

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:

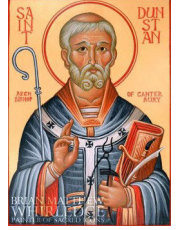
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

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): Hannah Scott - RIP

Sunday 21st Jun: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 10: 26-33

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: Thanksgiving - Vibal Family
with Children's liturgy during Mass

11.00am: Douglas Ward - RIP

1.30pm: Wedding of Josh and Laura

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: Pearl and Ravenna Wilson - RIP

2nd Col.:
Day for Life

Monday 22nd Jun: Ss John fisher and Thomas More Mt 7: 1-5

12 noon: Ricci Steel - RIP

Tuesday 23rd Jun: St Etheldreda

Mt 7: 6, 12-14

12 noon: Ann Silcock - RIP

7.30pm: Charismatic Prayer Group meets in the Upper Room

Wednesday 24th Jun: Nativity of John the Baptist Lk1: 57-66,80

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation

12 noon: Heath and wellbeing of Garrett

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

7- 8pm Prayer and Pub

Thursday 25th Jun: Feria

Mt 7: 21-19

7.30am: Patricia Metcalfe - RIP

12 noon: Intentions of Base Family (Alex, Rose, Agnes & Darren)
Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 26th Jun: St Thomas Garnet

Mt 8: 1-4

10 - 11.30: Baby and Toddlers Group in the Hall

12 noon: Sally Pilkington - RIP

Adoration after Mass

Saturday 27th Jun: St Cyril of Alexandria

Mt 8: 5-17

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Betty Frances Gibbins - RIP (1st Anniv.)

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meet in the Upper Room

6.00pm (Vigil): Filipino Community

Sunday 28th Jun: Ss Peter and Paul

Mt 16: 13-19

NO MASSES IN ST THOMAS' CHURCH

10am: Parish Open Air Mass (t Anselm's School)
- People of the Parish

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.

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 21st Jun: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 10: 26-33

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 28th Jun: Ss Peter and Paul

Mt 16: 13-19

NO MASS AT HERSDEN - only Mass at St Anselm's School

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, 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, David Lewis, John Mathew, Jean Matthews, Tom Hill, Geraldine Ross, Anne Robinson, Antoinette Wilde, Mary Connolly, Jenny Todd, 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, Rhona Rollings and Baby Raphael

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': 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, Danny Rikh, Pauline Ventress and Anne Queenan

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:

Theresa Penman

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **20/21 June 2026:** Day for Life - The Day for Life Fund assists organisations dedicated to protecting life from conception until natural death in a variety of ways.

Next Weekend: **27/28 June 2026:** No second collection



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 4th July** 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, you are all invited to come together as one parish family and celebrate the Feast of St Peter and Paul together in the grounds of St Anselm's School at 10 am. There will be the usual Saturday evening Mass at 6pm. The 10 am Mass in the grounds of St Anselm's will replace all the Sunday Masses in the church at St Thomas and St Dunstan's, Hersden. Why? Here at St Thomas of Canterbury parish and at St Dunstan, we are a community of communities. There are those of us who always come to a particular Mass each weekend, and we get to know some of those who also come to that particular Mass, but next Sunday, we have the opportunity to be together and celebrate; together, the Eucharist which is the source and summit of our life. It is an opportunity to express our belonging to the One Church founded by Christ and to celebrate this belonging. An important part of this day is that we will stay after the Mass, share food together. There will be activities for the children. All you need to do now is to pray for a good, sunny day.

In this Sunday's first reading, we encounter the prophet, Jeremiah. He had a tough task being God's prophet. Many did not want to hear the message that God was asking him to share. His life was filled with sadness and tragedy. His prophetic ministry from 627 to 586 b.c. witnessed the drama of sweeping international events in the Near East that ended with the capture and destruction of Jerusalem in 586 b.c. by the Babylonians under King Nebuchadnezzar, an event that Jeremiah had long foretold. He was stoned to death in Egypt by his own countrymen.

We are all called through our baptism to be prophets. What does it take to be a prophet? Being prophetic is about witnessing to the present truth and standing at the centre of that God-given reality. Sometimes what God wants to say to us and what we are called to share isn't always popular or acceptable.

One example of a prophet teaching is the recent encyclical written by Pope Leo. In it, he sets out the Catholic social teaching of the popes from Leo XIII to Pope Francis. He then shows how the dignity and uniqueness of every human person is challenged and threatened by the misuse of artificial intelligence. Do read it, and you will hear a prophet's voice that calls us to live day after day as faithful, ethical witnesses to the truth. It is challenging.

This week, we have received a letter from our own Archbishop, John Wilson reaffirming a message he gave five years ago and that he says remains essential to our identity as followers of the Lord Jesus. His message is: "There is no place for racism". Today he invites us all to renew our commitment to building communities where every person is welcomed, valued, and loved. Copies of this are available in the Narthex.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

Requiem Masses will be held in St Thomas' for the late Pauline Ventress on Monday, 6 July at 12 noon

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on Monday 29th June.

The Young Adults Group: The young adults group had their first meeting last Friday, 12th June. The next meeting will be on Friday, 26th June at 7pm in the parish hall. As well as social time, we will be discussing the meaning of prayer.

Save the Date: Mass of the Translation of St Thomas in Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday, 7th July at 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

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

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.

RAFFLE DONATIONS: We are seeking donations and gifts for the Open-air Mass raffle. Please leave these at the office or shop for attention Christine Robinson.

The Flame 20027 fundraising by UCM Canterbury. Thank you to all our wonderful parishioner who supported our event to send our parish youth to The Flame. We raised an amazing £405.50 with our books, plants, cake sale and raffle. All raffle winners have been contacted. Thank you.

International Mass Saturday 11th July 12noon mass followed by a bring and share lunch in the church hall. We would like to acknowledge the international character of our parish by having the readings and prayers in various languages. We would also like to have music from different countries. If you would like to take part, please email us at socialstthomasrc@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

Our Hall Toilets - Work starts on Monday, 15th June

We will be refurbishing all three toilets — the male, female, and accessible toilets — at the same time. The contractor, Holbrook, is planning to carry out the work as follows:

Stage 1: Leave the women's operational as a unisex toilet as everyone then uses cubicles so it is as private as possible. Then strip and refurbish the men's toilet and the accessible toilet;

Stage 2: Once the men's toilet and the accessible toilet are done they will use the men's toilet for the men and the accessible toilet for the women. Then strip and refurbish the ladies.

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.

June Junior Youth Club

Join us during our Parish Open Mass! After Mass + refreshments, we'll have fun games for children and parents too. All welcome!

Note: **No meeting** will take place in the church hall this month.

800th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ST FRANCIS

In the months leading up to 4th October our parish will celebrate the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis. Pope Leo has designated 2026 as a Year of St Francis with Plenary Indulgence, under the usual conditions, see <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 on 22nd August 2026 More information, booking forms and reservations contact HELEN NATTRASS on email helennattrass@btinternet.com or phone 07803 612556

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