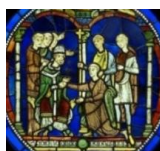


St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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Parish Office hours: Thurs & Fri 9.30 – 12noon

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

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DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 9 November 2025

Sat 8 St Willibrord, Bishop

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 9 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Remembrance Sunday

Archbishop's Appeal – 2nd collection

9am Deceased members of the Mallon family

11am For all who have fallen in war and for peace

*Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket
Centre – all welcome*

Mon 10 St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

12noon Intentions of Pope Leo XIV

5pm Reception of body : Aidan Kelly RIP

Tues 11 Funeral Mass

11.30am Aidan Kelly RIP

1pm Burial: Hamilton Road Cemetery

Wed 12 St Josaphat – No Mass today

Thurs 13 St Francis Xavier Cabrini – No Mass today

Fri 14 Feria

12noon Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Sat 15 St Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 16 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time [C]

9am Maureen & Emilio Valente RIP

11am Intentions of Mary Felicity Hunter

12.30pm Baptism: Noah Michael Hudd

3pm Blessing of Graves: Hamilton Road

*Refreshments after both Masses in the Becket
Centre – all welcome*

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, p1068

1st reading: Ezekiel 47:1-2.8-9.12

Response Ps 46: The waters of a river give joy to God's
city, the holy place, the abode of the Most High.

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11.16-17

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! I have chosen and consecrated
this house, says the Lord, that my name may be there
for ever. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for November 2025, for
the prevention of suicide:** Let us pray that those who
are struggling with suicidal thoughts will find the
support, care and love they need in their community,
and be open to the beauty of life.

Parish News

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Aidan Kelly
and for Jane, his wife.** The Funeral Mass for Aidan
Kelly is here on Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 11.30am,
followed by burial at Hamilton Road cemetery at 1pm.
Aidan's body will be received into the church the evening
before at 5pm Please also pray for Stephen Tasker
whose funeral service was at Barham on 3 November
2025. May their souls rest in peace.

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, Frans
Nitzsche and Jean Ellis. Please continue to pray for the
good health of HM The King.

Sacred Heart Chapel: please note there is no Rosary
this Tuesday 11 November.

November is the month of the Holy Souls. Why do we
we pray for the faithful departed? The Church's teaching
on Purgatory is one of great hope and encouragement:
*From the beginning the Church has honoured the
memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage
for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so
that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific
vision of God* (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1032).

Holy Souls envelopes are available in the porch.

Please place the names of those you wish to be prayed
for in November and place in the envelope. Please give
to fr Brian and all names will be on the altar in
November for all Masses. It is central to our Christian
faith that Heaven and Earth are united in the
Eucharistic sacrifice.

Today, 9 November, is Remembrance Sunday The
11am Mass is a Requiem Mass to pray for all who have
fallen in war, for all victims of war and violence, and
for peace in our world. The readings at all Masses are
for the Dedication of the Lateran basilica
(Missal, p1068).

Cemetery Sunday 16 November 2025: fr Brian will
lead a short service in Hamilton Road Cemetery at 3pm
and then bless the graves of parishioners. All welcome
and please let others know of the blessing of graves.

The Book of Remembrance is on the Lady altar. If
you wish, please enter the names of those who have
gone before us in faith, together with the year of death.
The name and year should be on one line, if possible.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is now in
the **House of Lords** for scrutiny. **The Catholic Union**
has [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

There is very helpful guidance on writing to a Peer on our Bishops' website: [How to write to Peers in the House of Lords - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

MISSIO RED BOXES - please could all the red boxes be handed to fr Brian or left in the sacristy during November. This gives John Letts a chance to count and return them, and also to do the end of year accounts for Missio. The boxes do not need to be full. Thank you to all the holders of boxes for your donations over the past year.

Planned Giving Drive: please return completed forms (ministries/activities, SOs and Gift Aid) at your convenience. To all who have volunteered, we will contact you as soon as possible. It is very helpful if all Gift Aiders complete and return the GA form, even if you already gift aid and have a standing order. The diocese advises that this is the best way to ensure that all current gift aiders are UK tax payers. Thank you all very much. **Very important: you are only asked to consider giving what your means and commitments allow. Your family and other important commitments come before any time or financial commitment to the parish. We are very grateful to you for all you do and give in so many ways.**

ADVENT 2025

Please make a note of these dates in your diary:

Tuesday 2 December 2025: In our **Advent** talk this year **Ben Bano** will explore the rich heritage of **Catholic Social Teaching** in a fragile world, starting from Leo XIII and 'Rerum Novarum' to the present day, including the latest Apostolic Exhortation **Dilexi te**, as well as insights from the writings of St Augustine. Pope Leo XIV is an Augustinian friar. Ben will give this very topical talk and discussion at **Golf Road Community Centre on Tuesday 2 December 2025 1.30-3pm.**

Advent Course: as part of our Advent preparation there will be 4 evenings of live-streamed presentations from Catholic speaker Mauro Iannicelli, which will be screened at Golf Road Community Centre. In these interactive sessions Mauro will take a detailed look at each of the 4 Advent Sunday gospels on the following Wednesday evenings between 6.45pm-8.15pm: 26 November and 3, 10 & 17 December. All welcome. For more information about Mauro and his ministry go to:

www.comeandsee.org

Weekend of 6/7 December 2025: a speaker from the **Forward Trust** will give a short talk at the end of all the weekend Masses about the work of the Trust. There will be a 2nd collection for its work. The **Forward Trust** helps many with addiction, mental health issues, homelessness and helping people gain employment. It is a non-denominational organisation and extends its outreach to anyone and everyone. Members of the Trust will also be available for an **Information Evening on Monday 8 September 2025 between 7-8pm in the Becket Centre** if you would like to discuss something in confidence or gain more information about the Forward Trust.

Tuesday 16 December 2025: Advent Reconciliation Service with individual confessions at 7pm at St Thomas'. This is a joint service with Mongeham & Sandwich parish.

CHRISTMAS 2025 - Mass times

Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve: Masses at 5.30pm and 10pm (Carols at 9.30pm)
Thursday 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY
Mass at 11am

Monday 29 December, Solemnity of St Thomas of Canterbury Mass at 12noon, followed by Christmas lunch in the Becket Centre.
Details to follow soon.

Christmas cards and gifts – there are brochures from CAFOD and the Catholic Children's Society in the porch.

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News Archbishop's Appeal 2nd Collection 8/9 Nov 2025 funds areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will fund innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please see poster on outside noticeboard, the link on our card machine and plate at the church door.
www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal

NOT ALONE: A New Bereavement Support Group From 5 November 2025 10-11.30am every Wednesday at One Church, Noah's Ark Road, Dover, CT17 0DD Please use entrance 'C'. **'Everyone at NOT ALONE has lost someone precious, so we understand. You are not alone.'** Flyers are available in the porch.

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).

Sudan: the situation is very grave for so many people.

If you are able to donate to help, please go to:
cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis

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.

Let your souls be as spotless and shining as you want this church to be when you come to it ... Just as you come into this church, so God wants to come into your soul, as he promised when he said: 'I will live in them and move among them.' (from the sermons of St Caesarius of Arles [d542] and given for the Dedication of the Lateran basilica in Rome)

We pray this weekend for all who have fallen in war, for their loved ones, for peace and justice in our world

A blessed week, fr Brian

