

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 Priest:

Fr Michael Etuka

email: michaelletuka@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Miss Linda Scott (based at St Thomas')

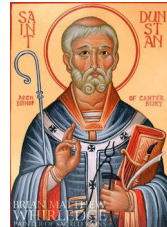
Parish Office open Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), Thurs 10am - 1pm

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:

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



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

2nd Col.: **SVP**

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 8th Feb: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 5: 13-16

8.00am: Holy Souls

9.30am: Elsa and Pino - RIP

Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: Fr Niall Greene - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Eloisa Roques, Eloise Sheridan and Joshua Sheridan*

3.30pm: *Confirmation Session in the Hall*

6.00pm: Thanksgiving - Alex & Mila Oligo

Monday 9th Feb: Feria

Mk 6: 53-56

12 noon: Maria Theresa Hutchinson - RIP

Tuesday 10th Feb: St Scholastica

Mk 7: 1-13

12 noon: Tim & Rose Pierce - RIP

7pm: *RCIA in the Hall*

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

Wednesday 11th Feb: Our Lady of Lourdes

Mk 7: 14-23

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: Alison Pierce - welfare

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

7.00pm: *Prayer and Pub*

Thursday 12th Feb: Feria

Mk 7: 24-30

7.30am: Kyle G-Kanny - Thanksgiving

12 noon: For All Parishioners of St Mary's, Penzance

Scripture group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 13th Feb: Feria

Mk 7: 31-37

12 noon: Rt Rev Richard Moth - strength in faith in his new role

Saturday 14th Feb: Sts Cyril and Methodius

Lk 10: 1-9

9.00am: *First Holy Communion Session in the Hall*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation*

12 noon: Tania Reji - birthday wishes

4.30 - 5.30pm: *Reconciliation*

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

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 15th Feb: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 5: 17-37

8.00am: Smith Family

9.30am: Ofelia Salgado - RIP (1st Anniv.)

Coffee after 9:30 Mass - all donations to CAFOD

11.00am: Lee Jordan - RIP

3.30pm: *Confirmation Session in the Hall*

6.00pm: Holy Souls

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026

For children with incurable diseases.

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 8th Feb: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 5: 13-16

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 15th Feb: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 5: 17-37

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, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, , 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, David Lewis, John Mathew, Jean Matthews, Chris Smith, Tom Hill, Geraldine Ross, Anne Robinson, Antoinette Wilde, Mary Connolly, Jenny Todd, Anne, David Man-Cheung, Margaret Berry, Alan Everson, Carol Cotton, Fermina Ortega, Alice Mathai, Elizabeth Murphy, Kevin Nuttal, Angela Nichols, Elizabeth Delaney, Diane Fenn, Paula Smith and David Evans

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

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

St Thomas': Sylvia Manuell, Betty Mills, Theresa Penman, Helen Evans, Constance Weight, Tom Carr, Simon Galt, Eugene Deque, Rafael Pascal De Leon, Aurora Dawson, Jean Lee, Judith Parsons, John Kirwan, Evelyn Brooks, Mary Lyons, Viola Bashir, Edward Cody, Noreen Egan, Hilary McKernan, Marcus Pinto, Felix Pineda, Christopher Young, Charlie Mount Sr Bridget Kennedy, Jean Crane, Florina Allcorn, Isabel White and Margaret O'Flaherty

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

Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in February 2026:

Joseph Devlin

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **07/08 Feb 2026:** Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Next Weekend: **14/15 Feb 2026:** Clergy Support Fund



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 7th March** 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

I am struck by the final sentence we hear in today's Gospel, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven." It reminds me of a great prayer by St John Henry Newman: "Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus! Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as You shine,

so to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be mine. It will be you, shining on others through me. Let me thus praise You the way You love best, by shining on those around me.

Let me preach You without preaching, not by words but by my example, by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do, the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to You. Amen.

We are called to radiate Christ. How do we radiate Christ? We radiate Christ when we have a deep real relationship with him. When we are in Christ and Christ is in us then our lives are transformed. We submit our whole selves to him and when this happens people will begin to see Christ in all we do and say. They won't be sayings of us "what a good person," what a saint," "isn't she good." No, they will be encountering God in us.

A great example of someone who radiated Christ was the American Dorothy Day. She was born in 1897 in Brooklyn and died on November 29, 1980 at the age of 83. She was a tireless advocate for workers' rights, civil rights, and the marginalised. She actively protested against wars, including the Vietnam War, and nuclear weapons, often engaging in civil disobedience that led to multiple arrests. The late Pope Francis recognised her in 2015 for her passion for justice and her ability to build a better future based on her faith. Despite a complex early life that included an abortion and a bohemian, sometimes chaotic lifestyle, her conversion and subsequent life of voluntary poverty and service makes her a relatable, modern figure of holiness. She famously said, "Don't call me a saint—I don't want to be dismissed that easily" Her cause for canonisation was officially opened in 2000. Her good works were only possible because of her life of prayer, fasting and the Sacrament. She famously stated, "Without prayer, how grim a journey".

She let her light shine before others so that we saw her good works and gave glory to our Father who is in Heaven.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

ASH WEDNESDAY: Wednesday, 18th February 2026. Masses in St Thomas' at 9.30am, 12 noon and 7.30pm.

NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 16 NOVEMBER 2025: An abridged version of the notes is on the poster in the Narthex - the full version is available on the webpage.

The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have one for parishes.

You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF or scan QR code. You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri **020 7960 2504** or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes. Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



Calling serving or retired SEAFARERS! 25 - 30 May: STELLA MARIS has a pilgrimage to LOURDES. Contact Christine christinerobinson2018@gmail.com

HCPT PILGRIMAGE GROUP 587: Book now to join your 'Holiday with Our lady' in Lourdes 22nd -29th August '26 staying at Hosanna House. £1400 includes flight, French airport transfer, full board accommodation and fully comprehensive insurance. To find out more contact: Roxy 07852538576 or Annie 07866515797

SIX BIBLE STUDIES ON THE LENTEN SUNDAY GOSPELS

Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions.

Starts: **Tues 17th February, 2026 @7pm**

Tuesdays: **17 Feb | 24 Feb | 03 Mar | 10 Mar | 17 Mar | 24 Mar (7-8:15pm).**

Free of Charge | LIVE on YouTube. Registration: comeandsee.org/lent26

STATIONS OF THE CROSS followed by ADORATION Every Friday at 6pm in St Thomas' during Lent

PRAY THE ROMERO ROSARY : The rosary will be said every Friday during Lent from the National Shrine of St Oscar Romero in St George's Cathedral at 5pm. Archbishop John Wilson will lead the rosary on 6th and 27th March.

HCPT Group 587 HCPT Fun Fundraising Fashion Show: Saturday 14th March 2026 1:30pm in the Church Hall. Tickets £5 includes welcome drink, nibbles. Raffle: Fabulous prizes to be won. Tickets in advance from Roxy Albert - roxyalbert6@gmail.com - 07852538576 or Annie Judge- anniejudge@hotmail.com - 07866515797 or using the link: this event is <https://wegottickets.com/event/690115> you can also use the QR code on our poster and flyers.

PREVIOUS YEARS' PALMS: Please could all parishioners who have palms blessed in previous years, bring them in and leave them in the box in the Narthex before Monday, 16th February. They will be burned for ashes for this year.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Young Adults

Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are invited to join Archbishop John on **pilgrimage to Lourdes**, from 7 to 13 June 2026. The cost is £789, which includes flights and full-board accommodation on a shared basis. Booking: www.tinyurl.com/lourdes26

Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are also invited to register interest for the **World Youth Day pilgrimage to Korea** in August 2027 at www.tinyurl.com/wyd2027

For information about youth activities for all ages across the Archdiocese please visit our website at www.tinyurl.com/scys1

Cakes of the World - Sunday, 15th February -10:30-12:30. The Social Committee is holding Cakes of the World, come celebrate our parish diversity and donate a cake from your favourite part of the world. Donations welcome on the day. All proceeds going to our parish. Socialstthomasrc@gmail.com