

# 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 Priest:

**Fr Michael Etuka**

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

**St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher:**

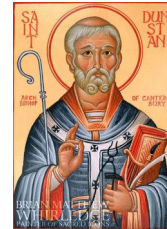
**St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: Mr J Rowarth (01227 826200)**

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN

East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH

Telephone: **01227 462896**

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



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

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**

**Monday 29th Jun: Feria** *Mt 8: 18-22*  
12 noon: Marcus Pinto - RIP

**Tuesday 30th Jun: The First Martyrs of Holy Roman Church** *Mt 8: 23-27*

12 noon: Eliodoro Evangelio - RIP  
7.30pm: Charismatic Prayer Group meets in the Upper Room

**Wednesday 1st July: St Oliver Plunket** *Mt 8: 28-34*  
10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation  
12 noon: K O Sebastian - RIP  
*Refreshments in the Hall after Mass*  
7- 8pm *Prayer and Pub*

**Thursday 2nd Jul: Feria** *Mt 9: 1-8*  
7.30am: Linda Cooke on her birthday  
12 noon: Maria & Franciszek Gniadek, Albina & Jiseph Wrona, Sophia Pacia and Wladek Nowak - RIP  
*Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)*

**Friday 3rd Jul: St Thomas the Apostle** *Jn 20: 24-29*  
10 - 11.30: *Baby and Toddlers Group in the Hall*  
12 noon: Warren - RIP  
*Adoration after Mass*

**Saturday 4th Jul: St Elizabeth of Portugal** *Mt 9: 14-17*  
9.00am: *Baptism preparation meeting*  
10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*  
12 noon: Linda Philbin - RIP  
4.30 - 5.30pm: *Reconciliation*  
4.30pm: *Legion of Mary meet in the Upper Room*

6.00pm (Vigil): Fr Theodore Martin Hesburg - RIP

**Sunday 5th Jul: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)** *Mt 11: 25-30*  
8.00am: Maureen Fane - RIP and consolation to her family  
9.30am: Becky Judge - RIP  
*with Children's liturgy during Mass*  
11.00am: Thanksgiving for good health - Joe Cawse  
12.30pm: *Baptism of Isaiah Schwalowsky-Davies*  
6.00pm: People of the Parish

### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY 2026

**For respect for human life.**

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

### ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

**Sunday 28th Jun: Ss Peter and Paul** *Mt 16: 13-19*  
NO MASS AT HERSDEN - *only Mass at St Anselm's School*

**Sunday 5th Jul: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)** *Mt 11: 25-30*  
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, 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, 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, Baby Raphael and Rosanna Lam  
**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, Anne Queenan, Fr George Marsden and Canon Alan McLean  
**St Dunstan's:** Marion Nash, Lorna Hazelwood, Irene Foster, Sr Marian McCouaig, Martina Morrissey and Lynette Dawn Reed

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

Christopher Carr

### ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **27/28 June 2026:** No second collection

Next Weekend: **04/05 July 2026:** No second collection

During the Month of July we have a special ongoing collection for **Peter's Pence** - donations may be left in the marked collection box in the Narthex



**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

I took Peter for my confirmation name. I was eight years old and didn't know at the time why I made that choice. Yet ever since that day I have come to love the character of St Peter presented in the Scriptures. He was originally known as Simon the son of John and the brother of Andrew. He was a fisherman from Bethsaida, a small community just north of the Sea of Galilee, and was married. The formal change of his name came later when Simon confesses the divine sonship of Jesus. In response, Jesus makes Simon the foundation of the future Christian community: "I tell you, you are Peter, (Rock) and on this rock I will build my church." Hereafter he is known mostly as Peter or Simon Peter. He was not to be one apostle among others, but the one who ranked "first" among the Twelve. Yet, even having experienced Jesus teaching and miracles over the three years, did not stop Peter from denying Jesus. After the Resurrection there is a beautiful reconciliation. Jesus had foreseen this bout with cowardice and had encouraged Peter to "strengthen" the brethren once he had turned back again after his fall. 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.

Paul was a very different character from Peter. Born Saul in the town of Tarsus, in the Roman province of Cilicia, he was a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, but he also possessed Roman citizenship. He was sent at some time to Jerusalem, where he studied "at the feet of Gamaliel," the famous rabbi and became a zealous member of the Pharisees. Paul thus received an excellent education and was one of the most erudite and learned figures in the early Church. He was present at the martyrdom of St Stephen and took a leading role in persecuting Christians. On his way to Damascus he was stopped by a vision of the risen and glorified Christ. With overwhelming clarity he understood that the Jesus, who was worshipped by the Christians he had persecuted, was the divine Messiah. This extraordinary event forever changed his life and mission. He made three missionary journeys. Thirteen letters in the New Testament are attributed to Paul, but scholars generally agree he directly wrote seven of them. The authorship of the remaining six is debated as they may have been written by his followers after his death. He was martyred around A.D.67 by Emperor Nero, most likely beheaded as reported by Tertullian.

Paul was not an easy person to get on with. He publicly opposed Peter at Antioch over a matter of religious hypocrisy and he had a major disagreement with Barnabas which ended them going their separate ways. Paul was deeply aware of his weaknesses and fallibility. What I found so attractive about Paul was his understanding that what was most important for him was Christ. "it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20) and we read in 2 Corinthians 4: 7, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us."

Dear St Peter and St Paul, help us as a parish community, to be humble and faithful disciples of Jesus.

## 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 29<sup>th</sup> June.

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

**Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea)** is seeking one volunteer from this parish please to help with Sea Sunday (which falls on 11/12 July this year) in this parish. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can kindly do this, please contact [roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org](mailto:roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org)

**HCPT QUIZ NIGHT:** Many thanks to all who came to the Quiz. A great fun evening was had by all. Special thanks to Anne and Graeme for lovely singing and good questions. We raised £652.00 towards our pilgrimage to Lourdes

**The Flame 2027 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.

The **International Mass on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July at 12noon:** Mass will be followed by a bring and share lunch in the hall. All welcome. Please see poster in the Narthex on how to get involved or email us at [socialstthomasrc@gmail.com](mailto:socialstthomasrc@gmail.com)

**HCPT PILGRIMAGE GROUP 587:** Book now to join your 'Holiday with Our lady' in Lourdes 22<sup>nd</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> 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 has Started

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.

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

### 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](http://www.tinyurl.com/wyd2027)

A Day With Mary is hosting an International Symposium from 29 July to 31 July 2026 at St Mary's Catholic Church, West Croydon Further information is available at [www.adaywithmary.org/symposium](http://www.adaywithmary.org/symposium)

## ST DUNSTAN'S PARISH MATTERS

**A Requiem Mass** will be held in St Dunstan's for the late Lynette Dawn Reed on Wednesday, 8 July at 1.30pm