

# 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](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)

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

Facebook:

**St Thomas of Canterbury**



Parish Priest:

**Canon Anthony Charlton**

email: [anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk)

Assistant Priests:

**Fr Giovanni Prandini**

email: [giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:markwharton@rcaos.org.uk))

**St Thomas' Catholic Primary School:** Head Teacher: **Miss Lisa D'Agostini** (01227 462539)

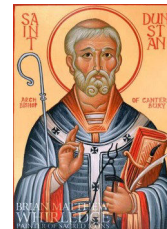
**St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School:** Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: [canterbury@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@rcaos.org.uk)



### ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): Ray and Betty Scott - RIP

2nd Col.: **Day for Life**

**Sunday 15th June: The Most Holy Trinity**

*Jn 16: 12-15*

8.00am: Ben Wright - RIP

9.30am: Ruben Ramirez Guerrero - RIP

*Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD*

11.00am: Exam success

6.00pm: People of the Parish

**Monday 16th Jun: St Richard of Chichester**

*Mt 5: 38-42*

12 noon: Ernest Lake - RIP

**Tuesday 17th Jun: Feria**

*Mt 5: 43-48*

12 noon: Holy Souls

**Wednesday 18th Jun: Feria**

*Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: John Hennelly - RIP

*Refreshments in the Hall after Mass*

**Thursday 19th Jun: St John Rigby**

*Mt 6: 7-15*

7.30am: Mary Brown - welfare

12 noon: Fr Anthony - 50th Anniversary of ordination

*Scripture Group meets in the Upper Room after Mass*

**Friday 20th Jun: St Alban**

*Mt 6: 19-23*

12 noon: Diana Turnbull - RIP

**Saturday 21st Jun: St Aloysius Gonzaga**

*Mt 6: 24-34*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: *Fr Anthony Jubilee Ordination - Fr Anthony's intentions*

*Refreshments in the Hall after Mass*

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Cookson Family welfare

**Sunday 22nd June: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

**(Corpus Christi)**

*Lk 9: 11-17*

8.00am: Sharron McLennan - RIP

9.30am: Mary Reynolds - RIP

*Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD*

11.00am: Aga Gordon's intentions

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: Nichols Family welfare

### 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 DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 15th June: The Most Holy Trinity**

*Jn 16: 12-15*

10.00am: People of the Parish

**Sunday 22nd June: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

**(Corpus Christi)**

*Lk 9: 11-17*

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 Ambrosine, Pauline Ryan, Mary De Wolf, Brian Collins, Louis de Marigny, Augustine Barna, Mary Lyons, David Lewis, John Mathew, Jean Matthews, Chris Smith & Tom Hill  
**St Dunstan's:** Kay Gandon, Miguel Vazquez, Yveline Vereeche, Pete Covill, Eileen Brown, and Mo, Doug, Ryan Joyce

**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: **14/15 June 2025: Day for Life:** Day for Life, is a reminder of the need to respect and protect the inherent value and dignity of each life. On 15<sup>th</sup> June, Trinity Sunday, we have the second collection for the Day for Life Fund. Every year the fund allocates over £200,000 in grants to organisations which promote respect for life in various ways. Donations can be also made online via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website, where you will find out more information about Day for Life.

Next Weekend: **21/22 June 2025: St Vincent de Paul**



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

Last month was the 1700th anniversary of the first great ecumenical (worldwide) council of the Church in Nicaea, now Iznik in modern Turkey. It was called by the Emperor Constantine when the unity of the church was seriously threatened by the teaching of a popular priest and theologian, Arius. He believed the Son, Jesus, was created by the Father, meaning He had a beginning and was not always in existence. This contradicts the Christian belief that Jesus is eternally begotten of the Father, not created. Arius had many followers and the support of numerous bishops and this was dividing the church. In response to his teaching the bishops meeting at Nicaea defined the relationship between the Father and the Son and so laid the foundation for the doctrine of the Trinity. They affirmed the co-eternality and consubstantiality of the Son with the Father, solidifying the Orthodox understanding of the Trinity. In a later century we have St. Augustine's understanding of the Trinity which emphasised its unity and distinctness. He described the Trinity as one God in three co-equal and co-eternal persons: Father, Son (Jesus), and Holy Spirit. He argued that each person is distinct, yet they share the same divine nature and work together in inseparable unity. This mystery of the Trinity we celebrate today. God as Trinity enables us to understand God's closeness to us and his desire for us to flourish. As Maria Power points out, "God is Father, the self-communicating source of life and love. God is Son who is the embodiment of that love for us in the life death and resurrection of Jesus and that God is the Holy Spirit, the love of God present with us today. It is the Spirit that prompts us inwardly to love God, each other and creation; guiding us, as it says in today's Gospel "into all the truth."

There is a saint, Elizabeth of the Trinity, who joined a Carmelite community on 2nd August in 1901 at age twenty-one. Her five short years in the convent were intensely happy for her. She wrote a wonderful prayer to the Trinity. In it she said: "O my beloved Christ, crucified by love . . . I feel my weakness and ask You to clothe me with Yourself; to identify my soul with all the movements of Your soul, to overwhelm me, to possess me, to substitute Yourself for me that my life may be but a radiance of Your life." She realised that we are tempted to not to allow ourselves to be loved by God or to fully accept the gift of God's infinite affection. And when we fall victim to this trouble always ensues. We begin to seek fulfilment in things that cannot provide it and we become vulnerable to dependency on people's approval and affection. We become unfree when we are not grounded and rooted in the ultimate approval and affection of God alone.

## ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

**International Mass:** Sunday, 13th July at the 9:30am mass we would like to acknowledge the international character of our parish by having readings & prayers in various languages. We would also like to have music from various countries. If you would like to take part, please email us at [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com). There will be an International bring and share lunch after the mass from 12-2 in the church hall. ALL WELCOME

**International Choir** we would like to have an, international Choir for our international mass on the 13th July enthusiasm is all that is required if you would like more information or to participate, please email [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com)

### Mindset Course, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 9.am - 5pm

Fee £40 Minimum. Use QR code to book.

Concessions available in the Church shop

'Learn how to beat stress, improve problem solving, enhance decision making, communicate better, trust your intuition, use whole brain thinking.'



### Sacred and Eucharistic Heart of Jesus: model for Catholic men

Men of the parish are invited to a special holy hour on Friday 27th June, solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Eucharistic adoration, Rosary, Sacred Heart devotions, and presentation by Alan Ashfield, Kent chairman of The Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration. Food and drinks served. 7.30pm onwards, St Michael's parish, Chatham ME4 6PU. Contact: [medwaycatholicmen@outlook.com](mailto:medwaycatholicmen@outlook.com)

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

**Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill** : The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales are encouraging the faithful and people of good will to write to their MPs and ask them to oppose the assisted suicide bill, which will have its third reading on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June. You can take action via this tool on the Right to Life website: <https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote> or sign a petition: <https://righttolife.org.uk/petitions>.

The Bishops are also asking you to contact your MPs asking them to vote against two amendments to the Crime and Policing Bill which would decriminalise abortion. The bill will also be debated earlier next week. You can take action through our website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/take-action-on-proposed-abortion-law-change/>

Thank you to all who contributed to the wonderful 150th celebration with Archbishop John last Sunday.

**MARRIAGE HELP** - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 0788 7296983

**Friday 4th July 6.45 pm** Barn dance to celebrate Father Anthony 50th year of Ordination. Free but ticketed event. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex BYO food and drinks. Teas and coffee served. Fancy dress (Wild West) optional

**Saturday 21st June at 12 noon:** Celebration Mass for the 50th Anniversary of Canon Anthony's Ordination to the Priesthood. A light lunch in the hall after mass. All welcome. Donations of items for the lunch appreciated on the day. Suggestions included but not limited to: Savouries, Vegetarian, Crudities Dips etc Desserts, Sandwiches, mini tarts, chicken goujons, fish fingers, Assorted sausages, pizzas. Filled rolls. We also need help setting up the hall and tidying up after. If you can help, please contact [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com)

**An Evening for Young Adults Inspired by Blessed Carlo Acutis:** Join us on **Thurs 26 June, 6:30pm** at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark for an evening for young adults (18–35; 16–17s accompanied), celebrating the witness of Blessed Carlo Acutis; including Adoration, Confessions, praise and worship with *Hakuna*, a talk by Anna Johnstone (former governess to the Acutis family), veneration of his relic with music from the Cathedral Choir, and a social to end. Encounter the joy of a soon-to-be saint who called the Eucharist his "highway to heaven."

**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, use tQR Code.



**MEDIEVAL PAGEANT** This year the Canterbury Medieval Pageant takes place on Saturday, 5th July. We are asking for volunteers to staff the entrance to the church and the hall activities from 10am to 5pm. The more volunteers, the fewer the hours each needs to cover so please consider donating your time. Contact Linda in the office on [canterbury@caos.org.uk](mailto:canterbury@caos.org.uk) if you can assist.