

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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This newsletter covers THREE weeks

Sat 30 Sts Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Intentions of Sue Donaldson

Sun 31 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9am People of the Parish – Hessie Edwards RIP

11am Tony Peace RIP

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre – all welcome

Mon 1 Mass of Thanksgiving & Blessing of Plaque (Season of the Care of Creation begins)

12noon Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions

Tues 2 Feria

9.30am John Connaughton (1st anniversary)

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 3 St Gregory the Great

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Thurs 4 St Cuthbert – no Mass today

Fri 5 Feria

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Sat 6 The Blessed Virgin Mary (March for Life, London)

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 7 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Children's Liturgy resumes at the 9am Mass

(in Rome: Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis and

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati)

9am Floribert Kositi RIP

11am Intentions of Peter Logue

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre – all welcome

Mon 8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12noon Eve Morris RIP (SD)

Tues 9 St Peter Claver

9.30am Pauline Stones RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 10 Feria

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Thurs 11 St Ambrose Barlow, Martyr – no Mass today

Fri 12 St Eanswythe of Folkestone, Abbess

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Sat 13 St John Chrysostom RIDE & STRIDE DAY

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 14 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Education Sunday – 2nd collection for the Catholic Education Service

9am School & College communities

11am Intentions of Elizabeth Ejoh & Family

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre – all welcome

Mon 15 Our Lady of Sorrows

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Tues 16 Sts Cornelius & Cyprian

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 17 St Robert Bellarmine / St Hildegard of Bingen

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Thurs 18 St Edith of Kemsing – no Mass today

Fri 19 St Theodore of Canterbury / St Januarius

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Sat 20 St Andrew Kim & Companions, Martyrs

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Stephen McCann RIP

Sun 21 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Evangelii Gaudium / Home Mission Sunday

2nd collection for the Catholic Agency for the

Support of Evangelisation

(1st national Mass count)

9am Joseph Davenport RIP

11am People of the Parish

Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket Centre – all welcome

22nd Sunday (C), p924

1st reading: Sirach 3:17-18.20.28-29

Response Ps 68: in your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

2nd reading: Hebrews 12:18-19.22-24a

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1.7-14

23rd Sunday (C), p928

1st reading: Wisdom 9:13-18b

Response Ps 90: O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation.

2nd reading: Philemon 9b-10.12-17

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your decees. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

**The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, p1044
14 September 2025**

1st reading: Numbers 21:4b-9

Response Ps 78: Never forget the deeds of the Lord.
2nd reading: Philippians 2:6-11

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 3:13-17

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for September 2025, for our relationship with all of creation: let us pray that, inspired by St Francis, we may experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Parish News

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Hessie Edwards who died unexpectedly on 25 August 2025, and for Graham, her husband, and their five children. Hessie donated her body for medical research. There will be no Funeral Mass in the near future but a Requiem Mass will be arranged as soon as possible.

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.

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 after 143 years of dedicated ministry of care for orphans, the sick and the education of children in Deal. A commemorative plaque will be blessed. Everyone is welcome to the Mass and reception in the Becket Centre. **There is still an opportunity to contribute to the cost of the plaque via the contactless machine or plate at the back of the church. Many thanks.**

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 Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill has passed all of its stages in the **House of Commons**. Scrutiny of the bill will begin in the **House of Lords** on **12 September 2025**. A similar Bill is also being debated in Scotland. **The Catholic Union** has [21 suggested points](https://www.catholicunion.org.uk/21-suggested-points) 'to put in your own words in letters to your local newspaper, or newsletters of organisations which you belong to' or to our local MP: mike.tapp.mp@parliament.uk

March for Life, London, Saturday 6 September 2025. Mass at Westminster Cathedral 10.30am. Full details at WWW.MARCHFORLIFE.CO.UK

Education Sunday is 14 September 2025. There is a 2nd collection for the Catholic Education Service. Catholic schools make up 10% of the national total of maintained schools. There are over 2000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England & Wales educating over 800,000 students. The Catholic Church & the Church of England together provide one third of all schools in the country. We owe a tremendous debt to all teachers, support staff, governors, students and families and all who support our schools.

Home Mission Sunday is 21 September 2025. It is now called Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (the Joy of the Gospel Sunday). There is a 2nd collection to help our Bishops, and the various agencies of the Bishops' Conference, in their work of evangelisation and the spread of the Gospel in England and Wales.

Ride & Stride: this annual event takes place on 13 September 2025. St Thomas' & Sacred Heart Chapel will open during the day (10am – 4pm) to welcome visitors to our churches. Thank you to all volunteers for ensuring that we can welcome visitors to our church and chapel. **This is a great opportunity to introduce visitors to our church and talk about our Catholic Faith. It is a good opportunity to call in, light a candle and pray for peace in our world.**

A Planned Giving Drive takes place in our parish on the weekends of **11/12, 18/19, 25/26 October 2025**. These three weekends allow us a privileged moment to reflect on what our parish means to us, what needs to be done in the short and long terms, and how we can share our time, treasure and talents to ensure that our parish continues to be a place of witness and outreach in Deal. It is OUR parish and OUR mission to proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour of the world.

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

Season of the Care of Creation 1 September – 4 October 2025. The Season of Creation is an annual celebration uniting Christians in prayer and action for the protection of our common home. The idea of celebrating 1 September as a day of prayer for creation began at the wish of the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios in 1989, and was endorsed by Pope Francis in 2015. The season runs from September 1 to October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED, a Catholic charity, needs your help in supporting 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.

We welcome Mgr Philip Gilbert during September as fr Brian will be away for a baptism on the first weekend in September and then visiting his family for the rest of the month.



We wish all our school and college communities many blessings and the assurance of our prayers as they begin the new academic year. A blessed week, fr Brian