

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:

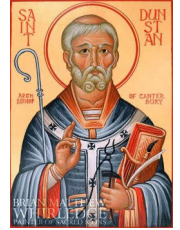
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

2nd Col.: **SVP**

6.00pm (Vigil): Mary Reynolds - RIP

Sunday 12th Apr: Second Sunday of Easter

Jn 20: 19-31

8.00am: Shirleybelle Corrigan - RIP

9.30am: Ron Cameron - RIP

11.00am: Tony Hickey - birthday

12.30pm: *Baptism of Axel Ofori Afriyie*

6.00pm: John Morrison - RIP

Monday 13th Apr: St Martin 1, Pope and Martyr

Jn 3: 1-8

12 noon: Caroline Stratford - RIP

Tuesday 14th Apr: Feria

Jn 3: 7-15

12 noon: Vincent Pierce - RIP

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

Wednesday 15th April: Feria

Jn 3: 16-21

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation*

12 noon: Dr Stuart Riess - intentions and wellbeing

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

8.00pm: *Prayer and Pub*

Thursday 16th Apr: Feria

Jn 3: 31-36

7.30am: Adrian Amarieli - RIP

12 noon: Requiem Mass of Owen Hodgson

Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 17th Apr: Feria

Jn 6: 1-15

12 noon: Requiem Mass of Patricia Martin

NO ADORATION TODAY

Saturday 18th Apr: Feria

Jn 6: 16-21

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: Tony Gibbons - RIP

2.00pm: Wedding of Valentine and Chinwendu

4.30 - 5.30pm: *Reconciliation*

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

6.00pm (Vigil): Chris Walters - RIP

Sunday 19th Apr: Third Sunday of Easter

Lk 24: 13-35

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Owen Hodgson - RIP

11.00am: Avril Rodgerson - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Gwendoline Saunders-Chan*

6.00pm: Maureen and Syd Pepper - RIP

2nd Col.:
St George's
Cathedral

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 12th Apr: Second Sunday of Easter

Jn 20: 19-31

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 19th Apr: Third Sunday of Easter

Lk 24: 13-35 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, 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, Angela Nichols, Elizabeth Delaney, Diane Fenn, Chris Smith, Paula Smith, David Evans, Gerry Buckles, Kathy Starnes and Patti Earl

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': 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, Florinda Allcorn, Isabel Whyte, Margaret O'Flaherty, Kevin Nuttal, Dorothy Saul, Patricia Martin, Miriam Methin, Owen Hodgson, Winston de Hoedt and Joshua John Taylor

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

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

Sylvia Manuell

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2026

For priests in crisis.

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **11/12 April 2026:** St Vincent De Paul Society

Next Weekend: **18/19 April 2026:** St George's Cathedral - this collection helps meet the cost of the upkeep of our Diocesan Mother Church.

From Fr Anthony

Thank you to everyone who made our Easter celebration such a wonderful event. It was a tremendous joy for us to welcome, at the Easter Vigil, six people who were baptised. We also welcomed seven people into Full Communion in the Catholic church. Alongside these two groups, seven adults received the fullness of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. Sadly, at the 9:30am Mass last Sunday, we forgot to give Easter eggs to the children. But no matter, this Sunday is the Octave of Easter so we will share eggs then. Today is the eighth day of the Octave of Easter as we continue the celebration of Christ's Resurrection with joy and faith. Let us persevere in prayer for the gift of peace for the whole world. This Octave of Easter is not "just another week" but a single great prolonged day, where the Church lives intensely the joy of the presence of the Risen Christ and the mercy that flows from his victory. Indeed, the Octave is part of the Easter Season, which is described as a "week of weeks" (50 days in all), culminating on Pentecost Sunday. Easter commemorates the central event of Christianity, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. For this reason, it is not limited to a single day but extends as a continuous time of joy. It is as if the Church were saying, the Resurrection is so important that it does not fit into 24 hours. The message of Easter is so extraordinary that we too can find it difficult to fully take it in. It is much easier for us to relate to the suffering of Christ than to the Mystery of His Resurrection. Perhaps this is because suffering is something we know so well in our own lives. That is why images of the Cross are so familiar to us while the Resurrection can feel more elusive. Artists have always depicted more image of the Cross than of the Resurrection. Like the disciples, we struggle to comprehend it. This is why the Church has given us Eastertide, a season when we have time to grow into the reality of the risen Christ.

Let us pray, God of eternal compassion, each Easter you rekindle the faith of us, your consecrated people. Give us still greater grace, so that we may all truly understand the waters in which we were cleansed, the Spirit by which we were reborn, the blood by which they we have been redeemed. Amen.

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, 2 May** 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)

St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury are seeking to appoint Foundation Local Governance Committee Members. Please contact us to discover more about this exciting opportunity at governance@kcsp.org.uk or use the QR code on the poster in the Narthex.

Overseas Development and Debt Justice: A Public Lecture by Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD, on Thursday, 16 April 7-9pm Grimond Lecture Theatre 3, University of Kent., CT1 7NG. Refreshments will be provided

HCPT. Next HCPT event Saturday 20th June Quiz Night.

UCM Canterbury Events

Food bank appeal and Cake Sale 26th April. Donations to the food bank can be left in the box in the All Saints Chapel from the 12th April. Donations of cakes welcome on the 26th. All funds raised going to the Canterbury Food bank.

Save the date: 10th May 2026 - Plant and cake sale.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage

Saturday, 11 July, St George's Cathedral If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know asap, **and no later than the middle of May**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, home address, parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Canterbury.

Spring Pilgrimage to Canterbury: April 18th 10.30 A.M. from St Mary's Church, Chilham via St Mary's Church, Chartham to Canterbury, finishing with evensong in the Cathedral. Contact: Eddie Gilmore: gileag@gmail.com www.eddiegilmore.org

FUNERAL MASSES:

The Requiem Mass for the late **Owen Hodgesson** is on Thursday, 16 April at 12 noon
The Requiem Mass for the late **Patricia Martin** is on Friday, 17 April at 12 noon

The world premiere of **The Canterbury Trails – Live This May!**

"From all the shires of England to Canterbury they come"

Step into a powerful new musical inspired by *The Canterbury Tales*—reimagined for today. Expect music, dance, story telling and unforgettable characters on a journey like no other.

St Thomas of Canterbury RC Church

Fri 15th May (7:30pm) & Sat 16th May 2026 (2:30pm)

£20 (£15/£10 restricted view) | Ages 10+ only (we love our children but this is not designed for them)

75 mins (no interval)

Created to celebrate the church's 150th anniversary

Written and directed by the our own parishioner, internationally renowned choreographer Sir David Bintley, with music by celebrated composer Colin Towns

Performed by our very own local parish talent

A unique blend of tradition and modern storytelling

Buy your tickets from the Church shop now – limited seats (200 per show)

A Day With Mary pilgrimages this year.

Pilgrimage to Fatima (8 July to 15 July 2026) Closing date 28 April 2026

Pilgrimage to Italy (1 September to 10 September 2026) Closing date 23 June 2026

Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

Churches Together in Canterbury News:

Worship event in Thanington, 18 April, 10 am to 12.30pm. Thanington is one of the big new housing developments presently and this is a great opportunity to come together to pray for all the new communities as part of the revival in our City.

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s and 30s) -Discerning God's Call in your life -15th - 17th May, Liverpool : The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). **For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org and to register: <https://bit.ly/Vocation2026>**