

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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26 May 2024 – The Most Holy Trinity

Sat 25 St Bede the Venerable

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm Elizabeth Mary Hamer RIP

Sun 26 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (B)

9am Wellbeing of Kim Laing

11am People of the Parish

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –

All welcome.

Mon 27 St Augustine of Canterbury, Feast

9.30am Evelyn May Murphy RIP

Tues 28 Feria

9.30am Patricia Mary Lorimer RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 29 St Paul VI, Pope – No Mass today

Thurs 30 Feria

12noon Michael Williams RIP

Fri 31 The Visitation of the BVM, Feast

12noon **Service of the Word & Holy Communion**

Sat 1 June St Justin, Martyr

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 2 THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

CORPUS CHRISTI

9am James S. Hall RIP & deceased relatives

11am Intentions of Bernadette Baugh (90th birthday)

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre –

All welcome.

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (B), p418

1st reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40

Response Ps 32: Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

2nd reading: Romans 8:14-17

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pauline Farmer who died on 16 May 2024, and for her sons, Paul and Sean, and their families. Pauline's Funeral Mass is at St Thomas' on Monday 17 June 2024 at 11am, followed by burial at Hamilton Road cemetery at 12 noon.

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

Congratulations to Hugo David Farmer baptised into the faith of the Church on 11 May 2024, to Malgorzata and Paul, Hugo's parents, and to the wider family.

The weekly newsletter is on our website:

Newsletters St Thomas of Canterbury Deal

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.

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 next weekend 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.

Christian Aid Week Quiz – held recently at Trinity Church – raised £600. Very many thanks.

Diocesan, National & International News

The General Election on 4 July 2024 invites all of us to consider how we will cast our votes. The Catholic Church, in her Social Teaching, has much to say on ***The Common Good: Together for the Common Good*** have launched a new podcast series exploring the common good as a catalyst to spiritual and civic renewal. Speakers, ranging from Lord Glasman to Sr Helen Alford, draw on the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching to show in practical ways how common good thinking opens up pathways to hope. These talks address the big questions of our time - economy, work, nature, social peace, civic life, what it means to be human - and much more. You can find the *Together for the Common Good* Podcast wherever you normally listen to your podcasts. All are free to download, and are offered in this General Election year as a stimulus for reflection and conversation.

<https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk>

Archbishop Kevin McDonald celebrates his golden jubilee of ordination on 31 May 2024. Archbishop Kevin was our Archbishop from November 2003 to December 2009. He retired early because of ill health. Please pray for him on his jubilee.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13th 2024 at St George's Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th+ wedding anniversary this year, and would like to receive an invitation from the Archbishop, please let the diocese know as soon as possible, **and no later than May 31st 2024.** Email: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

Archbishop John warmly invites you to join him as he leads the Southwark Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, from 23rd to 30th August 2024. Full details: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk. Last year's diocesan pilgrimage was very poorly attended. The Archbishop hopes as many as possible will be with him in Lourdes. **Last chance to book.**

Catholic maritime charity **Stella Maris** (formerly 'Apostleship of the Sea') is very grateful for our prayer and financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year. To report back on the use of those funds, it invites parishioners to join an **online update and thank you webinar on Tuesday 28th May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm**. We will hear about the impact of our generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families over the last year. Its CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through our support. To register please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024

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.

A meditation on the Most Holy Trinity

It is in the very person of the risen and ascended Jesus that the New Testament has glimpsed the mystery of the intimate life of God: *all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me*. It is in Baptism, and the daily living out of this sacrament, where we move from the profession of faith in one God to the Trinitarian (Father, Son & Holy Spirit) profession of faith. The essential characteristic of Christian Baptism is a baptism in the Holy Spirit, since faith in the Father and the Son cannot be professed other than in the same Spirit. Baptism ***in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*** expresses precisely how the life and work of Jesus are ultimately the work and the life of the Father and the Spirit. The Church gathers Sunday after Sunday (the Day of the Lord) to (re)discover who she is: the holy and faithful People of God brought forth from the Trinity, teaching all of us that we are children of God and invited to live as such.

A very restful half-term to all school and college communities. Welcome to our visitors for an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend in Deal. Many blessings for the coming week, fr Brian

