

NEWSLETTER

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

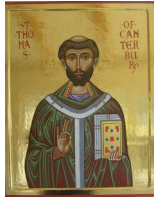
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

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')

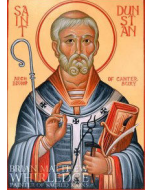
Parish Office open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

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): Magdalena Szydłowska - RIP (1st Anniv.)

Sunday 16th Mar: 2nd Sunday of Lent (C) Lk 9: 28-36

8.00am: People of the parish

9.30am: Chris Dyckhoff, SJ - RIP

Coffee after 9:30 mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: Anne and Maurice Silcock - RIP

6.00pm: Welfare of Kevin and Chrissie Nuttall

2nd Col.:
**CAFOD
Lenten Fast
Day**

Monday 17th Mar: St Patrick Lk 10: 1-12, 17-20

7.30am: Mary Reynolds - RIP

12 noon: Theresa and Marion Kelly and Maria Sadler - RIP

Tuesday 18th Mar: Feria Mt 23: 1-12

12 noon: Jean King - RIP

7.00pm: RCIA - Hall

7.30pm: Charismatic Prayer Group meeting in the Upper Room

Wednesday 19th Mar: St Joseph, Spouse of Mary Lk 2: 41-51

10.30 - 11.30am Reconciliation & Adoration

12 noon: Thanksgiving on the Feast of St Joseph

Coffee and Tea in the Hall after Mass

Thursday 20th Mar: Feria Lk 16: 19-31

7.30am: Patricia O'Keefe - RIP

12 noon: Mieke Da Gama - RIP

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass

Friday 21st Mar: Feria Mt 21: 33-46

The church will be closed from 8.30am to 11.30am

12 noon: Holy Souls

6.00pm: Stations of the Cross

Saturday 22nd Mar: Feria Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

9.00am: First Holy Communion Session in the Hall

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Aga Gordon's intentions

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meeting in the Upper Room

7pm: HCPT Fundraising Barn Dance

6.00pm (Vigil): Thomas Conway - RIP

Sunday 23rd Mar: 3rd Sunday of Lent (C) Lk 13: 1-9

8.00am: People of the parish

9.30am: Terry Spratley - RIP

Coffee after 9:30 mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: Nicola Batchelor - RIP

Baptism of Ignatius Ghiuzan during Mass

4.0pm: Confirmation Session in the Hall

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: Fr Paddy Canon - RIP

2nd Col.: **Poor
Parishes**

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 16th Mar: 2nd Sunday of Lent (C) Lk 9: 28-36

10.00am: Martina Morrissey

Fridays in Lent: The church is open for people to make Stations of the Cross from 3pm to 4.30pm.

Sunday 23rd Mar: 3rd Sunday of Lent (C) Lk 13: 1-9

10.00am: David Papa - RIP

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Janette Hughes, Jenni Aldridge, Josie Price, 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:

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, Sister Elizabeth Mullen, Joseph Devlin, Ben Wright and Mary Reynolds

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

Keith Taylor and Francoise Heaton

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **15/16 Mar 2025:** for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day of Friday, 14 March.

Next weekend: **22/23 Mar 2025:** Poor Parishes. - this collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the Diocese

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH 2025

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

From Fr Anthony ...

On the right-hand side of the entrance to Norwich Cathedral there is a recently carved statue of St Benedict which depicts him with a finger to his lips and holding his Rule. The first word of this Rule is 'Ausculta' meaning 'Listen'. "Listen carefully, my child, to the instructions of your master and incline the ear of your heart". Ausculta is the word carved on the open book that Benedict is holding. The first thing that St. Benedict wants to tell us is that if we are not attentive, we cannot receive wisdom but if we are paying attention, we will hear God's voice everywhere. In today's Gospel reading of the Transfiguration we hear how, as a cloud came and overshadowed the apostles, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" This is an encouragement to us to remember how important silence and listening are when we pray. Benedict's basic motivation for silence is the creation of an attitude and capacity for expectant listening in the heart. This kind of listening demands an inner stillness, a capacity to be attentive, to be present to the Word. As we enter our second week of Lent it would be a good idea to reflect on how much silence and stillness do we create in our lives to help us to pray. For me I can fill my day with too much listening to news bulletins, checking Facebook or YouTube. I love the quote from Fr Benignus O'Rourke, O.S.A. (in his book "Finding your Hidden Treasure"); 'Silence purifies, silence empties. By taking refuge in the silence and allowing our minds and hearts to become quiet, the stagnant pools will be freed and the stream of living water will flow again from the depth of our being.'

Lord give me the grace this week to create more silence in my day and to listen with my heart so that a silent listening heart can provide the soil in which my prayer can flourish. With a silent listening heart I can listen to Jesus.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 5th April 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)

BARN DANCE FOR HCPT GROUP 587 - Fund raising Barn Dance on 22 March 2025 in St Thomas' Hall. Quiz Night on 28th June - for booking please contact Annie Judge on

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration Day at The Friars, Aylesford 7 June 2025. Led by Archbishop John Wilson, we will gather as an Archdiocese at The Friars, Aylesford for a day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun. There will be lots of activities, for children as well as for adults. This will be the centre-piece event of the 2025 Jubilee in the Archdiocese of Southwark. There will also be a walking pilgrimage from St George's Cathedral in Southwark to The Friars (2-6 June 2025). **The event itself is free.** Our parish is putting on a mini-coach (32 spaces) for the day itself, so to join our parish coach, please contact **Linda in the Office**. The coach will cost **£20** per person. You can find out more about the event, including how to join the walking pilgrimage, and the wider Jubilee Year plans in the Archdiocese at rcaos.org.uk/jubilee2025.

Would you like to participate in silent prayer, on Zoom, during Lent? Every Thursday, 7.30pm

If you are interested and would like the Zoom Link, please email John Renn: jrennstthomas@gmail.com

COME AND SING: St Thomas' Parish Community Choir will come together again for Holy Week 2025. Past and new singers all welcome. Your voice is needed.

Rehearse:

Saturday April 5th, 2.00 – 3.30 in the **hall**

Saturday April 12th 2.00 – 3.30 in **church**

Liturgies:

Maunder Thursday 17th April starts at 8.00 p.m. (choir in at 6.30)

Good Friday 18th April starts at 3.00, (choir in at 2.00)

Easter Vigil 19th April starts **8.30 p.m.** (choir in at 7.00) **NOTE LATER LITURGY START TIME.**

Contact Lizzie at rikhs Canterbury@aol.com

Fr James' Ghanian Church Our Lent Project 2025

Fr James Buah-Nkwantabisa spent two months with us in 2024 as supply priest - he made a lot of friends and will be coming back in 2025. Please see display in the Saints Chapel..

CARITAS AND THE SANTA MARTA GROUP - ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY SEMINAR

Canterbury Deanery: Wednesday 2 April 2025 6:30-8:30pm St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, 59 Burgate, CT1 2HJ (entrance off Canterbury Lane) Find out more about human trafficking and modern slavery, the work of the Santa Marta Group, and what you can do locally

Many thanks to all who supported our UCM cake sale and raffle. A wonderful £227.24 was raised for HCPT Children's Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter.

DIARY NOTE: SATURDAY, 7 JUNE 2025: There will be no Masses, Reconciliation or meetings in the Church today as we are travelling to Aylesford for the Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebrations.

RITE OF ELECTION: For the second year in a row over 450 people will be received into the Catholic Church in our Archdiocese at Easter. Many of our group from St Thomas of Canterbury were among the. At a packed St George's Cathedral last Saturday (8 March), Archbishop John said: "Today, in a definitive way, as your Bishop, with responsibility for calling people to the sacraments at Easter, I say to each of you catechumens and candidates, come. Stop worrying. Stop second guessing. Stop quizzing yourself as to whether you're worthy. I'm telling you now. You are called by Jesus and in His name I am calling you". You can see photos from the service and watch Archbishop John's homily at rcaos.org.uk.

CALLED TO BER FRUIT: I am aware that a couple of groups of parishioners have been meeting together to discuss and share their thoughts that will help shape the future of our Archdiocese. Thank you. The deadline for the consultation is 6th April. There is still some time in the coming week to share your thoughts. There are some booklets still in the church that can help any group structure their discussions. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask Fr Giovanni or myself.

Lent Appeal 2025 - Jesuit Refugee Services: With your support, JRS UK can continue to accompany hundreds of people in detention every year, providing practical, pastoral, and spiritual support. For more information see www.jrsuk.net/ lent and www.jrsuk.net/detention