

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

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24 September 2023 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

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)

World Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees

(Our Lady of Walsingham – 1st national Mass count)

9am People of the Parish

11am Stuart Allen RIP

(3pm Service: Migrants' Memorial, Dover-see below)

Mon 25 Funeral Mass

11am Danielle Middleton RIP

Tues 26 Sts Cosmas & Damian

9.30am Michelle Gail Lofthouse RIP

11am Rosary -Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 27 St Vincent de Paul

(10am Schools' Mass at Aylesford Priory – see below)

No Mass today

Thurs 28 St Wenceslaus, Martyr

(John Paul I RIP 1978)

12noon Elizabeth Mary Hamer RIP

**Fri 29 Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael,
Archangels, Feast**

(English Hierarchy restored & Diocese of Southwark
established 1850)

12noon Thanksgiving for Paul Dale's progress

Sat 30 St Jerome

5.45-6.15pm Confessions

6.30pm Intentions of Mary Collins

Sun 1 Oct 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Rosary Sunday

(St Teresa of the Child Jesus-2nd national Mass count)

9am People of the Parish

11am Francis Higgins RIP

THE WORD OF GOD: 25th Sunday (A), p655

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Resp Psalm 144: The Lord is close to all who call him.

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September: For people living on the margins

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October: For the Synod We pray that listening and dialogue will permeate every level of the Church, and that she will let herself be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation):
Saturdays 5.45-6.15pm, also usually after Sunday & Weekday Masses. Please do not hesitate to ask Fr 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 **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. We welcome Fr David Middleton OSA, brother-in-law of Danielle, as principal celebrant. Pray, too, for **Peter Ashton** whose Funeral Mass was on Friday 22 September. 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/>

World Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees

Ben Bano writes: Today (Sunday 24 September) marks the World Day for Migrants and Refugees when Pope Francis reminds us to remember all those people who are displaced because of war and instability. We will be remembering in prayer and gathering at the Migrants Memorial on Dover seafront at 3 pm to remember the many people including children who have lost their lives while seeking sanctuary. Please bring flowers to lay if you wish. The memorial is situated on the seafront a short distance from the Premier Inn towards the Docks. All welcome.

Seeking Sanctuary' aims to raise awareness about people displaced from their homes and to channel basic humanitarian assistance from Faith Communities and Community Organisations. Further information from Ben Bano on 07887 651117 or Phil Kerton on 01474 873802. www.seekingsanctuary.weebly.com

PARISH SYNOD MEETINGS to coincide with the SYNOD in Rome in October on LISTENING to all voices in the Church: **Tuesday 24 October 7 for 7.30pm (9pm finish) OR Saturday 28 October 9.30 for 10am (11.30am finish).**

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? **Please do let me know what you think about these ideas.**

Parish News

October is the Month of the Rosary What a great prayer the Rosary is – enabling us to contemplate the Life of Christ through the love/lens of Mary, His Mother. **October Devotions – Fridays in October 6.00-6.30pm.** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, simple Benediction and the Rosary. All welcome – come for as long as you wish. 5 mins before the Blessed Sacrament is 5 mins of great grace.

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).

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: many thanks to all who helped on Saturday 23 September. Much 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.

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

Parish Finances Thank you all for your generosity to the parish. Please can I encourage as many of us as

possible to give via Standing Order, and, if you pay income tax, to Gift Aid your offering. Forms can be found in the porch. **Your giving is our only source of income.** The parish bank details are: NatWest/ name: **RCAS Deal**/Acc no 09658378/sort code: 52-30-23.

Diocesan & National News

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Kevin St Aubyn His Funeral Mass is at Our Lady Immaculate, Whitstable, on Tuesday 17 October 2023 at 12noon (Vigil Mass 16 October 7pm).

National Annual Mass Count takes 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.

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.**

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 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 For more information please visit: www.acnuk.org/ukrainecrisis **MOROCCO and LIBYA** 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.

In today's Gospel Jesus says: *Why be envious because I am generous?* Let us give thanks for God's generosity in our lives. **Please make a note of our Parish Synod Meetings.** A blessed week, fr Brian

