

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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5 May 2024 – 6th Sunday of Easter (B)

Sat 4 The English Martyrs

4.45-5.15 Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 5 6th Sunday of Easter (B)

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

9am Wellbeing of Giacomo Vaccarone

11am Alan May RIP

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

Mon 6 St John Paine, Martyr

12noon May Chellew RIP

Tues 7 Feria of Easter

9.30am Deceased members of Mariya's family

11am Stations of Light – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 8 Feria of Easter – No Mass today

Thurs 9 ASCENSION, Holyday of Obligation

12noon Marie Connaughton RIP

6.30pm Thanksgiving (Lock Family)

Fri 10 St John de Avila, Doctor

12noon Sr Maureen Doonan, O.Carm., RIP

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

11am Bernard Gerald Bradley RIP

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

6th SUNDAY of EASTER (B), p349

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26.34-35.44-48
Response Ps 97: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

2nd reading: 1 John 4:7-10

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Jesus said: If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (B), p353

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

Response Ps 46: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

2nd reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Jesus said: If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Mark 16:15-20

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
\(stthomasdeal.org\)](http://NewslettersStThomasofCanterburyDeal(stthomasdeal.org))

Congratulations to Luca Kenton baptised into the faith of the Church last Sunday, to Carolina and Joseph, Luca's parents, and to the wider family.

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.

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.

[Register with The Parish - \(stthomasdeal.org\)](http://RegisterwithTheParish-(stthomasdeal.org)) Your information will only be accessed by authorised parish office staff for administrative purposes. Thank you for co-operation and for all who have already shared their information with us.

Contactless Giving via Dona: is available 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 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.

Ben Bano from 'Seeking Sanctuary' writes: please read below a powerful statement by the **Jesuit Refugee Service** concerning refugees and Rwanda. All Christian Churches have voiced concerns about government policy in this area. If you wish, write to our local MP expressing your concerns.

Diocesan, National & International News

Today is International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians : the charity [Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East \(FACE\)](#), in partnership with the Vatican Dicastery for Oriental Churches, helps organise this annual day of prayer, with the participation of Christians from all over Europe, the Middle East, the Horn of Africa and India. Eastern and Western Christians are encouraged to take this opportunity during the season of Easter to come together in prayer. The occasion unites the Roman Catholic Church in Europe and the Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the Pope. We pray especially for all in the Holy land and Ukraine.

World Communications Day is 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.

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

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.

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.

CAFOD/SVP announce A Year of Encounter: A

General Election is imminent. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties/candidates are aware of our views and the

teaching of the Church. *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\(cafod.org.uk\)](#) for more information.

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.

Two Vacancies in the diocese: Priests’ Welfare & Wellbeing Officer, Episcopal Vicar and Bishop Group Secretary: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies/vacancies-in-southwark/>

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.friendsoftheholylan.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:\(cafod.org.uk\)](#) 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

This Thursday is the great feast of the Ascension. Ten days later we celebrate Pentecost and the culmination of the Easter season. On Ascension Day we celebrate the return of the Risen Lord to Heaven and at Pentecost we are reminded that the power of the Risen Lord is given to us in the gift of His holy Spirit. In the 1st reading for Mass on Ascension Day, two men in white ask the disciples: *Why are you standing here looking into the sky?* In the Gospel Jesus tells the Eleven: **Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News!** The 50 days of Easter are full of meaning.

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

