

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

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11 February 2024 **6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Sat 10 St Scholastica, Virgin

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Robert John Maguire RIP

Sun 11 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
(Our Lady of Lourdes)

Day of Prayer for the Sick and for the Unemployed
9am People of the Parish

(Mary Gilbert RIP – 1st anniversary)

11am Thanksgiving (Bernadette Hunter 90th Birthday)

(3pm St Paul's, Dover, Service of Healing & the
Anointing of the Sick)

*Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –
All welcome*

Mon 12 Feria

10am Wellbeing of Bernadette Baugh

Tues 13 Feria – Shrove Tuesday

9.30am Daisy Pappachan RIP & dec'd family members

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

11am Deanery Meeting – St John the Evangelist

Wed 14 ASH WEDNESDAY

A day of Fasting & Abstinence

12noon Joan Tighe RIP / Deacon John O'Donovan RIP

6.30pm Good health of Andrew Lock

Thurs 15 Feria of Lent
NO MASS TODAY

Fri 16 Feria of Lent

12noon Fr Philip McGuinness RIP, Fr Robert Jones RIP
and housekeeper Rose RIP

7pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 17 Feria of Lent

10am-1pm DBS checks – Becket Centre

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Charles Alexander Ennis RIP

Janette Betts RIP

Sun 18 1st Sunday of Lent (B)

9am People of the Parish

11am Fr William Hogg RIP

*Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –
All welcome*

THE WORD OF GOD: 6th Sunday OT (B), p713

1st Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2.44-46

Response Ps 31: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me
with the joy of salvation.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! May the Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we
can see what hope his call holds for us. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:40-45

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February: For
the terminally ill** – We pray for the sick who are in
the final stages of life, and for their families; may
they always receive the necessary medical and human
care, and the accompaniment they need.

Parish News

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, Pauline Farmer, Josie O'Keeffe, Graham
Edwards & Paul Dale. Please continue to pray for the
good health of Pope Francis and HM The King.

Pastoral Letter: this weekend we have a Pastoral
Letter from the Archbishop, replacing the homily.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick is today Sunday 11
January 2024 (Our Lady of Lourdes). **There is a
Service of Healing & the Anointing of the Sick at St
Paul's Catholic Church, Dover, at 3pm, led by Fr Leo
Illah and Fr Jamie Houghton.** All are very welcome.
Thank you to St Paul's for this invitation.

Today is also a Day of Prayer for the Unemployed:
we know only too well the challenges facing so many
people today. Let us pray for those who are out of
work and seeking employment and for their families.

The weekly newsletter is on our website:

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

Church Cleaning Team: many thanks to our new
team members. A great word of thanks to Brian
McAteer who has faithfully cleaned the church and
Becket Centre for many years. Brian, many thanks.

Safeguarding in our parish: thank you to
parishioners who have completed the forms for their
DBS checks. A member of the diocesan Safeguarding
team will visit the parish next Saturday 17 February
2024 between 10am-1pm to complete the paperwork.
Please have relevant original documents with you for
proof of identity.

**Clergy Support Fund 2nd collection next weekend
17/18 February:** this annual collection enables our
diocese to care for priests in their retirement, old age
and at times of ill health. We have over 70 retired
priests in our diocese, many of them needing care and

provision for housing, etc, in their retirement. You can scan the QR code on the poster in the porch or give via www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF. There will also be a box for the 2nd collection.

First Reconciliation (Confession) & First Holy Communion 2024: if your child is in school year 3 or above and you would like them to receive these sacraments this year please email (deal@rcaos.org.uk) the parish office without delay. You must live in the parish and/or attend Mass here. You must also have a Certificate of Baptism in a Catholic Church for your child. The deadline for emailing the parish is 22 February 2024. A meeting will then take place for all who have emailed the parish. Please also ensure that you are registered with the parish – see next notice. We look forward to a joyful and faith-filled time of preparation for these sacraments with children, parents, catechists, schools and parish.



Register with the parish [Register with The Parish \(stthomasdeal.org\)](http://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 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.

HCPT (Hosanna House & Children's Pilgrimage Trust): Last chance before Lent to sample a delicious slice of cake and contribute to the HCPT Easter pilgrimage. For further information see: www.hcpt.org.uk

Diocesan, National & International News
Marriage Week 7-14 February 2024: please pray for all couples preparing for Marriage. Please also pray for all married couples, especially those experiencing any difficulty at this time. Many resources are available: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>
Deacon Andrew Bishop will be ordained to the Priesthood on 23 February 2024 at St Paul's, Dover. Please keep Deacon Andrew, whose ordination was delayed by illness, in your prayers as he approaches this great day.

Lent 2024

PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING

Ash Wednesday – a day of fasting & abstinence – is 14 February 2024. Masses at 12noon and 6.30pm with the blessing and distribution of ashes.

Stations of the Cross on the Tuesdays (11am at Sacred Heart chapel) & Fridays (St Thomas' at 7pm) of Lent.

The Big Lent Walk: walk 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. More information at www.walk.cafod.org.uk - fr Brian hopes you will sponsor him! All proceeds go to CAFOD.

Family Fast Day Friday 23 February 2024: please join in by eating simply and giving what you can. Collect a CAFOD envelope (in the porch) to Gift Aid your donation or give online: www.cafod.org.uk **Please post the CAFOD freepost envelope yourself.** A 2nd collection will take place on Sunday 25 February.

Praying the Gospel of Mark during Lent: based on *Meeting God in Mark* by Rowan Williams (SPCK). Lent is a good time to pray with Scripture. This book is based on talks given in Canterbury Cathedral in Holy Week 2010, when Rowan Williams was Archbishop of Canterbury. A Lenten reading guide to Mark is given. Individually, we can pray a few verses each day.

Here is Week 1: Ash Wednesday to 1st Sunday of Lent – Wed: Mark 1:1-13; Thurs: Mk 1:14-28; Fri: Mk 1:29-45; Sat: Mk 2:1-17. The following Reflection is given for the 1st Sunday of Lent: Unlike the other Gospels, Mark jumps right into Jesus' adult life and ministry, with his baptism by John, temptation in the wilderness, calling of the first disciples and numerous healings. The 62 verses read this week offer an intense, close-up view of Jesus' early ministry. If these passages were all you knew of the Jesus story, what would your reaction be?

Try to imagine yourself hearing this bit of 'good news' for the first time, and encountering Jesus afresh, without the baggage of centuries of conflict and myriad interpretations. Let the story of Jesus surprise and amaze you. God, grant me fresh eyes to see Jesus like one of those first receiving the good news. Amen.

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.

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.

Let us pray for all our school and college communities for a restful half-term. **This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent.** May Lent 2024 be a time of deep renewal for all of us. Is there one thing we can do this Lent to make a difference in our lives and for others? A blessed and peaceful week, fr Brian