

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**

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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 James Yakubu (MSP)

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Mrs H Seager-Fleming (01227 462539)

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



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): Euvon King - RIP

Sunday 18th Oct: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Times Mt 22: 15-21

8.00am: Thanksgiving

9.30am: Richard Corfield -RIP
with Children's Liturgy

11.00am: People of the Parish

6.00pm: Philip & Thresiamma, & Sebastian & Rosamma - RIP

2nd Col.: World
Missions (Missio)

Monday 19th Oct: St Paul of the Cross

Lk 12: 13-21

12 noon: Angela and Family - welfare

Tuesday 20th Oct: Feria

Lk 12: 35-38

12 noon: Margaret Fielding - RIP

7.00pm: RCIA in the Hall

7.30pm: Charismatic Prayer Group meets in the Upper Room

Wednesday 21st Oct: St Margaret Clitherow

Lk 12: 39-48

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Anthony Smith - welfare

7.00pm: Prayer and Pub

Thursday 22nd Oct: St John Paul II, Pope

Lk 12: 49-53

7.30am: William McClelland (FOSS) - RIP

12 noon: Thanksgiving - Scott Family

Scripture Group in Upper Room after Mass (byo lunch)

Friday 23rd Oct: St John of Capistrano

Lk 12: 54-59

12 noon: P J Kiernan - RIP

Adoration after Mass

7.00pm: Young Adults meeting in the Hall

Saturday 24th Oct: St Anthony Mary Claret

Lk 13: 1-9

10.30 - 11.30am: Reconciliation and Adoration

12 noon: Charles and Victoria O'Grady - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

4.30pm: Legion of Mary meet in the Upper Room

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 25th Oct: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Times Mt 22: 34-40

8.00am: Jack Haley's intentions

9.30am: Fidel Ricofuerdo - RIP
with Children's Liturgy

11.00am: Filipino Community

12.30pm: Baptism of Beatrix Wilson

4.00pm: Polish Community Mass

6.00pm: Strien Family - welfare

2nd Col.: St
Vincent de Paul

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2026

For mental health ministry.

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 18th Oct: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Times Mt 22: 15-21

10.00am: People of the Parish

Sunday 25th Oct: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Times Mt 22: 34-40

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, 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, Jenny Jones, Ann Hill, Honor Blake, Tony Grace and Brigitte Pachot-Hyde

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': 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, Una Harris, Peter Bruff, Paula Smith, Heather Dandison, Ann Pereira, Mark Witz, Fr Tom Scannell, Gerald Reilly and Peter Darling

St Dunstan's: Marion Nash, Lorna Hazelwood, Irene Foster, Sr Marian McCouaig, Martina Morrissey and Lynette Dawn Reed, Sr Margaret Rose Hughes, Sr Bridgid Kennedy and Sr Bernadine Corcoran

Please pray for those with 1st anniversaries in October 2026:

John Kirwan, Evelyn Brooks Judith Parsons, Baby Jude Sutter, Viola Bashir and Edward Cody

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **17/18 October 2026:** World Missions (Missio)

Next Weekend: **24/25 October 2026:** St Vincent De Paul



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 7th November** 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 ...

Eight Mission Impossible films have featured Tom Cruise. The premise centres on Ethan Hunt, an elite agent within the Impossible Missions Force (IMF), a covert U.S. agency. He must evade capture and apply advanced tradecraft to halt global disasters. Before the cinema releases, a television series of the same title ran for seven series between 1966 and 1973. This Sunday marks World Mission Day, the centenary of the event founded by Pius IX. Pope Leo has selected the theme "One in Christ, united in mission". The true mission we share is not impossible. What is this mission if we choose to accept it? Our task is to proclaim the name, teaching, life, promises, kingdom, and mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God. We will not need advanced tradecraft to carry it out. In his letter for this Sunday Pope Leo reminds us that authentic evangelisation starts in each person's heart. Above all, we must be united in Christ and remain in him. We might ask, "In my daily life, is my focus on the Lord? Is Jesus truly the centre of my life, of every word, action, and relationship, prompting us to say with wonder". "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2:30)? In the films, Ethan Hunt relies on a small team. For our mission, we are all called to unite and collaborate. This does not imply uniformity - everyone has different gifts for the same aim, which is to make Christ's love visible and invite all to meet him.

Here is Pope Leo's prayer for us to say:

Holy Father, make us one in Christ, rooted in his love that unites and renews. May all members of the Church be united in mission, open to the Holy Spirit, bold in bearing witness to the Gospel, proclaiming and daily embodying your faithful love for all creatures.

Bless all missionary men and women, support them in their efforts, and watch over them in hope!

Mary, Queen of Missions, accompany our work of evangelisation in every corner of the earth. Make us instruments of peace and grant that the whole world may recognise in Christ the light that saves. Amen.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

PARISH HOME VISITS

If anyone knows of a person/s who would like a pastoral visit, please give their details (with their consent) to the parish office. Name, address, contact details. It could be that the person is elderly, unwell, lives alone, needs the sacraments, or would just like a visit. The visitor may be one of the priests or a parishioner/s on behalf of the parish priest.

QUIZ NIGHT

A fun family evening Saturday 7th November at 7:00pm in the Church Hall. Bring a friend or join a table/team (max 8 per table). BYO drinks and food. Tea, coffee and nibbles provided on the night. Raffle and prize for the winner. Advance booking is advised. Tickets: £5 Adult and £1 Child by emailing socialstthomasrc@gmail.com. All funds raised are going to our parish.

FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING

We need more fire marshals to cover all our weekend Masses. Further training - only an hour - is being offered by our Archdiocese H&S representative on Monday 19th October 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall. I would be very grateful if more people could attend to fill this important role for us. Fr Anthony

SALE THIS SUNDAY: This Sunday, 18th October 10:30- 12:30 there will be a cake, books and Plant sale in the church hall (donations of items welcome on the day) raising funds for the Union of Catholic Mothers Canterbury

HCPT BARN DANCE: Saturday, 14 November in the Church hall from 7pm to 10pm with live band "Rejigged Ceilidh Band". Bring your own food and drink. Water, tea and coffee provided. Entrance £13 (U14 - £6). Tickets reserved in advance from Annie on 07866 515797 or email: anniejudge@hotmail.com

St Thomas Stay and Play Group

A huge thank to all parishioners who supported our fundraising event. We are delighted to share that we raised **£383!!!** Thank you so much for your generosity and, please, keep our group in your prayers. All proceeds will go towards equipment for the group.

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School open mornings for prospective intake of September 2027 on Thursday 5th Nov and Thursday 12th Nov at 9.30am for approx. 1 hour. Please book your space via the school office on 01227 462539.

A Day With Mary at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 7 November 2026 (9.45am to 5.00pm). The Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster will be the Celebrant & Preacher at 10.30am Cathedral Mass on that day. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The parish **Annual General Meeting** will be on **Sunday 15th November at 12.15**. All are welcome.

John Renn, Chair, and Fr. Anthony

BOOKMARKS: There are beautiful bookmarks of St Augustine of Canterbury and St Gregory the Great, depicting our stained glass windows and including a brief biography of each Saint on the reverse available for £2 each in our Parish Shop.

Thank you! to everyone who donated Food items to our appeal in aid of Catching Lives at the **Harvest Festival on 11th October**. We raised £80 in our cake sale for this amazing charity.

FEAST OF ST JUDE: 24, 25 and 28 October 2026. 34 Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent, ME13 7JW. See poster in Narthex for details and contact information

We are 'One in Christ, united in mission'

This year we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday! On **18 October**, we are encouraged to join together in prayer and giving with the entire Catholic Church throughout the world.

Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme '**One in Christ, united in mission**' and he reminds us that mission is lived by witnessing to God's love. Being 'one in Christ' calls us to keep Our Lord at the centre of our lives and communities, at the centre of every word, action and relationship. And our mission is to proclaim, live out and share God's faithful love.

PROMISE AUCTION 24th October, 7pm in the church hall **there will be an Auction of Promises and other items in the church hall. Available on the night, light snacks and nibbles. Free entry. There will be lots of fun with varied and interesting lots and many one-off, not-to-be missed opportunities.**

The organisers are seeking promises from our parish community so if you can offer a service or an item for sale, they would be very interested to hear from you. Contact socialstthomasrc@gmail.com or the church office. It will be fun watching us all bid for the lots. All funds raised going to our parish. Sign up forms in the Narthex.

FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION - 2027 APPLICATIONS

Forms for children (Year 3 & above) seeking to prepare for First Holy Communion in 2027 are available in the Narthex, on the website and from the office.

Closing date for return of forms: Sunday, **8th November 2026**