

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

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17 September 2023 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sat 16 Sts Cornelius & Cyprian, Martyrs

5.45-6.15pm Confessions

6.30pm Sarah & Joseph Harris (wedding day)

Sun 17 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Evangelii Gaudium (Home Mission) Sunday

9am Jason, Nicola & premature baby Oscar- welfare

11am People of the Parish

Mon 18 St Edith of Kemsing

12noon Holy Souls

Tues 19 St Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop

9.30am Alex Grant RIP (1st anniversary)

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 20 St Andrew Kim & Companions, Martyrs

No Mass today

Thurs 21 St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

12noon Lily Bradley RIP (1st anniversary)

Fri 22 Funeral Mass

12 noon Peter Ashton RIP

Sat 23 St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

5.45-6.15pm Confessions

6.30pm Michael Patrick Shields RIP

Sun 24 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

9am People of the Parish

11am Stuart Allen RIP

THE WORD OF GOD: 24th Sunday (A), p651

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7

Resp Psalm 102: The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Speak, Lord, your servant is
listening: you have the message of eternal life.
ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September: For people living on the margins We pray for people living on the margins of society, in inhumane conditions; may they not be overlooked by

institutions and may they never be considered of lesser importance.

CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation):
Saturdays 5.45-6.15pm, also usually after Sunday & Weekday Masses. Please do not hesitate to ask for Brian.

Sick & housebound parishioners: please keep in your prayers all who are sick and housebound and all who have requested our prayers, especially Paul Dale & Deacon Andrew Bishop. Please continue to pray for the good health of Pope Francis.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Peter Ashton** who died on 12 August 2023. Peter's Funeral Mass is here at 12noon on Friday 22 September, followed by a service at Barham Crematorium at 2pm. Please also pray for **Danielle Middleton** who died on 4 September 2023. Danielle's Funeral Mass is here at 1100am on Monday 25 September, followed by a service at Barham Crematorium at 12.40pm. Please also keep the families of Peter and Danielle in your prayers.

Refreshments after the 9 & 11 am Sunday Masses are served in the Becket Centre. Please do join us for a cup of coffee.

Mass Intention envelopes are at the back of the church: Please write down the intention (for example, someone who has died), date & time preferred, contact name **and number**, and include any offering (Mass stipend) you wish to give. **If you know the dates of Masses you wish to request (even a few months in advance), please do not delay.**

The weekly newsletter is on our website:

<https://stthomasdeal.org/>

Evangelii Gaudium 17 September 2023

Home Mission Sunday

We are certainly in mission territory in England & Wales. What can we do to make the Good News of Jesus Christ more widely known, to encourage Catholics (young and not so young) to return to Mass, to reach out to all in need, to listen? Some suggestions: [1] PRAYER – times during the week for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; [2] PARISH SYNOD MEETINGS to coincide with the SYNOD in Rome in October on LISTENING to all voices in the Church – to discuss challenges and opportunities for us as a parish; [3] CONSULTATION ON SATURDAY EVENING MASS TIME: is 6.30pm too late, especially during the winter months? Would 5 or 5.30pm be better, thinking also of younger families and all involved in sports on Sundays?

Parish News

Safeguarding The next few months will see us processing DBS checks for all Catechists and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Catechists and Ministers will be contacted directly.

Junior Church (Children's Liturgy) For children in school Year 2 and below at the 9am Sunday Mass. Please encourage families with young children to attend this Mass and join in Junior Church.

Flower Team New members needed! Training and support can be given to first time flower arrangers! Please contact Sue Wainwright (07966 502703).

We welcome Fr John Panario, Dean of the Dover Deanery and parish priest of Our Lady of Dover, Buckland, who is here for the 6.30pm Mass on 16 September. I am in Stroud for a wedding.

Deal Area foodbank: Items currently needed are Squash, UHT milk, ketchup, biscuits, tinned vegetables, custard, curry sauce. Very many thanks.

Sacred Heart Chapel All welcome to pray the Rosary on Tuesdays at 11am.

Parish Car Park Tidy Up: NEXT Saturday 23 September 10am-1pm. If you can, please come along with tools and bags for weeds, rubbish, etc. Whatever time you can give is greatly appreciated.

Bishop Paul Hendricks will join us for the 11am Mass on Sunday 22 October 2023, during which Fr Brian will make his Profession of Faith as Parish Priest.

Deal Hospital Fete Thank you to everyone. Close to £6000 has been raised to date. A new defib machine will be purchased with the proceeds.

St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover Y6 Open Evening on Wednesday 27 September 5:00-7:00pm. Open Mornings will be held the following week – 2-6 October 9:00-9:45. St Edmund's is our successful Catholic Senior School: www.st-edmunds.com

Diocesan & National News

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Kevin St Aubyn who died on 9 September 2023. Fr Kevin retired in 2020 after many years as parish priest of Our Lady Immaculate, Whitstable.

Annual Mass Count will take place over the four weekends: 23/24 Sept, 30 Sept/1 Oct, 7/8 & 14/15 Oct. Collectors are asked to count all in church at all Masses over these weekends and let Fr Brian know the numbers. This is required by our diocese and our Bishops' Conference.

Kent Catholic Schools Partnership Annual Mass for the Academic Year 2023-2024 at Aylesford Priory on Wednesday, 27 September 2023 at 10am. All welcome.

Archdiocese of Southwark 2023 Autumn Assembly of the **Justice & Peace Commission** on **Saturday 23rd September 2023** entitled **The Right to Stay: Free to Choose** in response to the message of the Holy Father for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, at St Edmund of Canterbury Catholic Church, 20 Village Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3NP. Parish Mass 10am. Registration 10.30am. Programme starts 11am.

Finishes 4pm. Free Entrance. Donations suggested. Lunch provided. All welcome. Keynote speaker: Rt. Rev. Paul McAleenan, Bishop for Migration & Refugees and Member of the Department for International Affairs at the Bishops Conference for England and Wales on **Love the Stranger**. **Ben Bano** will also speak. To reserve a place email justiceandpeace@rcaos.org.uk

The Archdiocese of Southwark & LoudFence warmly invite you to a Service of Acknowledgement, Reflection & Prayer for those who have been harmed by Abuse and for those who work with or support those who have been harmed: **27th September 2023, 6.30pm at St George's RC Cathedral, SE1 6HR.** After the service, in partnership with LOUDFENCE, we invite everyone to tie a ribbon to our tree of reflection as a sign of solidarity, care, hope to survivors and as a memorial for those who have been lost by abuse.

A Service of Sung Evening Prayer for the 10th Anniversary of the Romero Cross, the National Shrine to St. Oscar Romero on **28th September 2023 at 6pm** at St. George's RC Cathedral, SE1 6HR. The service will be led by the Most Rev. John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark. The preacher will be The Very Rev. Dr John Hall, the former Dean of Westminster Abbey.

The Season of Creation 1 September – 4 October
The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrated on 1 September, began the *Season of Creation*, a time of sustained prayer and action which lasts a month and four days. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Other

UKRAINE: the crisis continues 8 million are now refugees, 5 million are displaced within Ukraine itself. The Church there is playing a crucial role in bringing help and hope in the midst of unrelenting uncertainty and distress. For more information please visit: www.acnuk.org/ukrainecrisis

MOROCCO and LIBYA have suffered greatly in recent weeks. Please pray for all who have died and for all coming to the aid of those in huge need. More information on giving can be found on the website of the Disasters Emergency Committee: www.dec.org.uk

A Prayer for Peace & Justice

O God of peace, who are peace itself, and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive, grant that those who are one in heart may persevere in what is good and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed. Amen.

This weekend is Evangelii Gaudium (Home Mission Sunday). Evangelii Gaudium refers to a Letter written some years ago by Pope Francis – THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL. In our fractured and fractious world of today isn't it crucial to experience and share this JOY? Many blessings for the week ahead, fr Brian

