

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle

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Parish Administrator: Clare Hoile

Parish Office hours: Thurs & Fri 9.30 – 12noon

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Frances Pond

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time [C]

Sat 26 Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of the BVM

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Brian James Reed RIP

Sun 27 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9am People of the Parish

11am John O'Keeffe RIP

Mon 28 FERIA

9.30am Hugh Sullivan RIP (1st anniversary)

Tues 29 Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus – No Mass today

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

(11.30am Funeral Mass – Broadstairs)

Wed 30 St Peter Chrysologus – No Mass today

Thurs 31 St Ignatius of Loyola

12noon Jeanette Gross RIP

Fri 1 Aug St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor

12noon Eve Morris RIP

Sat 2 St Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Fr Ray Blake RIP

Sun 3 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9am People of the Parish

11am Good health of Mary Collins

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre – all welcome

17th Sunday [C], p903

1st reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Response Ps 138: On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

2nd reading: Colossians 2:12-14

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! You have received the spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'

ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for July 2025, for formation in discernment: let us pray that we learn how to discern, how to choose the right paths in life, and how to reject everything which leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

Parish News

HOT WEATHER It is important during this very hot weather for all of us to keep properly hydrated. Bottled water can be found in the porch if needed.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eve Morris who died unexpectedly on Monday 21 July 2025. Eve was at the 9am Mass on Sunday 20 July, arriving early and helping to hand out missals and hymn books. She was very keen to help launch a bereavement group in the parish and was working with others to establish the group. Eve had only just marked the second anniversary of her husband's death on 15 July. We pray that Eve and David are reunited in heaven.

Sick & housebound parishioners: Please keep in your prayers all who are sick and housebound, all who care for them, and all who have requested our prayers: Mary Collins, Mike Sykes, June Bartels, Josie O'Keeffe, Graham Edwards, Maureen Sipek, Paul Dale and Jean Ellis. Please continue to pray for the good health of HM The King.

A warm welcome to all visitors to Deal this summer and to those returning home for the holidays. Thank you for being with us for Mass and we wish you all a very restful stay in Deal.

Children's Liturgy: if you would like to help with Children's Liturgy please contact Clare Hoile in the parish office. Gospel activity sheets are available for the children at the 9am Mass throughout the summer weeks at the back of the church. Children's Liturgy at the 9am Sunday Mass resumes on 7 September.

Deal Area foodbank requests: Tinned meats, mince, corned beef or ham, fruit squash, cooking oil, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, custard, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit and sponge puddings. With very many thanks.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) has launched a campaign: JOIN THE FIGHTBACK to campaign against the proposed legislation to decriminalise abortion up to birth and to legalise assisted suicide. If you would like to join the campaign, please fill out one of the cards at the back of the church, place a stamp on the card and post it. SPUC will then send you information.

Friday 8 August 2025 is the anniversary of the dedication of our church in 1928. Mass is at 12noon. The anniversary of the dedication is an important moment in the life of the parish for it speaks not only of the significance of the church building as the house of God, but also our dedication as the church – the People of God. **This year also marks the 140th anniversary of the building of the church in 1885.**

Monday 1 September 2025 Mass at 12noon to give thanks to God for the Sisters of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions who left Deal in 2023. A commemorative plaque will be blessed and unveiled. We look forward to welcoming a good number of the Sisters to Deal. Bishop Paul Hendricks will preside at Mass. The Deputy Mayor of Deal will represent the town and council. Everyone is welcome to the Mass and reception in the Becket Centre.

Ride & Stride (Deal Heritage): this annual event is on Saturday 13 September 2025. 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 is in the porch. Two volunteers are needed per hourly slot.** A separate list is available at Sacred Heart Chapel.

A Planned Giving Drive will take place in our parish on the weekends of **11/12, 18/19, 25/26 October 2025**. This is an opportunity to look at how we want to move forward as a parish, building on all we have received from those who have gone before us, and pledging our time, treasure and talents for the present and the future.

A gift to reach missionaries and communities who need help. Thank you to everyone who handed in their Missio Red Box. A further £167 was paid into their bank Account. The last collection this year will be in November.

Weekday Masses in September fr Brian will be away during September. If you are happy for him to celebrate a weekday Mass for your intention while he is away, please let him know via the Mass intention envelope.

Please [Register with The Parish - St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church - Deal - Kent](#) Your information will only be accessed by authorised parish office staff for administrative purposes. It is very important to have up-to-date contact details.

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

Father Stephen Trafford was ordained to the Priesthood last Saturday 19 July 2025. Please pray for him as he sets out on his priestly ministry and for vocations. A report (and photographs) of the ordination are on: www.rcsouthwark.org.uk

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) The CCRS is a knowledge-based, internationally recognised qualification which provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, and applicable. Participants will be equipped to make an informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit www.aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs for further information.

The Archbishop's Certificate Do you desire to know Jesus more intimately? The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course for all in Southwark and beyond who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

The course commences on 18 October 2025 and the cost is £400 per year. The full cost of the course, payable over 2 years is £800. In addition, registration must be completed in advance and there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50. Further details can be found : <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert> Please see fr Brian if you are interested in this.

Married and Engaged couples: have you seen the amazing **Sycamore** series about adults and their faith? The next online course for married and engaged couples begins on **Tuesday September 9th** and continues on **Sept 16th, 23rd and 30th, 2025**. Please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk for more information.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED, a Catholic charity, supporting Christians who are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need, needs your help in supporting the those suffering in Gaza and the Holy Land. You can donate via: www.acnuk.org/holyland-donate or call 0345 646 0110 (quote Holy Land).

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.

Caritas Southwark offered the following reflection for **Knife Crime Awareness Week 2025**. It can apply, too, to so many situations in our lives and world today:

The negative daily bombardment of bad news assails our senses constantly on all fronts, and in a myriad of ways. The more we see, hear and experience about violence and hatred locally, nationally, and internationally can make us feel overwhelmed and helpless. However, God would not have us do that, for He and the full might of His power is for us. The word of God states that we who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ are "the salt of the earth," who radiate Jesus, the light of the world. (Mathew 5:13). We are therefore to, "let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Mathew 5:16). We can pray, and then, because we are followers of God, we put our beliefs into action, in the face of violence and hatred. Jesus Christ is our living hope. So, we pray, hope and act in faith and trust in God.

See Archbishop John Wilson at:
<https://youtu.be/QOIuOdtCN34>

A reflection on Sunday for the Summer holidays:

In the Christian calendar, Sunday is the day of holy rest. It is the day of the Resurrection and the day of Pentecost. It is time to slow down in holy restfulness: time for our souls, time for family and time for God. Show me what you do on Sunday and I will know how important your God is to you. St Augustine wrote beautifully about Sunday, our Christian sabbath: we shall rest and we shall see; we shall see and we shall love; we shall love and we shall praise. Sunday is God's gift of soul-time, family-time and God-time.

(Fr Silvester Flynn OFM Cap, *Gospel Reflections & Prayers*)



We welcome Monsignor Philip Gilbert for the weekend Masses as fr Brian is away.

A blessed week, fr Brian