

NEWSLETTER

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

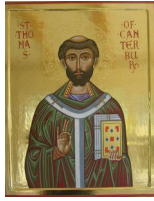
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

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

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN
1 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')

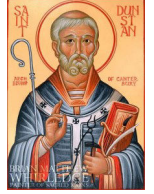
Parish Office open Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), Thurs 10am - 1pm

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: Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

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

Monday 20th Jan: Feria Mk 2: 18-22

12 noon: Sr Mary Ludovinia (Nazareth House)

Tuesday 21st Jan: St Agnes Mk 2: 23-28

12 noon: Sisters of St Clare (Largo, USA)

7.00pm: *RCIA - Hall*

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

Wednesday 22nd Jan: St Vincent Mk 3: 1-6

10.30- 11.30am There is **NO** Reconciliation & Adoration today

12 noon: Srs Bridie & Betty (Coolock Convent)

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

Thursday 23rd Jan: Feria Mk 3: 7-12

7.30am: Theresa Punnett - welfare

12 noon: Father Michael Stack

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass

Friday 24th Jan: St Francis de Sales Mk 3: 13-19

12 noon: Deceased Members of the Paterson Family

Saturday 25th Jan: The Conversion of St Paul Mk 16: 15-18

9.00am: *First Holy Communion Classes*

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Sean Clancy - intentions

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Michael Donovan - RIP

Sunday 26th Jan: 3rd Sunday (Year C) Lk 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

8.00am: Walter and Stella Augustine - RIP

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Nicola Batchelor - RIP

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

4.00pm: *Confirmation in the Hall*

6.00pm: Sheila Murphy - RIP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

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

10.00am: Jean Boyce - RIP

Sunday 26th Jan: 3rd Sunday (Year C) Lk 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

10.00am: People of the Parish

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 Ambroisine, 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, Ivy Gorman and Fr Paddy Canon

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

Next weekend: **18/19 Jan 2025: No Second Collection this weekend**

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 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 ...

I find it is always easier to focus on one thing at a time but life isn't like that. This weekend is a case in point. We seem to be juggling three themes. The Church calendar tells me that this Sunday is **Peace Day**. We are asked to pray especially for Peace on Earth. Pope Francis, in his letter for Peace Sunday, prays: "May 2025 be a year in which peace flourishes! A true and lasting peace that goes beyond quibbling over the details of agreements and human compromises. May we seek the true peace that is granted by God to hearts disarmed: hearts not set on calculating what is mine and what is yours; hearts that turn selfishness into readiness to reach out to others; hearts that see themselves as indebted to God and thus prepared to forgive the debts that oppress others; hearts that replace anxiety about the future with the hope that every individual can be a resource for the building of a better world."

Also this Sunday is the second day in the **Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity** which began on Saturday 18th January and ends on Saturday 25th January, the feast of the Conversion of St Paul. At the heart of our reflections for this year's octave of prayer is the question posed by Jesus to Martha: 'Do you believe this?' (John 11:26). This same question resonated throughout the deliberations of the first Ecumenical Council, meeting in Nicaea in 325, which gathered Christian communities from around the world to strengthen their relationships as the Church of Jesus Christ. This year we are celebrating the 1700th anniversary of this Council. On this Sunday, Fr Giovanni has been invited to preach in Canterbury Cathedral at their 11am Anglican Eucharist. I am attending the Unity service on Sunday afternoon at St Nicholas Church, Sturry.

Finally, our Archbishop has asked that a Pastoral letter from him be read out at all Masses. It is entitled "**Called to Bear Fruit**". He explains in his letter that our Archdiocese embarked on a process named **Called to Bear Fruit**. It is a journey of listening, collaboration and renewal in a spirit of synodality.

The first part of the process was listening to the hopes and concerns of the clergy. Now the Archbishop would like to hear from the lay people of the diocese. What signs of vitality do you see flourishing in this parish? Where do you perceive the challenges to be? How can we work together as clergy, laity, consecrated people and neighbouring parishes to make the Church's mission more effective in our local communities? The Archbishop wants you to engage in this 'Called to Bear Fruit' consultation. A booklet is available at all Masses this weekend which outlines six key themes for reflection. He encourages you to gather in small groups as may work best in our community. He suggests that these groups come together prayerfully to reflect on the themes and share your insights with the Called to Bear Fruit team. Everything is explained in the booklet. Your responses are asked to be submitted by 6th April 2025. This is your opportunity to help shape the future of our Archdiocese by identifying what the parish needs to evangelise, form disciples and inspire witness and how we can grow as communities of missionary disciples. Please do respond.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

POLISH COMMUNITY MASSES 2025:

Father Ryszard Hanaczewski will say the Mass in Polish at St Thomas' Church at 4pm on the 4th Sunday of the month Jan-Nov and the 3rd Sun in December as follows.

26 January; 23 February; 23 March;
27 April; 25 May; 22 June;
27 July; 24 August; 28 September;
26 October; 23 November; 21 December

Building a Better Marriage (BAMM) – 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: mflkent@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

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.

Archbishop John Wilson has written a new book entitled **The Romero Rosary**. With introductory chapters about St Oscar Romero and the rosary, this beautiful and creative new book contains reflections on the traditional mysteries of the rosary (*Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory*) and the **NEW Romero Mysteries** (*Charity, Compassion and Mercy, & Justice and Peace*) - all illumined for reflection and prayer by the words of St Oscar Romero. The book is available from Pauline Bookshops and online at www.paulineuk.org. The Archbishops warmly invites everyone to the book launch on **Wednesday 12 February 2025 at 6.00 for 6.30pm** at **Amigo Hall, adjacent St George's Cathedral**, Southwark, South London. SE1 7HY.

SOLITUDE GROUP: The Solitude Group will meet on every 3rd Saturday of the month in St Peter's Anglican church at 9.30am. The next meeting is 15th Feb

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 or 07377 168174

HCPT GROUP 587 Book now to join your 'Holiday with Our Lady' in Lourdes 15th - 22nd 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: Roxy 07852538576 or Annie 07866515797