

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:

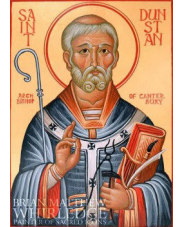
St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)

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): 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

Monday 6th Jul: St Maria Goretti

Mt 9: 18-26

12 noon: Requiem Mass of Pauline Ventress

Tuesday 7th Jul: The Translation of St Thomas

Mt 9: 32-38

12 noon: Lynne - in need of healing

7.30pm: Mass of the Translation in Canterbury Cathedral (*Doors open 7.00pm*)

Wednesday 8th July: Feria

Mt 10: 1 - 7

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation*

12 noon: Betty Scott - RIP

Refreshments in the Hall after Mass

7- 8pm *Prayer and Pub*

Thursday 9th Jul: St Augustine Zhao Rong

Mt 10: 7 -15

7.30am: Beverley O'Grady - RIP

12 noon: Kathy - wellbeing

Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 10th Jul: Feria

Mt 10: 16-23

10 - 11.30: *Baby and Toddlers Group in the Hall*

12 noon: Claire - in need of healing

Adoration after Mass

7.00pm: *Young people's group in the Hall*

Saturday 11th Jul: St Benedict

Mt 19: 27-29

9.00am: *Baptism preparation meeting*

10.30 - 11.30am: *Reconciliation and Adoration*

12 noon: International Mass and lunch

Alex and Mila Oligo - wedding anniversary

4.30 - 5.30pm: *Reconciliation*

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

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 12th Jul: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 13: 1-23

8.00am: Sue Smith - RIP and consolation of her family

9.30am: Tsige Buta - RIP (7th Anniv.)

with Children's liturgy during Mass

11.00am: Eliodoro Evangelio - RIP

6.00pm: Dan Rikh - RIP

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 5th Jul: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 11: 25-30

10.00am: People of the Parish

Wednesday, 8th July:

1.30pm: Requiem Mass for the late Lynette Dawn Reed

Sunday 12th Jul: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Mt 13: 1-23

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, 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, 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, Canon Alan McLean, Marjery Craig and Una Harris

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: **04/05 July 2026: CAFOD: Venezuela Earthquake Appeal**

Next Weekend: **11/12 July 2026: Stella Maris (Sea Sunday)**

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 or donated on the Pay Machines

From Fr Anthony

As a priest I am often be called to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in hospital or people's homes. The ritual I use gives today's Gospel as one of the scripture passages that can be read. Because I have used it so often I now know these words of St Matthew off by heart. These words have become a great comfort and encouragement to me. "Come to me you who labour and are over burdened and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me that I am gentle and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls. My yoke is easy and my burden light".

The assurance that Jesus gives us is not that he will do away with anything that burdens us or that all our worries and anxieties will disappear. He is to saying that being his disciple is easy. You often hear the criticism that people make of religion is that it is used by people as a crutch or an escape from reality. What Jesus promises in this passage today is that, if we take on his yoke, we will find rest for our souls because his yoke is easy because it enables us to carry his burden. The yoke he is speaking of is the yoke of being a follower of Christ. At the time of Christ a load bearing yoke was a carved beam laid across the back of the neck with chains or suspension ropes at each end. People used them for hoisting and carrying heavy objects. Jesus spoke of his yoke as an easy yoke. It is his way of saying that being his disciple is not effortless but neither is it an exhausting burden. He is promising to walk beside with us and hold us up so that we can face and bear our responsibilities and we will find rest for our souls.

Lord give me the grace to take up the challenge of accepting the yoke that your son Jesus is offering me. "A yoke that is easy, restful and ultimately liberating." Amen.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

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.

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

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

MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY: The clergy of the Canterbury and Thanet Deaneries invite you to a Mass on Thursday, 9th July, 12.30 pm, in Broadstairs, Our Lady Star of the Sea, CT10 2RH. We will pray for all those who, having served the people in our parishes during their ministry, have died. Our prayers are a sign of appreciation for their service to the Lord Jesus and for the legacy they helped build.

The **funeral service** for the late **Anne Queenan** is to be held at New Milton Crematorium (New Milton BH25 5FH) on Wednesday 8th July at 9:30am, with a wake afterwards at Carey's Manor Hotel, Lyndhurst Road, Brockenhurst SO42 7RH

Live streaming for the Mass of the Translation at Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday, 7 July 2026. Mass starts at 7.30pm. The Livestream login is:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPWrcHf2bX_bBSDBxWreLQzs630yXR13Q

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 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.

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



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 1st August** 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)

Donate to the CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal today: cafod.org.uk/Venezuela or call 0300 999 0030 or scan the QR code or place a CAFOD Gift Aid Envelope or cash into the 2nd Collection this weekend (4/5 July 2026). Or use the Pay Machines in the Church



Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea)

Our Parish Representative, Christine Robinson, will be speaking at all Masses next weekend, 11/12 July about the important work done by Stella Maris. There will be retiring collection for Stella Maris on that weekend



The **International Mass on Saturday, 11th 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

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.

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

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

SAVE THE DATE AND OFFER YOUR LOVING SERVICE: On 5th December, the CTC (Christians Together Canterbury) Shine Your Light event takes place in Rose Square. Last year we had representatives from 10 churches playing contemporary worship, sharing the good news, giving out free bibles, helping with refreshments, kids face painting and sharing the good news and praying for passers by. We are looking to build on this and would love your involvement using your special gifts. We have many wonderful churches in the City, but there is a call to reach those who don't come to our churches, will you be involved? An initial early call to think ahead and if interested in involvement contact Sophie at sophm@hotmail.com

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