

St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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6th Sunday of Easter – 10 May 2026

Sat 9 Feria of Easter

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Mary Collins RIP (CW)

Sun 10 6th Sunday of Easter (A)

Our Lady's Statue – 2nd collection

9am People of the Parish

11am Marcelle & Keith Graham RIP

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

Mon 11 Feria of Easter

9.30am Ints of Archbishop Kevin McDonald
(25th anniversary of episcopal ordination)

Tues 12 Sts John Houghton & Companions, Martyrs

9.30am Wellbeing of Rabia Essafi

11am Stations of the Resurrection–Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 13 Our Lady of Fatima – no Mass today

Thurs 14 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

12noon Wellbeing of Jacqueline Kimber

6.30pm Mary Collins RIP

Fri 15 St John Stone, Priest & Martyr

12noon Kevin Downes RIP

Sat 16 St Simon Stock

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Ints of Jeremy & Christina Clarke
(35th wedding anniversary)

Sun 17 7th Sunday of Easter (A)

World Communications Sunday – 2nd collection

9am Kay Paterson RIP

11am People of the Parish

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

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER, p314

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8,14-17
Response Ps 66: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

2nd reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

ASCENSION DAY (A), p318

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11
Response Ps 47: God goes up with shouts of joy; the LORD goes up with trumpet blast.
2nd reading: Ephesians 1:16-23

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord. I am with you always, to the end of the age.

ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for May 2026, that everyone might have food: let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoiding food waste, and to ensuring that everyone has access to quality food.

Parish News

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Fr Niall Thornton, a retired priest of our diocese, and **Fr David Fox**, who was a member of the Carmelite Community at Aylesford. Please remember **Mary Collins** whose Funeral Service was at Barham Crematorium last week. Can I also ask your prayers for the son & nephew of family friends: **Karl Roger** was tragically killed in Ukraine. He had gone there to volunteer for ambulance work. Please keep Karl's family in your prayers.

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: Ben Bano, Keith Reynolds, Mike Sykes, June Bartels, Josie O'Keeffe, Graham Edwards and Paul Dale. Please continue to pray for the good health of HM The King. Please do let the parish know of anyone who is sick or housebound.

Going into hospital: it is very important to tell the hospital if you would like to see a Catholic priest. The hospital may not ask you. Both QEQM, Margate, and Kent & Canterbury Hospital have Catholic priests on call. Please let Fr Brian know, too. It is always possible to receive the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick before going into hospital.

The Stations of the Resurrection are prayed every Tuesday at 11am at Sacred Heart Chapel during the Easter Season. A lovely way to meditate and reflect on the Resurrection in this Easter season. All welcome.

This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension and a holyday of obligation. Masses are at 12noon and 6.30pm.

Parish Day of Prayer & Reflection in the idyllic surroundings of **Minster Abbey: 18 July 2026.** The Benedictine nuns extend a warm welcome for us to spend a day of prayer in their chapel and beautiful grounds. 20 available spaces. Meet at St Thomas' at 10.15am and car share. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided. To book a place, please have a word with Anne-Marie Brockway: at church, or 07950 317505 or ambrockway@hotmail.com A donation of £5 per person to help the nuns in their work is suggested.

Prayer Group: it is proposed to have a fortnightly prayer group based on the Sunday gospel (lectio divina). If you are interested, please come to an introductory meeting at the Becket Centre on Monday, 8 June 2026, at 6pm. The prayer group meetings will run from 6-7pm. Please arrive no later than **5.50pm to start at 6pm**. Punctuality is essential to ensure the prayerful atmosphere of the group.

Next Sunday 17 May 2026 is World Communications Day and an opportunity to pray for all involved in communications. There is a 2nd collection to support the work of the Catholic Communications Network

(CCN). The CCN supports the Bishops of England and Wales in promoting the Gospel; it seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and her teaching; and provides current news releases, etc, and forms men and women to speak on behalf of the Church.

Summer Garden Party - Save the date! Bring & Share. Please join us in the presbytery garden on **Sunday 12 July 2026 between 12noon – 3pm.** This is an opportunity to gather and meet parishioners and families. It is also a chance to thank everyone for their contribution to the life of the parish in so many ways. **If you can help in preparing for or assisting on the day, please contact Libby Gibbins: 07763 938797 or libbyn23@gmail.com**

Suggestion Box: we have a new suggestion box in the Lady Chapel. We all have a role in ensuring that our parish fulfils its mission to be a caring and vibrant community and the presence of Christ in our society. Your suggestions are important as to how we fulfil our vocation as disciples. The Parish Pastoral Council welcomes your suggestions.

Vigil for Peace - Sunday 14 June 2026 4.30-5.30pm: we will have a time of prayer in our church to pray for peace in our world and in our lives. Christians from other churches in Deal will be invited. Please do mention this to your friends. All are welcome to this time of silence and prayer for peace.

May is the Month of Mary: there is still a chance this week to contribute to the fund for the resoration of the statue of Our Lady in the presbytery garden. Many thanks.



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.

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 many thanks.

Parish Building Fund: every parish has ongoing maintenance work, as well as capital expenditure on major projects. At the initiative of the Parish Finance Committee we are starting a **Parish Building Fund**. It will be a standing item on the contactless machines. In recent weeks we have had the following works: tree surgery in the back presbytery garden, emergency lighting and electrical work in the church and Becket Centre, work to the flat roof at the back of the Becket Centre and water ingress at the back of the church. In the near future we also need to do some work on church heating, including replacing the two large radiators at the back of the church. All these works total nearly £13,000 (excluding VAT). **Please be careful entering the church through the main side door – there is restricted access because of scaffolding.**

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

Rosary For Life. Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife. **Pray the Rosary. Encounter Christ. Defend life.**

**St Jude – Apostle of Hope
Summer Celebration 30 May 2026**
Shrine of St Jude, 34 Tanners Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 7JW: 11am Devotions with Anointing, 1.30pm Open Air Mass, 2.30pm Procession to the Shrine

**Musical Pilgrimage on the Augustine Camino
June 8th-14th 2026** From Rochester to Ramsgate, via Canterbury, with Eddie Gilmore performing a little concert each evening in a pub en route. Contact Eddie for more details: gileag@gmail.com www.eddiegilmore.org

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 21-28 August 2026

Details for booking travel and accommodation can be found at:

[Catholic Association Lourdes Pilgrimage - Tangney Tours](#)

Pilgrims are also asked to complete a form with details, including medical requirements (if any) at: [Catholic Association Join](#) For more information, please contact Canon Edward Perera (edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk) or Deacon John Fogarty (johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk) or Bishop Paul Hendricks (paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk)

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: [Donate to an ACN project](#) 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:

[Sudan Crisis Appeal](#)

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 this weekend. fr Brian is away for the weekend with his family. Let us keep in our prayers all who are sitting examinations.

Many blessings for the Easter Season! fr Brian

