

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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This newsletter covers two weeks

12 May 2024 – 7th Sunday of Easter (B)

Sat 11 Feria of Easter

12noon Baptism: Hugo David Farmer

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm Siobhan Rose Simmonds RIP

Sun 12 7th Sunday of Easter (B)

World Communications Sunday – 2nd collection

9am People of the Parish – wellbeing of Kim Laing

11am Bernard Gerald Bradley RIP

Wellbeing of Irma Wood

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

Mon 13 Feria of Easter (Our Lady of Fatima)

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Tues 14 St Matthias, Apostle – No Mass today

11am Stations of Light – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 15 St John Stone, Priest & Martyr

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Thurs 16 St Simon Stock – No Mass today

Fri 17 Feria of Easter

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

19 May 2024 – **PENTECOST**

Sat 18 Feria of Easter / Vigil of Pentecost

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm Aidan & Jane Kelly (40th wedding anniv.)

Sun 19 PENTECOST SUNDAY (B)

9am People of the Parish

11am Johanna Higgins RIP

(the end of the Easter season)

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

Mon 20 Mary, Mother of the Church

9.30am Frank & Jenny Mallon RIP

Patrick Weir RIP, 1st anniversary

Tues 21 St Christopher of Magallanes & Companions

(readings: wk 7 of Ordinary Time, ferial cycle 2)

9.30am Fr Barry Hughes RIP,

Canon Peter Wilkie RIP, Fr Michael Coles RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 22 St Rita of Cascia – No Mass today

Thurs 23 Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest

12noon In Thanksgiving (JP)

Fri 24 Feria (Our Lady, Help of Christians)

11am Interment of Ashes of David Morris RIP

(Deal Cemetery, Hamilton Road)

12noon David Morris RIP

Sat 25 St Bede the Venerable

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm Elizabeth Mary Hamer RIP

Sun 26 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

9am Wellbeing of Kim Laing

11am People of the Parish

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

7th SUNDAY of EASTER (B), p358

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17.20-26

Response Ps 102: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

2nd reading: 1 John 4:11-16

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you and your hearts will be full of joy. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 17:11-19

PENTECOST SUNDAY(B), p362

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

Response Ps 103: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

2nd reading: Galatians 5:16-25

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

MARY, the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. May and October are months with a distinctive Marian focus. In May we celebrate various feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary, culminating in the Visitation on 31 May. October is the month of the Holy Rosary (7 October). On Sundays we pray the Hail Mary as part of the Intercessions after the Creed. Mary, in a truly unique way because she is the Mother of God, is indispensable in our Catholic faith to enable us to grow closer to Jesus, the Risen and Ascended Lord, who invites us to share in His Resurrection Life on earth and, ultimately, in heaven.

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://NewslettersStThomasofCanterburyDeal.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. The First Holy Communion Mass is on Sunday 14 July 2024 at 9am.

Services of the Word and Holy Communion are at 12noon on 13, 15 & 17 May. fr Brian is making his annual retreat 13-17 May. Prayer is at the heart of all Christian life and it is very important that priests take 'time out' to deepen their life of prayer so that they grow closer to Christ and truly serve their parishioners as Christ and the Church ask. Please keep fr Brian in your prayers this week.

Save the date: fr Brian celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Saturday 29 June 2024. There will be Mass at 12noon on 29 June and no 5.30pm Mass. On Sunday 30 June there are Masses at 9am and 11am, followed by a parish picnic, to celebrate the anniversary, in the presbytery garden from 1-3pm. All parishioners are invited: please bring food, beverages, rugs and garden furniture, and pray for good weather!

Corpus Christi (The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ) is celebrated on the weekend of 1st & 2nd June 2024. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** are invited to renew their commitment at whichever Mass they attend. Sheets will be provided with the words of renewal.

A new translation of the Scripture readings at Mass: The Bishops of England & Wales, together with Bishops from other English speaking countries, have authorised a new translation of the Scripture readings from the 1st Sunday of Advent (1 December 2024). We will have to replace missals as well as the lectionaries used at the ambo. This change also gives us the opportunity for formation on the Word of God.

Deal Area foodbank: 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.

Christian Aid Week is this week 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 There may be parishioners who wish to form a team from St Thomas'.

Thank you to Red box (Missio) holders. Your empty boxes are at the back of the church. If you would like a **Red box** please contact John Letts (Missio parish organiser) on 07964 189256 or see fr Brian. £1500+ was raised for Missio in our parish in 2023.

Diocesan, National & International News

World Communications Day is today 12 May 2024. There is a 2nd collection to support the work of the *Catholic Communications Network*, the media office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales. The recent collection for St George's Cathedral came to £283 (cash £236, card £47). Many thanks.

St Jude Summer Celebration at the National Shrine of St Jude, 34 Tanners Street, Faversham, ME13 7JW: 11am Devotions with Anointing, 1.30pm Open Air Mass, 2.30pm Procession to the Shrine. All welcome.

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. 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.

EASTER – ASCENSION – PENTECOST

These final days of the Easter season are a great gift to us: preparing us to receive anew the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Consecrate them in the truth!

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world ...

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

