with eight friars. Arriving in Dover these friars made their way to Canterbury by foot the next morning. Five of the friars remained in Canterbury, whilst the other four set out for London. Two of the friars later went on to Oxford.

This coming week the Franciscan family will mark the 800th anniversary of the first Franciscans arriving in England with events in these four important locations.

We REMEMBER. Dover to Canterbury 9 -- 11 September 2024

Catholic Mass on the beach in Dover : Sept 10th at 7.30am - all welcome.

Two events in Canterbury:

11:00am Franciscan **Morning Prayer** with reflection in Canterbury Cathedral.

Doors open at 10:30am.

12:30pm **Anglican Mass** on the lawn in front of Greyfriars Chapel. Entrance through the Franciscan Gift Shop at 60 St. Peters Street. Note: limited seating available.

Other celebrations:

We CELEBRATE London 17 September 2024

We BELIEVE Oxford 20 & 21 September 2024

You'll find more details at: <https://franciscan-pilgrimage-england-800thanniversary>.