

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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4 August 2024 – 18th Sunday of the Year (B)

Sat 3 The Blessed Virgin Mary

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Intentions of Sue Donaldson

Sun 4 18th Sunday of the Year (B)

9am People of the Parish

especially for all killed and injured in Southport

11am Anthony Neylon RIP

Refreshments after 9am & 11am Masses today in the

Becket Centre – All welcome

Mon 5 Funeral Mass

11am Rebecca Emily Hoekstra-Rusiecki RIP

Followed by burial at Hamilton Road Cemetery

Tues 6 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

9.30am Margaret Layden RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 7 FERIA – No Mass today

Thurs 8 St Dominic

Anniversary of the Dedication of our church in

1928

12noon Una Barbara Buckingham RIP (1st anniv)

Fri 9 St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Feast

12noon Mikolaj Melchior Bender RIP

Sat 10 St Laurence, Deacon & Martyr

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Intentions of Dr Keith Rawlings

Sun 11 19th Sunday of the Year (B)

9am People of the Parish

11am David Johnston RIP

Refreshments after 9am & 11am Masses today in the

Becket Centre – All welcome

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August: For political leaders We pray for political leaders to be at the service of their people, working for their integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

The Book of Remembrance is on the Lady Altar. You are invited to fill in the names of loved ones who have

died (with the year of death) on the appropriate date in the Book. Please keep to one line per person.

18th Sunday of the Year (B), p763

1st reading: Exodus 16:2-4.12-15

Response Ps 77: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

2nd reading: Ephesians 4:17.20-24

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

Parish News

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rebecca Emily Hoekstra-Rusiecki. Rebecca's Funeral Mass is as St Thomas' on Monday, 5 August 2024 at 11am, followed by burial at Hamilton Road cemetery. Please keep her sons, Michael, George, Christopher and Andrew, in your prayers. **Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Hugh Sullivan**, who died on Sunday 4 August 2024, and for Mary, his wife, and their children. Hugh's Funeral Mass is at St Thomas' on Friday 16 August 2024 at 11am, followed by burial at St John's Church, Kingsdown. Our prayers are also asked for **Mikolaj Melchior Bender**, who has died, aged only 30.

Sick & housebound parishioners: Please keep in your prayers all who are sick and housebound and all who have requested our prayers: June Bartels, Josie O'Keeffe, Graham Edwards, Maureen Sipek & Paul Dale and also for Sue Donaldson, recovering from a recent hip operation. 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)

Deal Area foodbank: [Deal Area Foodbank](http://DealAreaFoodbank) | [Helping Local People in Crisis](http://HelpingLocalPeopleinCrisis) tins of meat, fish and fruit. Long-life juice and milk, baked beans, rice, noodles and pasta, cat and dog food. **With very many thanks.**

Children's Liturgy at the 9am Sunday Mass is now on a summer break. Sheets are at the back of the church to help children share fully in the Mass. Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday 8 September 2024.

Anniversary of the Dedication of our Church is on Thursday 8 August 2024. Mass is at 12noon. All welcome.

The New Lectionary Explained is a leaflet available at the back of the church (with the newsletters and in the porch) which gives a brief introduction to the change of translation and the reasons for it. Please do take a copy of the leaflet.

The parish has received a very generous donation of £1,000 to help cover the cost of the new lectionaries

and missals. We are very grateful to the *Mary Riley Trust* for their generosity. The lectionaries (4 volumes) are for use at the ambo. They cost approx. £800 in total. We now need to order 80 missals. They cost £20 each. If you would like to contribute to the cost of the missals there is a link on our contactless giving machine, as well as a box at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Register with the Parish: [St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church - Deal - Kent \(stthomasdeal.org\)](http://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.

The Assumption of our Blessed Lady 15 August 2024: **please note that the Vigil Mass is at 6.30pm on Wednesday 14 August and Mass at 12noon on Thursday 15 August.** Fr Brian will attend the Service at the Burma Star Memorial (opposite Deal Castle) at 6pm on 15 August, hence the Vigil Mass on 14 August.

Mass Intention envelopes are at the back of the church: Please write down the intention (for example, someone who has died), date & time preferred, contact name **and number**, and include any offering (Mass stipend) you wish to give. **If you know the dates of Masses you wish to request (even some few months in advance), please do not delay.**

Ride & Stride: this annual event will take place on 14 September 2024. St Thomas' & Sacred Heart Chapel will open during the day to welcome visitors to our churches. We will need volunteers to help on the day. A list for volunteers to help at St Thomas, will be in the porch next weekend. A separate list will be available at Sacred Heart Chapel.

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

Fr John Panario's rescheduled Golden Jubilee Mass is now at 12noon on Saturday 21 September 2024 at Our Lady of Dover (Buckland), 24 Old Park Hill, Dover, CT16 2AW. All are invited.

Mary's Meals: **a collection box is in the porch this weekend and next weekend. The collection ends on 11 August.**

Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life led by Bishop David Oakley, Bishop of Northampton, on Saturday 3 August 2024. Full details on poster in the porch.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London, is holding a Celebration of St Faustina's Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent, on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information.

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.

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%20hunger%20crisis%3A%28cafod.org.uk%29) 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.

HOPE & HEALING FOR CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY

LAND: *Friends of the Holy Land* ask for your help:

www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/hope

01926 512980 or use the QR code in the porch.

IS ANYTHING SACRED?

The Olympic Games in Paris 2024: *Is anything sacred?* was the title of this week's *Moral Maze* on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday 31 July. The topic for discussion was that part of the opening ceremony at the current Olympic Games in Paris which was a parody of the famous *Last Supper* painting in Milan and directly related to the Eucharist, the central act of worship of the Christian community. In all the controversy a question does arise: **Is anything sacred?** The French Catholic Bishops issued the following statement on the morning after the Opening Ceremony: ***Unfortunately, this ceremony included scenes of derision and mockery of Christianity, which we deplore very deeply. We thank the members of other religious denominations who have expressed their solidarity with us. This morning we think of all the Christians on all continents who have been hurt by the outrageousness and provocation of certain scenes. We want them to understand that the Olympic celebration unfolds far beyond the ideological biases of a few Artists.***

In our highly secular world what does it mean to speak of 'the sacred'. Is everyone / everything open to parody and ridicule? What are the boundaries? In the Incarnation God has entered our world in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. The sacred, the divine, has entered into the secular, the reality of our human condition. As Christians, we recognise that the world in which we live is God's creation. If we are shocked or saddened by some elements of the Opening Ceremony, it is an impetus to us to live in a way which demonstrates that God has created all humanity in His image and likeness, that the world in which we live has been made by God and we care for it. There can be no division between the sacred and the secular for the Christian – it is all made by God. We respect each other and the world in which we live because of God's love.

To all visiting Deal, a warm welcome to our parish. Thank you for being with us. To all travelling, a safe journey and good holiday. A blessed week, fr Brian