

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:

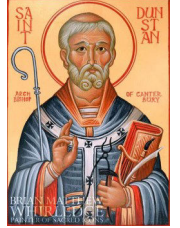
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): Andrew Peter Kanny - RIP

Sunday 31st May: The Most Holy Trinity *Jn 3: 16-18*

8.00am: Gerald Patrick Conellan - RIP

9.30am: Florinda Allcorn - RIP

11.00am: Fr Barry Angus - RIP

12.30pm *Baptim of Gianna Igunma*

6.00pm: Simon Hall-Raleigh

Monday 1st June : St Justin *Mk 12: 1-12*

12 noon: Joseph Charlton - RIP

Tuesday 2nd Jun: Sts Marcellinus & Peter *Mk 12: 13-17*

12 noon: Lisa Meenan - RIP

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

Wednesday 3rd Jun: St Charles Lwanga & Comp. *Mk 12: 18-27*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation*

12 noon: Isidro Gramaje - RIP

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

7- 8pm *Prayer and Pub*

Thursday 4th Jun: Feria *Mk 12: 28-34*

7.30am: Javier Castanon - RIP

11.00am: Funeral of Audrey Martin at Our Lady Immaculate, Whitstable

12 noon: Leelamma Joseph - RIP

Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 5th Jun: St Boniface *Mk 12: 35-37*

12 noon: Gail Fosrook - welfare

Adoration after Mass

Saturday 6th Jun: St Luke Kirby *Mk 12: 38 - 44*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: Mr and Mrs C McWaters

4.30 - 5.30pm: *Reconciliation*

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

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 7th Jun: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ *Jn 6: 51-58*
(Corpus Christi)

8.00am: Joyce Grimer - RIP (1st Anniv.)

9.30am: Ruben Ramirez - RIP (5 yrs)

11.00am: Angela Nichols - RIP

6.00pm: Mrs Phelps - RIP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 31st May: The Most Holy Trinity *Jn 3: 16-18*

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 7th Jun: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ *Jn 6: 51-58*
(Corpus Christi)

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, 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, Elizabeth Delaney, Chris Smith, Paula Smith, David Evans, Gerry Buckles, Kathy Starnes, Patti Earl, Alexander Oligo, Peter Bruff, and Rhona Rollings

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 Hodgeson, Winston de Hoedt, Joshua John Taylor, Anne Thirkell, Angela Nichols, Ashton Harrington, Audrey Martin, Diane Fenn, Elodoro Evangelio and Danny Rikh

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

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

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **30/31 May 2026:** No second collection this weekend

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2026

For the values of sports.

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

Sign up for Catholic Union Weekly Briefing.

www.catholicunion.org.uk

From Fr Anthony

This weekend we are moving from May to June. As parish priest, and with Father Michael, I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks for what we, as a parish community, have celebrated and experienced the past month.

At the Easter Vigil we welcomed the greatest number of Catechumens and Candidates into the Catholic Church, (nineteen people in all.) The last stage of this process was the period between Easter and Pentecost when they continued to meet and reflect on the implications of their baptism, reception into the Church, their first Communion and their Confirmation. We had a final meeting just before Pentecost when we celebrated Mass together and had a party.

Last Saturday, Pentecost Eve, Bishop Paul Hendricks conferred the sacrament of Confirmation on 16 young people. It was a very moving celebration. The next day, at the 9:30 Mass, the 38 children who had received Communion for the first time the previous week, celebrated a "Going Forth Mass" after which they had a party in the hall and their received their certificates.

A catechist is one who re-echos faith. I want to give a special thanks to all those parishioners who gave of their time to help prepare the young people and the children for these sacraments. They are our catechists. For children and young people their parents are the first educators in the ways of faith for their children. The catechists support the work of the parents. The adults who were in the Journey of Faith (which we refer to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)) were accompanied by catechists who helped them on their journey to the Sacraments of Initiation. All these events show how we are enabling people to come to know and follow Jesus within a loving Catholic community.

The other big event this past month was the world première of The Canterbury Trails. This wonderful event marked our final celebration of 150 years of the building of our Church of St Thomas of Canterbury. It was an outstanding and very joyous and moving event that displayed the power of Gospel parables and stories.

My prayer this weekend is a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer of gratitude for these celebrations and all those who made them possible. May God continue to bless and strengthen all those who, through the gift of themselves, their time and talents, enabled us to experience the joy of being a Catholic Christian and part of the parish family of St Thomas of Canterbury.

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, 6th June** 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)

A Day With Mary pilgrimages this year.

Pilgrimage to Italy (1 September to 10 September 2026) Closing date 23 June 2026
Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

St Thomas's Young Adults

Some members of the parish are seeking to set up a young adult's group. We are looking at a membership age range of between 19 - 40 years old. We are looking to a launch in early June around the feast of Corpus Christi. Please watch out for further notices, posters, and announcements over the next few weeks.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Young Adults

Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are 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

OPEN AIR MASS 28th June 2026 at 10am at St Anselm's School

Our next planning meeting is **Monday, 15th June at 8.30pm in the Presbytery**. We are looking for helpers to help set up for the Mass on Saturday, 27th June at 12 noon and to help clear up on Sunday after the Mass
ON THE DAY: Could parents please bring outdoor games on the day to keep children entertained. Football goal net and Badminton nets will be available.

Flame 2027 Book, Raffle & Plant Sale — Sun 14 June, 10:30am, church hall*

Help us send 20+ young people to Flame 2027 in London! We need to raise £400. The UCM is supporting this with a book, raffle and plant sale on *Sunday 14th June at 10:30am*. Please come along and support us on the day. Every book and plant bought gets our youth closer to this amazing event! To donate or get involved, contact us at ucmcanterbury@gmail.com More info: <https://cymfed.org.uk/>

Our Hall Toilets - a message from the Parish Finance Committee

Further to our message in last week's Newsletter, we would just like to let you know that we are currently talking with our contractors about managing the refurbishment work that needs to be carried out.

We will be refurbishing all three toilets — the male, female, and disabled toilets — at the same time. This will shorten the overall period they are out of action, simplify planning for our regular hall users, and considerably reduce costs.

We appreciate this will cause some inconvenience for a short while, but we hope you understand that it will be for the greater good in the end.

Public toilets are available directly opposite the hall's main doors in Canterbury Lane, as well as in the major shops within the central shopping area.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

HCPT FUNDRAISING QUIZ : Our next HCPT fundraising event is the Quiz Night on Saturday 20th June. Full details in Narthex.

800th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ST FRANCIS

In the coming months leading up to 4th October our parish will celebrate the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis and the relevance of his teaching for us today. Pope Leo has designated 2026 as a Year of St Francis. He has decreed a Plenary Indulgence, under the usual conditions, for anyone who visits a Franciscan Friary or a church dedicated to St Francis and prays/meditates on St Francis.

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/01/16/260116c.html>

We will make a day-pilgrimage to the Franciscan Capuchin Friary at Erith near Dartford to fulfil this act of grace on 22nd August 2026 as well as celebrating other events later in the year. Please see poster in Narthex for details. For more information, a booking form and reservations contact HELEN NATTRASS on email helennattrass@btinternet.com or phone 07803 612556

Junior Youth Club (children who have completed their first Holy Communion & are yet to be Confirmed). Next meeting Sunday 31st May from 4-5.45 in the Hall.

Volunteers' appreciation celebration Saturday 13th June 6pm Mass followed by a food and drinks in the church hall. To thank all our parish volunteers for all their hard work and dedication to our parish. All volunteers welcome to attend. Please RSVP socialstthomasrc@gmail.com