

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>

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)

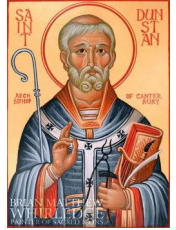
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: Mr J Rowarth (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

1East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: herstden@rcaos.org.uk



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): Mary Reynolds - RIP

Sunday 1st June: 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C) Jn 17: 20-26

8.00am: In thanksgiving

9.30am: *Going Forth Mass for First Holy Communicants*

Fabian Ward - birthday thanksgiving

Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: Joseph Charlton - RIP

12:30pm: *Baptism of Brooklyn Kimball*

6.00pm: People of the Parish

2nd Col.: **World Comm. Sunday**

Monday 2nd Jun: Sts Marcellinus & Peter

Jn 16:29-33

12 noon: Ken Duckett - RIP

7.00pm: Talk in the Church: **"True Devotion to Mary"** - The Easy, Short, Perfect and Secure Way

Tuesday 3rd Jun: St Charles Lwanga & Comp.

Jn 17: 1-11

12 noon: Danute - RIP

Wednesday 4th Jun: Feria

Jn 17: 11-19

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: Leelamma Kunnasseril - RIP

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

Thursday 5th Jun: St Boniface

Jn 17: 20-26

7.30am: Mgr Canon John O'Toole - RIP

12 noon: Mary Reynolds - RIP

Scripture Group meets in the Upper Room after Mass

Friday 6th Jun: St Luke Kirby

Jn 21: 15-19

7.30am: Mary Reynolds - RIP

NO MASS AT 12 NOON

Saturday 7th Jun: Feria

Jn 21: 20-25

DIOCESAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION AT AYLESFORD

NO SERVICES IN ST THOMAS' TODAY

1.30pm: *Ukrainian Orthodox Service in the Church*

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

6.00pm (Vigil): NO MASSES TODAY

Sunday 8th June: PENTECOST (C)

Jn 14: 15-16, 23-26

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Ofelia Salgado Gomez - RIP

Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: 150th Anniversary Mass with Archbishop John Wilson

Stefanie Hambrook - welfare

6.00pm: Shirley Quinones - RIP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 1st June: 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C) Jn 17: 20-26

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 8th June: PENTECOST (C)

Jn 14: 15-16, 23-26

10.00am: People of the Parish

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

Please remember in your prayers:

St Thomas': 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, Augustine Barna, Mary Lyons, David Lewis, John Mathew, Jean Matthews and Chris Smith

St Dunstan's: Kay Gandon, Miguel Vazquez, Yveline Vereeche, Pete Covill, Eileen Brown, and Mo, Doug, Ryan Joyce and Tom Hill

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

St Thomas': Sr Anne Brossa, Ivy Gorman, Fr Paddy Canon, William Richards, Sister Elizabeth Mullen, Joseph Devlin, Ben Wright, Mary Reynolds, Sylvia Quinones, Maria Goard, Marie Strong, Audrey Green, Sr Maria Douherty, Canon Francis Mooney, Fr Sunith Nonis, Mgr Canon John O'Toole, Sylvia Manuell and Betty Mills

St Dunstan's: Marion Nash, Lorna Hazelwood and Irene Foster

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

Mary Edgington, Sharon Dobson

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **31 May/01 June 2025: World Communication Sunday:** to support the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (BCEW) to promote the Gospel through the media on current issues and offer professional channels of communication, developing the public profile of the Church and its teachings by proving up-to-date new release, features and podcasts and information from the BCEW

Next Weekend: **07/08 June 2025: No second collection**

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2025

That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 14th June 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 ...

Next Sunday we welcome our Archbishop, John Wilson, who is coming to celebrate the 11am Mass on the Feast of Pentecost, the glorious feast of the birthday of the Universal Church. He chose this wonderful feast to be with us to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of our church.

In April 1875 a pontifical high Mass was celebrated by a Bishop Weathers who was an auxiliary bishop of Westminster Diocese and the sermon that day was preached by Cardinal Manning, Archbishop of Westminster. According to The Times report, "taking for his text the words of St. Paul, in the 4th chapter of Galatians, 'Jerusalem which is above is free which is the mother of us all', the Cardinal said that the freedom of the Church was essential for the teaching of Divine truth; that it was for the freedom of the Church, oppressed by King Henry, that Becket bled and that the cause for which St. Thomas died seven hundred years ago." The newspaper also reported that after the Mass, "there was a luncheon in the Music-hall, where about 500 sat down, the Duke of Norfolk presiding."

After our Mass next Sunday there will of course be refreshments in the Parish Hall, not on the grand scale of 150 years ago, but we will cut a cake and have a toast. We also plan to have a small exhibition of documents and items that show something of the history of our parish.

During the Mass the Archbishop will bless a new icon of Thomas of Canterbury written especially for our parish and church. The Archbishop will pray, "Today we venerate this image of your servant St Thomas of Canterbury, in whose honour we dedicate it." The 7th Ecumenical Council makes it clear that suitable images are to be venerated, and such veneration passes directly to the saint depicted, especially as St Thomas is the patron of our church and contains his relic in the city associated with him. We plan to put it in the Martyrs Chapel where it can be venerated.

There has been enormous change in our world in the last one hundred and fifty years. We have experienced Two World War and in the life of the Catholic Church there has been tremendous change. It was in 1891 that Leo XIII wrote his encyclical that laid the foundation for modern Roman Catholic social teaching. In 1962 the Second Vatican Council was convened by John XXIII and marked a milestone in Church history, setting off a process of deep transformation within the Church itself and in its relations with the modern world and other Christian Churches and non-Christian religions. The process is still ongoing.

As we prepare for the great feast of Pentecost let us ask the Holy Spirit to enable us to pray the words we hear in his Sunday's Gospel: "May the love which the Father has for his Son Jesus be in each one of us as we journey as pilgrims. May the Lord fill us with the Spirit and enable us as the parish community of St Thomas and St Dunstan in Hersden to be one in heart and mind in Christ."

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

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.

150th ANNIVERSARY OF ST THOMAS' CHURCH OPENING
Archbishop John Wilson will be our celebrant at the 11am Mass on Sunday, 8 June followed by a light lunch in the hall.
We are asking for donations of light/ finger food on the day please.
Suggestions included but not limited to: Savouries, Vegetarian, Crudities Dips, Desserts, Sandwiches, mini tarts, chicken goujons, fish finger s, assorted sausages, pizzas, filled rolls, etc. If you can help, please contact socialstthomasrc@gmail.com.
We also need help setting up the hall and tidying up afterwards.

BUILDING ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ASUOKAW, GHANA WITH FR JAMES
A huge **thank you!** for your generosity towards the collections for Fr James' church building project over Lent. We have collected £2751.13 so far which has been sent to help fund building materials. We are continuing to raise funds towards this project. Fr James has sent the following message to Fr Anthony: "*I am really humbled and grateful for this kind gesture of your parishioners.*"

SAVE THE DATE: The HCPT Quiz Night is on Saturday, 19th July in the Church Hall. Details to follow.

VACANCY IN THE DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE: Following the retirement of the current post holder the Education Service are looking to recruit a **Trust Relationship Officer** to support its schools and academies. Details for the post at <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/trust-relationship-officer-education-service/>

CONFERENCE ON PROSPECTS AND HOPE FOR THE PAPACY OF POPE LEO XIV To be held on Friday, 20th June 6pm - 9pm at St Ethelreda's Church, Holborn
Please see poster for more details.

Summertime 2025: 6th – 9th August: Altar Servers Trip to Westminster Pastoral Centre, £189. For aged 11-15.
We commend this excellent residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. In an event that has now gone on for more than 20 years, it is a few days for deepening one's catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. For more details of how to get to the venue, with a coach laid on at St. Anselm's Dartford, see your parish priest for a form, or contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, chaplain to the Guild of St, Stephen, Dartford@rcaos.org.uk, Tel: 01322 220075.

Important Diary Dates:

8th June 2025 at 11am: Celebration of the 150th year of the building of our Church - Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson

21st June at 12 noon: Celebration Mass for the 50th Anniversary of Canon Anthony's Ordination to the Priesthood.

Walk the Augustine Camino for Mary's Meals: Mon 1st – Sun 8th Sept 2025
Join us for the whole pilgrimage or walk with us for a day. During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese:
The Friars, Aylesford; St Jude's Shrine, Faversham; St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury; St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate
To book your place, or to ask any questions it, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk or 07593 447297.

SAVE THE DATE: As part of Jubilee 2025, our Translation Mass on Monday, 7th July 2025 at 7pm to be held in Canterbury Cathedral will be celebrated by the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía. The programme includes:
Mass: The Feast of The Translation
Blessing with St Thomas Becket's relics
Reception: Champagne & chocolates with Cert. of Pilgrimage.
Entrance is free but ticketed. To express interest, please use the QR Code.



Exciting Pentecost Events w Churches Tog. Canterbury

Fri. 6 June, 8pm-12am - Night of worship & prayer for community transformation, come Holy Spirit! New Life Hub (Roper Close CT27EP Onsite parking ± 40 cars.)

Sat 7th June Simon Redman leading gentle evangelism on the High street, engaging with people, offering prayer and invites to a service at St Andrews URC (14.00-16.00).

Sat 7th June St Andrews URC 16.00 to 17.30 'In Your Presence' led by King James - monthly worship service and testimonies from evangelism time. Prayer for God's blessing over our City and night patrol Street Pastors.

Sunday 8th June Canterbury Baptist Church 19.00 to 20.30. Roundup **evening celebration service**. Church leaders invited to stand together and pray.

Sat. 24th May, Folkestone, 10am-2pm. Jonathan Oloyede (NDOPW) and Aaron Berko (leader of New Life Church Canterbury) with African refreshments after.