

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

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8 October 2023 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sat 7	Our Lady of the Rosary
5.45-6.15pm	Confessions
6.30pm	Max Bartels RIP
Sun 8	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
	Day of Prayer for Prisoners & their Families
9am	People of the Parish
11am	Hazel Lucas RIP
Mon 9	St John Henry Newman, Feast
12noon	Ray Shine RIP
Tues 10	St Paulinus of York
9.30am	Fr Kevin St Aubyn RIP
11am	Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel
11am	Deanery Meeting – St Thomas
Wed 11	St John XXIII
	No Mass today
Thurs 12	St Wilfrid
12noon	John Napier RIP
Fri 13	St Edward the Confessor, Feast
12noon	Ints of the Sisters of Beech Court (MA)
6-6.30pm	October Devotions
Sat 14	St Callistus
5.45-6.15pm	Confessions
6.30pm	Michael Tighe RIP
Sun 15	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
9am	People of the Parish
11am	Maureen Coyle RIP

THE WORD OF GOD: 27th Sunday (A), p663

1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Resp Psalm 79: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-43

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 pray for the repose of the souls of Marjorie Baker and Raphael (Raph) Fox who have died. Funeral arrangements are awaiting confirmation. Please keep their families in your prayers.

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.

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/>

Prisoners' Sunday today 8 October (Prisoners' Week 8-14 October) 2023 PACT, the Prison Advice & Care Trust, supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and their families to live lives which bear good fruit. For example, in the last year they supported 100,000 prison visits and answered 40,000 calls to the Prisoners' Families Helpline. If you are able to support the work of PACT go to: www.prisonadvice.org.uk or the QR code in the porch. Envelopes available in the porch – please post directly to PACT.

CONSULTATION ON SATURDAY EVENING MASS TIME: Feedback so far overwhelmingly indicates 5.30pm as the preferred time. There is a Clergy Deanery Meeting on Tuesday 10 October 2023 at which I will mention the proposed change of time. After that, I hope to give a start date for the new time. **Please do let me know what you think – this is the last week to give your views.**

Harvest Fast Day was 6 October 2023 CAFOD Harvest Fast Day envelopes are in the porch and a QR code. If using the envelopes, please post directly to CAFOD. CAFOD are also hosting an [online event](#) on Thursday 12 October at 7pm to reflect on what Pope Francis' *Laudate Deum* (the recent sequel to *Laudate*

Si') means for us. Please share this [invitation](#) with others.

Parish Synod Meetings: 24 or 28 October 2023

In October 2021 Pope Francis launched a 'synodal pathway', a three-year process throughout the entire Church. 'Synodal' means 'journeying together'. Many parishes and communities have already begun to listen to one another and to reflect on their faith and experience of the Church. They have also shared with their bishops in preparation for the meeting of bishops (and other representatives from across the Church) in Rome this October. The bishops and other representatives gathering in Rome will consider the fruits of the process so far. They will meet again in October 2024.

Pope Francis wants the whole Church – especially in local parishes – to take part in the Synod. He is asking us to unite in prayer and also to come together to listen and discern what the Holy Spirit is saying to us today. We have two initial chances to meet, coinciding with the gathering in Rome. We hope these will develop into more opportunities when we can consider how we support one another on our 'journeying together' – in our own lives, our shared parish life, and our life as Christians in the world.

Please try to come to one of our meetings: Tuesday 24 October, 7pm for 7.30pm (9pm finish) OR Saturday 28 October 9.30am for 10am (11.30am finish)

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.

Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions leave Beechcroft, Rectory Road, in early November. There is a Mass at St John's, St Richard's Road, on Saturday **28 October 2023 at 4.30pm** for the Sisters – Beechcroft is in St John's parish. We will have a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sisters on Friday 3 November at 12noon.

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.

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.

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

There will be Seminar entitled '**Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in Our Parishes, Schools and Communities**' at the Amigo Hall, St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9:30am to 4:00pm on **Saturday 28 October 2023.**

You are all welcomed to this archdiocesan initiative.

To register please click the following link:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/1G3DvS124W>

Registration is FREE

For more information please see:

racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk

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.

Other News

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNSHIPS Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their Youth Ministry Internship Programme. The scheme gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the English Lake District. For more information contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

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.

It was very good to visit St Mary's Catholic Primary School this past week, to meet the children in their classes and Mrs Pullen and members of staff. Let us continue to pray for all our schools and ever closer links with our parishes. A blessed week, Fr Brian

