

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

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Parish Safeguarding Reps:

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PENTECOST SUNDAY – 24 May 2026

Sat 23 Feria of Easter

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Fr David Fox RIP

Sun 24 PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)

Day of Prayer for the Church

9am People of the Parish

11am Johanna Higgins RIP

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

The end of the Season of Easter

Mon 25 Mary, Mother of the Church

9.30am John Povey RIP

Tues 26 St Philip Neri

9.30am Evelyn Murphy RIP

11am Rosary – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 27 St Augustine of Canterbury – no Mass

Thurs 28 Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest – no Mass

Fri 29 St Paul VI, Pope

12noon Fr Niall Thornton RIP/Patsy Johnston RIP

Sat 30 The Blessed Virgin Mary

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 31 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A)

9am Special Intention (JP)

11am Albert Ennis RIP & Steve Harding RIP

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY, p342

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

Response Ps 104: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7.12-13

SEQUENCE: **sung**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23



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

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.

Called to Bear Fruit & Synodality: the late Pope Francis invited the whole Church to reflect on her identity – what it means to be the Church in the 21st century, by listening to the Word of God and then listening to each other – conversations in the Holy Spirit. Our diocese has also been involved in a similar and parallel process – *Called to bear Fruit*. Archbishop John Wilson is keen to ensure that laity, religious and clergy are involved in the next phase of this process. The Archbishop is calling a meeting in Canterbury on 13 June 2026. If you have been involved in our parish discussions, or even if not, and you would like to attend as a parish representative (maximum of 2 representatives), please contact fr Brian:

deal@rcaos.org.uk

Find out more about the Sacraments of Initiation and Prayer:

To assist the newly baptised and newly received as they grow in their life in Christ, **Archbishop John Wilson, Bishop Gerard Bradley, Bishop Paul Hendricks and Canon Victor Darlington** have recorded a series of reflections forming a post-baptismal catechesis. The video: [Belonging to Christ](#), is an exploration of the sacraments through the lens of a lived experience in four parts. First, Canon Victor Darlington reflects on the transformation brought by Baptism; Bishop Paul Hendricks then explores how Confirmation strengthens us to witness to Jesus Christ. Bishop Gerard Bradley speaks on personal and communal prayer, followed by Archbishop John Wilson, who offers catechesis on the Most Holy Eucharist.

Each contributor also offers a prayer tip as encouragement to new Catholics. The link for the video here: [Belonging to Christ](#). There is also a news article related to this on the Archdiocese's website:

[Archbishop John and senior clergy help new Catholics live the faith: Archdiocese of Southwark.](#)

Although aimed at those received into the Catholic Church at Easter, this resource is of benefit to all of us as we seek to deepen our faith through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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.

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.

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.

Summer Garden Party - Save the date! Bring & Share a picnic lunch. 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.

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.

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.

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. **Please be careful entering the church through the main side door - there is restricted access because of scaffolding.**

Deal & Walmer Handelian Choral Society announces an 80th anniversary concert of music by Handel: 27 June 2026, 7pm, at St George's Church, Deal. Full details and ticket prices on notice board in porch or go to: www.dwhsociety.co.uk

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

Catholic Legacy Week 24-30 May 2026: is a time when Parishes and Catholic charities such as CAFOD celebrate the work made possible in the life of the Church through gifts in Wills. Find out more about the week at: [Your Catholic Legacy](#). Please also see the diocesan leaflet available in the porch - *Your Legacy of Faith*.

Marriage Enrichment Day: Saturday 13 June 2026

Couples are invited to a day where they can **privately** explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to be married at **Our Lady of Good Counsel, 2 Lower Blackhouse Hill, Hythe, Kent, CT21 5LS** from 9.00am till 4.30pm.

The one-day course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives to make their marriages better and to improve their communication skills and learn how to raise issues without hurting each other. **There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple.** The unique selling point of this day is it is NOT marriage counselling - Marriage Care and Retrouvaille do a brilliant job at this! Refreshments will be provided but please bring a **packed lunch**. **Booking is essential.** To apply please contact: **Carole** mflkent@rcaos.org.uk or **07983 524 727**

The Life of Christ 16 - 20 June 2026 at Wintershall (Bramley, nr Guildford). Please see poster in the porch.

There is still some availability on 20 June 2026: a promotional video can be viewed at:

[Wintershall Life Of Christ Promotional Video](#)

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.

A Way of Understanding Pentecost

It is important to believe that God is gift, that he acts not by taking away, but by giving. Why is this important? Because our way of being believers depends on how we understand God. If we have in mind a God who takes away and who imposes himself, we too will want to take away and impose ourselves: occupying spaces, demanding recognition, seeking power. But if we have in our hearts a God who is gift, free and unmerited, then we too will want to make our lives a gift. By loving humbly, serving freely and joyfully, we will offer to the world the true image of God. The Spirit, the living memory of the Church, reminds us that we are born from a gift and that we grow by giving: not by holding on but by giving of ourselves. (Pope Francis, 31 May 2020).

Let us keep in our prayers all who are sitting examinations. All good wishes to our school & college communities for a restful half-term. Children's Liturgy is taking a break and will return on 7 June 2026.



Come, Holy Spirit!
A blessed week, fr Brian