

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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28 January 2024 **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Sat 27

St Angela Merici

Holocaust Memorial Day

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Maria Corbo RIP & Ruggiero Cocca RIP

Sun 28 **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Racial Justice Sunday – 2nd collection for CARJ

9am Deceased members of the O’Nion Family

11am People of the Parish

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –

All welcome

Mon 29

Feria

(9am Ursuline College, Westgate)

12noon Marcia & Frederick Fletcher RIP

Tues 30

Feria

9.30am Peggy Mallon RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

2pm Funeral Service for Joan Watts RIP
(Barham Crematorium)

Wed 31

St John Bosco

No Mass today

Thurs 1 Feb

Feria

12noon Fr Christopher Greaney RIP

Fri 2

**Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas
Blessing of candles (church & home)**

12noon Fr Simeon DiStefano OFM RIP

Sat 3

St Angela Merici

Holocaust Memorial Day

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Joan Tighe RIP

(Blessing of throats after Mass)

Sun 4

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

9am People of the Parish

11am Safe delivery of Luca Kenton

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –

All welcome

THE WORD OF GOD: 4th Sunday OT (B), p705

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Response Ps 94: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for January: For the gift of diversity in the Church – We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of the different rites within the Catholic Church.

Parish News

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Watts.

Her funeral service is at Barham Crematorium on Tuesday, 30 January 2024 at 2pm. Please keep her children, Gillian & Nick, and family in your prayers. Please pray, too, for baby **Lando Hudson-Keogh** (born 1 November 2023), who died on Friday evening, for his parents, grandparents and family, at this very sad time.

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

The weekly newsletter is on our website:

[Newsletters St Thomas of Canterbury Deal](https://stthomasdeal.org/Newsletters%20St%20Thomas%20of%20Canterbury%20Deal)
(stthomasdeal.org)

Ecumenical Rosary at Sacred Heart Chapel during the Unity Octave. It was very heartening and encouraging to pray the Rosary with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us continue to pray and work together for Christian Unity in 2024.



Register with the parish [Register with The Parish](https://stthomasdeal.org/parish-register) (stthomasdeal.org) Our Parish Register needs continually updating to ensure that it is reliable and current. Whether you are new to the parish or have been here for many years you are now kindly asked to register your details on our new database, powered by ChurchSuite. Your information will only be accessed by authorised parish office staff for administrative purposes. Thank you for co-operation and for those who have already shared their information with us.

Deal Area foodbank: [Deal Area Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis](#) The items currently needed are long-life fruit juice, UHT milk, packet sauces, ketchup, biscuits, tinned vegetables, tinned fruits, custard and tinned soups. With very many thanks.

DEAL WARM WELCOME Churches and Community Groups offer warmth, refreshment and friendship during these cold months to all. Full details of times and places in the porch.

The Crib (in the Lady Chapel) remains in place until the Feast of the Presentation, 2 February – **Friday of this week**. The Crib collection is shared between **FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND & the CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**. Church candles will be blessed at Mass on Candlemas. Home candles can be blessed, too. Please bring them to Mass on 2 Feb.

HCPT (Hosanna House & Children's Pilgrimage Trust): more funds need to be raised to help support children going to Lourdes this Easter. Lucy Rees will bake a cake for the post 9am Mass refreshments until Lent - you are invited to sample a delicious slice of cake and make an offering to HCPT. Please support this worthy cause. For further information see: www.hcpt.org.uk

Church Cleaning – help needed: Very many thanks to all who were at the meeting on Saturday. Please let fr Brian know if you would like to join the team.

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.

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 some few months in advance), please do not delay.**

Accommodation sought: Professional woman looking for long-term accommodation after 8 February 2024 (shared house or small unfurnished flat to rent). Preferably in Deal. Please contact: 07368 501460.

Diocesan, National & International News

Racial Justice Sunday is today Sunday 28 January 2024. Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10am at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY, to mark the day. There is a 2nd collection to support the work of the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and wider society.

Marriage Week 2024

Wednesday 7 February - Wednesday 14 February

Marriage Week is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. A Christian marriage is rooted in faith; that means faith in God, as the giver of life and the one who promises eternal life to those who believe in him. Here are some resources recommended by our diocesan Marriage & Family Life Team:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>

The Sycamore Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) course is an exciting **free ONLINE** course, **for married and engaged couples**, on Tuesday evenings

from 8-9pm beginning **13 Feb 2024** and continuing on **20 Feb, 27 Feb, 5 Mar, 12 Mar, 19 Mar 2024**. To register click on the link below:

[Growing in Faith Together – Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis \(rcaos.org.uk\)](http://Growing in Faith Together – Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk))

'Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ' Weekend If you are mourning after the death of a loved one, this weekend may be for you. **Aylesford Priory. 22-24 March 2024** 01622 717272 or email: reception@thefriars.org.uk

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. Virtual weekend on **8 - 11 February 2024** or a **Face to Face** weekend in **Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024**, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Beginning Experience Weekend is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. This next programme will be held on **12-14 April**; contact: Mary: 0208 647 4760, or Maura: 07795 498445, email besouthofengland@gmail.com

Peace Sunday 14 January 2024: a cheque for £105 has been sent to *Pax Christi*. Many thanks.

CAFOD: Israeli-Palestinian CRISIS APPEAL. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 or scan the QR code in the porch. A GIFT TODAY will provide essentials like FOOD, WATER and BLANKETS.

Lent is on the horizon – Ash Wednesday is 14 February: Fight global poverty by walking 200km over 40 days. Sign up for **CAFOD's Big Lent Walk** and challenge yourself to try something new. Stand in solidarity with communities around the world by walking, running, rolling or strolling with friends and family, in your school, in your parish, or simply on your own. Go to: cafod.org.uk/walk

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.

Saturday 3 February is the memorial of St Blaise. Traditionally, the blessing of throats takes place (usually after Mass). The blessing is: *Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* Do visit the crib this weekend and pray for peace (especially for the most vulnerable). A blessed week, fr Brian

