

NEWSLETTER

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

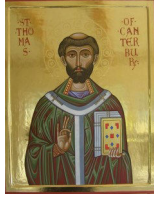
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

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')

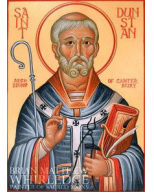
Parish Office open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

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): People of the Parish

Sunday 2nd Feb: Presentation of the Lord Lk 2: 22-40

8.00am: Mary Woodman Wright - RIP

9.30am: Patricia and George Gray - RIP

11.00am: Jo Slaughter DHS - RIP

4.00pm: *Confirmation Classes in the Hall*

6.00pm: Joseph Kunnasseril - RIP

Monday 3rd Feb: St Laurence of Canterbury Mk 5:1-20

12 noon: Karl Schlarmann - RIP

Tuesday 4th Feb: St Henry Morse Mk 5: 21-43

12 noon: Beata Golding and Family welfare

7.00pm: *RCIA - Hall*

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

Wednesday 5th Feb: St Agatha Mk 6: 1-6

10.30- 11.30am Reconciliation & Adoration

12 noon: Malcolm Cookson - RIP

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

Thursday 6th Feb: Mk 6: 7-13

7.30am: Rolf Leineke - RIP

12 noon: Theresa Punnett - health and wellbeing

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass

Friday 7th Feb: Sts Paul Miki & Companions Mk 6: 14-29

12 noon: Peter Hunt - RIP

Saturday 8th Feb: St Josephine Bakhita Mk 6: 30-34

DAY FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

9am - 10am: *First Holy Communion Classes in the Hall*

9.30am *Mass for the Opening of the Day on the Synod*

10.30: *Receiving the Fruits of the Synod on Synodality: A Study Day*

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Hannelore Leineke - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): William Richards - RIP

Sunday 9th Feb: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Times Lk 5: 1-11

8.00am: Sheila d'Souza - RIP

9.30am: Mehlin Family

11.00am: Elizabeth Browne - RIP

4.00pm: *Confirmation Classes in the Hall*

6.00pm: Father David Barnes - RIP

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

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 2nd Feb: Presentation of the Lord Lk 2: 22-40

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 9th Feb: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Times Lk 5: 1-11

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 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:

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, Fr Paddy Canon, William Richards and Sister Elizabeth Mullen

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

Andrew Dalton

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **01/02 Feb 2025:** No **Second Collection** this weekend

Next weekend: **08/09 Feb 2025:** For the work of the **SVP**



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1st March 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 (available from office, online or in the Narthex)

From Fr Anthony ...

The last prayer of the day in the Divine office is Night Prayer, known as "Compline". The word comes from the Latin meaning "completion". Sometimes I would listen on CD to the monks of Ampleforth Abbey singing this Office and imagine myself in the darkened Abbey as they sang the psalms after which they disperse and observe the magnum silentium, the great silence. It is at this Office that the Nunc Dimittis is sung. These words come from the Gospel reading for this weekend, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. They were spoken by Simeon "*Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum, in pace.*"

*"Now, Lord, you have kept your word:
let your servant go in peace.*

*With my own eyes I have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel."*

Because of its implications of fulfilment, peace, and rest, the early church viewed it as appropriate for the ending of the day. The Church prays these words of the Nunc Dimittis like Simeon, so that we may end our days and our lives in God's peace.

How do you end your day? Some people use the structure of the Office of Compline. Other use the Ignatius Examen.

Here is one structure you might like to use before you end your day and go to sleep.

Gratitude: Thank God for the good things that happened throughout the day, big and small.

Reflection: Acknowledge any mistakes or shortcomings and ask for forgiveness.

Peace and rest: Pray for a peaceful night's sleep and renewal for the next day.

Protection: Ask God to watch over you and your loved ones through the night.

Intercession: Pray for others who may need support or comfort.

Also, here are two short prayers that you could use before going to sleep.

Loving Lord, as I close out this day, I come before you with a grateful heart for all the blessings you have bestowed upon me. Thank you for the joy, the love, and the opportunities that came my way today. Please forgive me for any mistakes I made and guide me to be a better person tomorrow. I pray for a peaceful night's rest and ask that you watch over me and my loved ones throughout the night. Amen.

Father, as I lie down for sleep tonight, wash over me with the warmth of Your love. In Your mercy, soothe my pain, whether in my body, mind or soul. Grant me a restful night of sleep so that when I awake, I'm strengthened to do Your will. Amen.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2025

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: **HCPT GROUP 587** - Fund raising Barn Dance on 22 March 2025 in St Thomas' Hall. Quiz Night on 28th June - more details to follow.

RECEIVING THE FRUITS OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY:- A STUDY DAY
Saturday 8th February 2025 10.30-15.30 with opening Mass at 9.30am in church.

Cake Sale and Raffle on the 9th February 10:30am in the church hall raising funds for our parish youth to go to The Flame 2025 on the 15th March (for y9 to university age). Info <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/> or email ucmcanterbury@gmail.com. Donations of cakes and raffle items welcome on the day.

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

Pilgrimage to Walsingham: Join us on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham from 7 - 9 March 2025, led by Fr Mark Wharton. Limited places available. Contact Claudine Nutley: claudinenutley@btinternet.com for details.

Assisted Suicide: what you need to know, and what you can do

All parishioners are invited to a special talk on Thursday 13th February at 7.30pm at St Michael's parish hall, Chatham. The speaker is Dr. Cajetan Skowronski, a specialist geriatric and palliative care doctor in the NHS, and national media commentator. He will discuss the serious dangers of the assisted suicide bill, healthcare realities, and what we can do. Educational literature available. Refreshments served. Car park on site. Chatham train station 30 seconds away.