

# NEWSLETTER

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

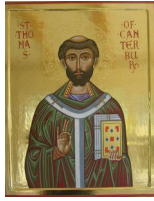
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY  
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Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)

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1 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH  
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: [herstden@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:herstden@rcaos.org.uk)



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')

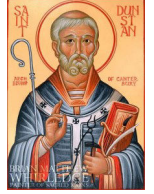
**Parish Office** open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

**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](mailto:markwharton@rcaos.org.uk))

**St Thomas' Catholic Primary School:** Head Teacher: **Miss Lisa D'Agostini** (01227 462539)

**St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School:** Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)



### ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): Ignatius Dempsey - RIP

**Sunday 12th Jan: Baptism of the Lord** Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

8.00am: Pietro Rencricca - RIP

9.30am: Nan Harrigan - RIP

11.00am: John Wilkins - RIP

12:30pm: *Baptism of Maisie Boxall*

4.00pm: *Confirmation*

6.00pm: People of the Parish

2nd Col.:  
**St Vincent  
de Paul**

**Monday 13th Jan: St Hilary** Mk 1: 14-20

12 noon: Werner Strain - RIP

**Tuesday 14th Jan: Feria** Mk 1: 21-28

12 noon: Douglas Wark - RIP

7.00pm: *RCIA - Hall*

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

**Wednesday 15th Jan: Feria** Mk 1: 29-39

10.30- 11.30am Reconciliation & Adoration

12 noon: Paipier Suzie-Anna Alberte - intentions  
*Refreshments in the Hall after Mass*

**Thursday 16th Jan: Feria** Mk 1: 40-45

7.30am: Theresa Punnett - health and wellbeing

12 noon: Jessie Pollock - RIP

*Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass*

**Friday 17th Jan: St Anthony** Mk 1: 1-12

12 noon: Prosperity Frimpong

**Saturday 18th Jan: Feria** Mk 2: 13-17

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

9.00am: *First Holy Communion Classes*

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Elizabeth and Derek Carlaw - birthday wishes

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Anthony Manners - RIP

**Sunday 19th Jan: 2nd Sunday (Year C)** Jn 2: 1-11

**PEACE SUNDAY**

8.00am: Loretta Francis - RIP

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Eamonn McGloin - RIP

4.00pm: *Confirmation*

6.00pm: Rita and Wally Thundow - RIP

2nd Col.:  
**Pax Christi**

### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2025

*For the right to an education*

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 12th Jan: Baptism of the Lord** Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

10.00am: People of the Parish

**Sunday 19th Jan: 2nd Sunday (Year C)** Jn 2: 1-11

10.00am: Jean Boyce - RIP

### PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Janette Hughes, Jenni Aldridge, Josie Price, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, Audrey Martin, Heather Dandison, Richard Sexton, 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 Ambrosine, Pauline Ryan, Mary De Wolf, Brian Collins, Louis de Marigny, Audrey Green, Augustine Barna, Mary Lyons, David Lewis, John Mathew and Jean Matthews

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

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, Nicola Batchelor, Canon Michael Cooley, Maria Krynicki, Luisa Ward, Canon Jeremiah Cronin, Jose Rogers, Josephine Tillcock, Fr Jake Dicto, Chris Walters, Pietro Rencricca, Robert Willis (former Dean of Canterbury Cathedral), Valarie Hammond, Bishop John Hine, Sr Mary Frances Joyce, Sr Rose Brennan, Jean Boyce, Fr John Lawrence and Sr Philomena Washington, Sr Elizabeth McNulty, Sr Martina Molloy, Sr Anne Brossa and Ivy Gorman

**Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in January 2025:**

David Tully, John Keily and Patricia Gibson

### ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **11/12 Jan 2025: St Vincent de Paul (SVP)**

Next weekend: **18/19 Jan 2025: Pax Christi**



**St Thomas' Baptism Preparation:** To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1st February 2025** 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 Fr Anthony ...

Did you know that our Church, St Thomas of Canterbury, has been designated by Archbishop John Wilson as one of the Jubilee Churches in our Archdiocese of Southwark? I received the decree from the Archbishop in December. It will be posted in the Church. This means that, for the duration of the Jubilee Year of Hope, (which runs from 24th December 2024 to 6th January 2026) our church, which has the shrine of St Thomas Becket, is one of the places the faithful, the 'Pilgrims of Hope', will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence granted by the Holy Father. According to the decree, "The Indulgence may be obtained by the faithful, who are truly repentant and free from any affection for sin (*cf. Enchiridion Indulgentiarum, IV ed., norm. 20, §1*), who are moved by a spirit of charity and who, during the Holy Year, purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of, Supreme Pontiff, will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, with remission and forgiveness of, all their sins, which can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory."

This can be done in following ways:

Coming on Pilgrimage here to St Thomas' and celebrating Mass

Participating in a liturgy of the word, reciting the Liturgy of the Hours, walking the way of the Cross, or praying the Rosary

Other ways are:

The recitation of the Akathist hymn (*a profound, devotional poem, singing the praises of the Holy Mother, Ever-Virgin Mary*). Being part of a penitential celebration, which ends with the individual confessions of the penitents

Likewise, you will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence if, individually or in a group, you devoutly visit any Jubilee site and there, for a suitable period of time, engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation, concluding with the Our Father, the Profession of Faith in any legitimate form, and invocations to Mary, the Mother of God, so that in this Holy Year everyone "will come to know the closeness of Mary, the most affectionate of mothers, who never abandons her children"

What are the implications for our parish? I have met several priests who tell me that they are planning to bring groups to Canterbury on Pilgrimage during this Jubilee of Hope. We need to be able to cater for an increase in pilgrim visitors. Available in the narthex of the church is a Companion Booklet "The Jubilee" price £1.50. That sets out the Jubilee Year theme of Hope.

Our Primary School of St Thomas is having a school Mass on Friday 24th January to mark the Jubilee launch Day for schools.

Our Parish meeting this coming Monday evening (13th January) would welcome any more thoughts on how we prepare for and host our Shrine in this very special year.

## ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

**150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING: 13 January 7.30 pm** in Presbytery for celebration of 150 year Anniversary of the opening of St Thomas Parish Church.

### ST THOMAS PRIMARY SUPPLEMENTARY FORMS:

Fr Anthony will be available to sign supplementary forms on Monday, 13 January between 4.00pm and 6.00pm in the Presbytery

**100 CLUB:** The St Thomas' 100 Club is an easy way to support our parish in our efforts to raise funds. There are still places available. Forms available in the Narthex, on our website and from the Office. More info from Linda in the office.

The Church Social committee are holding a gift amnesty appeal for donations of any unwanted Christmas gift, this will be used to help raise funds for the church at future events. Items can left in the labelled box in the All Saints Chapel from the 11th Jan. Please see poster for more details

**PILATES CLASSES.** The Pilates chair and mat classes with Jennifer Bintley have restarted for 2025. If you would like to join the Chair class on Tuesday and Thursday or the Mat Class on Wednesday from 10h30 to 11h30 in the hall, please contact Jennifer via email [jcu.bintley@icloud.com](mailto:jcu.bintley@icloud.com)

### RECEIVING THE FRUITS OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY:- A STUDY DAY

Saturday 8th February 2025 10.30-15.30 (Arrive 10 for 10.30 for welcome and coffee) Entrance Free - including refreshments and light lunch

A day of information and discussion led by renowned Catholic commentator and Synod Expert, Austen Ivereigh covering:

What happened at the Synod meetings?

How can we take forward the vision at local level?

Registration : <https://Canterbury-synod-day.eventbrite.co.uk>

Contact for information: Daphne Ellis [daphnehellis@aol.com](mailto:daphnehellis@aol.com) or 07377 168174

**Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ retreat** for the bereaved - Aylesford Priory 21-23 March 2025 and 10-12 Oct 2025

**SVP says thank you** - The December Collection raised £1242.17. Thank you so much for your generosity and for other donations that we received. During December we gave out £1000 in supermarket vouchers and a £40 voucher to buy clothes. We are grateful to the 1485 Trust who provided half the funds for a single bed and mattress and a double mattress for a family and a washing machine and fridge-freezer for two other families. We also bought a washing machine, a fridge-freezer, a cooker, a tumble dryer and a microwave. A big thank you to the Lord Mayor of Canterbury's Christmas Gift Fund which enabled us to give 20 families a very timely supermarket voucher to help over Christmas. A parishioner's good quality second hand stair-gate and toddler cot bed are being put to good use in a new home. We are extremely grateful for all the support that we have received throughout the past year.

### Building a Better Marriage (BABM) – Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

To celebrate Jubilee 2025 one day Building a Better Marriage events will be held during 2025. The day starts at 9.30am and finishes at 4.30pm and is free to attend.

The day will be open to other deaneries in 2026 who have not experienced the event. To join one of these days please contact Carole on 07983 524 727 or email: [mfkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mfkent@rcaos.org.uk):

25 January - St Stephen Church, Welling

1 February - Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs

15 March - Our Lady Queen of Peace, East Sheen

12 April – St Mary Church, Croydon West

28 June – St Raphael Church, Kingston Upon Thames

5 July - St Thomas More, Dulwich

13 September – Southwark Cathedral, London

4 October – Holy Cross, Catford

1 November – St James the Great, Petts Wood

HCPT GROUP 587 Book now to join your 'Holiday with Our Lady' in Lourdes 15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August '25 staying at Hosanna House. £1150 includes flight, french airport transfer, full board accommodation with ensuite facilities, breathtaking views and tasty cuisine plus fully comprehensive insurance. (Own travel option £820) To find out more contact: Roxey 07852538576 or Annie 07866515797