

NEWSLETTER

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

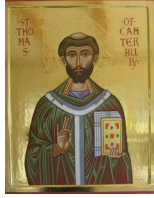
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

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

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN
1 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: herstden@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')

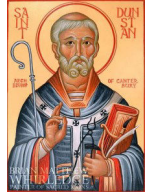
Parish Office open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

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): 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

6.00pm: Sheila Murphy - RIP

Monday 27th Jan: St Angela Merici Mk 3: 22-30

12 noon: Diane Silcock on her birthday

Tuesday 28th Jan: St Thomas Aquinas Mk 3: 31-35

12 noon: Margaret Smith - RIP

7.00pm: RCIA - Hall

7.30pm: Charismatic Prayer Group meeting in the Upper Room

Wednesday 29th Jan: St Vincent Mk 4: 1-20

10.30 - 11.30am Reconciliation & Adoration

12 noon: Lynne Rippey - welfare

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

7.00pm Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday 30th Jan: Feria Mk 4: 21-25

7.30am: Pauline Ryan - welfare

12 noon: Theresa Punnett - health and wellbeing

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass

Friday 31st Jan: St John Bosco Mk 4: 26-34

12 noon: Lord Lietch - RIP

Saturday 1st February: Feria Mk 4: 35-41

9.00am: First Holy Communion Classes and Parents' meeting

9.00am: Baptism Preparation Meeting

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Bill Anderson - welfare

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meeting in the Upper Room

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

6.00pm: Joseph Kunnasseril - RIP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

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

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

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:

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: **25/26 Jan 2025: No Second Collection this weekend**

Next weekend: **01/02 Feb 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 (available from office, online or in the Narthex)



This weekend is the sixth year we are celebrating the “**Sunday of the Word of God.**” Pope Francis has chosen as the theme this year the words of the Psalmist, “I hope in your Word” (Ps.119:74). It is a cry of hope: man, in a moment of anguish, tribulation, and confusion, cries out to God and puts all his hope in him. The Universal Church is celebrating 2025 as a Jubilee year with the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” “A jubilee, that knocks on the door every 25 years and prompts us to take life seriously, offers the opportunity to keep our eyes fixed on the hope that evangelical realism brings.” The Sunday of the Word of God once again allows all of us to take seriously Jesus’ invitation to listen to and cherish his Word in order to offer the world a witness of hope that allows one to move beyond the difficulties of the present moment. We need to cherish the Word of God and become familiar with the Word of God. It is an essential part of our liturgy. It prepares us to receive the Word

made flesh in the Eucharist. When the Word is proclaimed at the Ambo, we are encountering Christ Himself, the Eternal Word made flesh, speaking to us through the inspired words of Scripture. It is a sacred moment, a time to open our hearts and minds to the voice of the Lord, allowing His truth to penetrate our souls and transform our lives. May we always approach the Liturgy of the Word with reverence, attention and a desire to be transformed by the living Word of God.

We normally refer to those of us who read at Mass as “readers”. In Pope Francis’ Apostolic Letter *Aperuit Illis* (2019), he recognised the importance of the Ministry of the Proclamation of the Word in the liturgy. He called them “Proclaimers of the Word.” I would like to thank all those who in our parish who are Proclaimers of the Word” (Readers).

I encourage you to pray the Sunday readings in advance of the reading through schemes such as the St. Beuno’s Outreach weekly Prego leaflets, (<https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com>), Bible Alive, or *Lectio Divina*.

Here is one site that can give you an introduction to Lectio Divina, <https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-lectio-divina/>

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, Lyndhurst, is currently looking for:

- Teacher of Religious Education
- Teacher of French
- Teacher of PE (Girls)
- Part-time Art Technician



For more information, view our website: www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/whole-college/vacancies-2/

Please contact recruitment@srrcc.org.uk or phone 020 8325 4630.

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