

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

14 Blenheim Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7DB
01304 367496

Email: deal@rcaos.org.uk

Website: stthomasdeal.org

Parish Safeguarding Rep 1: James Walmsley

dealsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep 2: Frances Pond

dealsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

28 April 2024 – 5th Sunday of Easter (B)

Sat 27 Feria of Easter

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm Megan Rembridge RIP

Sun 28 5th Sunday of Easter (B)

2nd collection – Upkeep of St George's Cathedral

9am Michael O'Grady RIP

11am People of the Parish

12.30pm Baptism: Luca Kenton

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

Mon 29 St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe

12noon David George Singleton RIP

Tues 30 St Pius V, Pope

Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse

9.15am Good health of John Flaherty

11am Stations of Light – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 1 May St Joseph the Worker – No Mass today

Thurs 2 St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor

12noon Mary & James MacNamara RIP

Fri 3 Sts Philip & James, Apostles

12noon Veronica Mary Franey RIP

Sat 4 The English Martyrs

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 5 6th Sunday of Easter (B)

9am Wellbeing of Giacomo Vaccarone

11am Alan May RIP

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

5th SUNDAY of EASTER (B), p345

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Response Ps 21: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

2nd reading: 1 John 3:18-24

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May: For the formation of Religious Sisters, Brothers and Seminarians: We pray for those training for the Religious Life & the Priesthood. May they grow to be credible witnesses of the Gospel through the human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation they receive.

Parish News

Sick & housebound parishioners: please keep in your prayers all who are sick and housebound and all who have requested our prayers: June Bartels, Bernadette Baugh, Bernadette Hunter, Andrew Lock, Pauline Farmer, Josie O'Keeffe, Graham Edwards, Maureen Sipek & Paul Dale. Please continue to pray for the good health of Pope Francis and HM The King.

The weekly newsletter is on our website:

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

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

2024: please pray for Abel, Eshitha, Agnes, Edie, Kaylum, Lily, their families, and our catechists, as they start their preparation to receive these two great Sacraments.

We say goodbye to the Pallan family who are returning to India. Thank you, Vishal, Vindhya, Aman and Amanda, for all you have given to the parish. May God bless you and we hope to see you again at St Thomas'.

Safeguarding in our parish: I am delighted to let you know that Frances Pond has joined our Safeguarding team as Parish Safeguarding Representative 2, joining James Walmsley. Their contact details are at the top of the newsletter. We hope to have a Parish Safeguarding Weekend later in the year.

[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.

Missio has written to thank the parish for £1549.38 collected through the Red Boxes in 2023. Red Boxes are available for new collectors. **CAFOD** thanks the parish for £2000 for the Big lent Walk.

Today there is a 2nd collection for the upkeep of our Cathedral – St George's, near the Elephant & Castle in London. Our Cathedral is entirely reliant upon the generosity of parishioners, volunteers and the Archdiocese. It does not receive Vatican or government funding, not has it any endowment.

Donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/Cathedral or cash collection or contactless. Many thanks.

Last week's collection for the **Priests Training Fund** raised £387.50 (Cash £287.50 plus £10 gift aided / Dona [contactless] £90 including £80 gift aided). Many thanks.

Contactless Giving via Dona: we now have a contactless giving facility in the Lady Chapel Please do Gift Aid when you give for the first time: you will be asked for details only once. Subsequently, and, using the same card, your donation will be automatically Gift Aided. Gift Aid is really important – and also via Standing Orders – as it increases your giving to the parish by 25%. **We also now have a donate facility on our website [Dona\(mydona.com\)](http://Dona(mydona.com)** With many thanks.

Christian Aid Week is 12-18 May 2024: Christian Aid Quiz –will take place at Trinity Church at 7pm on Friday 17 May 2024. All welcome. £5 per person, including buffet. Please contact Steve Parks (Salvation Army): 07779 752474, stevedeal@sky.com or steve.parks@salvationarmy.org.uk Alternatively, you can drop a note through the door of The Salvation Army Hall in West Street. The organisers are keen for teams to be formed. There may be parishioners who wish to form a team from St Thomas'.

Diocesan, National & International News

Shrine of Our Lady of Hartley 2024 Pilgrimage
From noon, on Saturday 4 May - Refreshments available from 11.30 am. Join this celebration of prayers, hymns and reflections from the beautiful church of Saint Francis de Sales (formed from a 500-year-old thatched barn), home to the Marian Shrine. *Our time includes hymns and prayers to Our Lady and ends with a period of Eucharistic Adoration prior to the parish Vigil Mass, which starts at 5.30 pm.*
Address: Church Road, Hartley, Kent DA3 8DW (on corner with Stack Lane). Nearest station: Longfield, on the Victoria line to the Medway Towns and Dover.

Pope Benedict XV approved a new title for Our Lady in May 1921, impressed by the rapid development of the Oratory of St Francis de Sales since 1913 and the welcome organised for World War One refugees. He indicated the shrine's status as a Major Marian Shrine by attaching a Plenary Indulgence available to those who visit and pray for peace in Europe.

The Annual Mass for London Migrant Workers in honour of St Joseph the Worker is on **Monday 6th May 2024 at St George's Cathedral, London SE1 6HR at 12.30pm.** All are invited. Please come early. You are welcome to come in national dress if you would like to take part in the banner procession at 12.15pm. The Mass is hosted by the three London Catholic Dioceses, supported by the Justice and Peace Commissions and Ethnic Chaplaincies, Caritas Brentwood and London Citizens UK, in celebration of all the people who live, work and contribute to life across London.

CAFOD/SVP announce A Year of Encounter with a UK general election due sometime this year,

politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [Using our Catholic voice at the next election\(cafod.org.uk\)](http://Using our Catholic voice at the next election(cafod.org.uk) for more information, including an online session on Saturday 4th May to learn more.

Train to Teach in Catholic Schools: Kent Catholic Schools Partnership (KCSP) has partnered with *Teach First* to set up **School Centred Teacher Training** from September 2024. There are 25 places for potential trainees, teaching 4 days per week in one of the KCSP secondary schools. Trainees will receive mentor support and training over the year and will be awarded QTS and a PGCE. Applications close on 1 July 2024. Please see notice in the porch, where information leaflets are also available.

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.

HOPE & HEALING FOR CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND: In Gaza, over 800 Christians are sheltering in churches. Every day involves fear, prayers and one piece of bread to eat. International aid can't reach them. In Bethlehem, 80% of Christians have lost their income as tourism has collapsed. *Friends of the Holy Land* ask for your help:
www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/hope
01926 512980 or use the QR code in the porch.

CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal at [Sudan hunger crisis:\(cafod.org.uk\)](http://Sudan hunger crisis:(cafod.org.uk) Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.
(John 15 – today's Gospel)

THE LORD IS TRULY RISEN, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!
May we all share in the new life offered by the Risen Christ. A very blessed Eastertide to all, fr Brian

