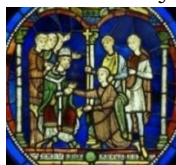


St Thomas of Canterbury

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



Parish Priest: Canon Brian Coyle
14 Blenheim Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7DB
01304 367496

Email: deal@rcaos.org.uk Website: stthomasdeal.org

Parish Administrator: Clare Hoile

Parish Office hours: Thurs & Fri 9.30 – 12noon

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Peter Sykes deal1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Frances Pond dealsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

5th Sunday of Easter – 3 May 2026

Sat 2 St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 3 5th Sunday of Easter (A)

Safeguarding Sunday

2nd collection for the Statue of Our Lady

9am For all who work in Safeguarding

11am For all victims of abuse

Mon 4 The English Martyrs, Feast

9.30am Intentions of Mary Lee

Tues 5 Feria of Easter

Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse

8.15 am For all Survivors of Sexual Abuse

11am Stations of the Resurrection – Sacred Heart Chapel

Wed 6 St John Paine, Priest & Martyr

1pm: Barham Crematorium: Mary Collins RIP

Thurs 7 Feria of Easter

12noon Good health of Eamonn Gillan

Fri 8 Feria of Easter

9am Annette Morgan RIP

(Election of Pope Leo XIV 2025)

Sat 9 Feria of Easter

4.45-5.15pm Confessions

5.30pm Mary Collins RIP (CW)

Sun 10 6th Sunday of Easter (A)

9am People of the Parish

11am Marcelle & Keith Graham RIP

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

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER, p310

1st reading: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

Response Ps 33: May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.

2nd reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me.

ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: John 14:1-12

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 soul of Mary Collins.

Mary's Funeral Service is at Barham Crematorium on Wednesday 6 May at 1pm. Our prayers are also asked for **Denis O'Mahoney** whose Funeral Mass took place last week. Please keep their families in your prayers during these days.

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.

Today is Safeguarding Sunday 2026. We are called to protect, called to care, called to act. Safeguarding is not the work of a few; it is a shared responsibility. The **National Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse** is on Tuesday 5 May 2026. Our Parish Safeguarding Reps are **Frances Pond** and **Peter Sykes** (contact details at top of newsletter). Safeguarding Sunday leaflets are available in the porch. You can find out more about Safeguarding Sunday at:

rcaos.org.uk/safeguardingsunday

The Terminally Ill (Adults) End of Life Bill:

Archbishop John Sherrington writes: *As the Committee Stage of the Terminally Ill (Adults) End of Life Bill is concluded in the House of Lords, I wish to express gratitude to all those Parliamentarians who have worked tirelessly to preserve the dignity of every human life and ensure that end-of life care remains rooted in compassion and respect until the natural end of life. In both principle and practice, along with many other experts and professionals, Catholics and others have opposed this deeply flawed Bill. I am also deeply thankful to all who have supported Parliamentarians in so many ways, including lobbying, with work, or prayer and writing to parliamentarians. Archbishop Sherrington is the Lead Bishop for Life Issues and Archbishop of Liverpool. The full statement can be found at: [Statement on the end of the Committee Stage of the Terminally Ill \(Adults\) End of Life Bill - Catholic Bishops' Conference](http://Statement on the end of the Committee Stage of the Terminally Ill (Adults) End of Life Bill - Catholic Bishops' Conference)*

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.**

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.

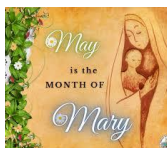
Prayer Group: it is proposed to have a fortnightly prayer group based on the Sunday gospel (lectio divina). If you are interested, please come to an introductory meeting at the Becket Centre on Monday, 8 June 2026, at 6pm. The prayer group meetings will run from 6-7pm. Please arrive no later than **5.50pm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

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: the statue of Our Lady in the front garden of the presbytery is badly in need of restoration. It is not just a matter of repainting the statue – restoration work is also needed and this is a specialist task. This will cost in the region of £1,000. If you would like to contribute to this, there is a link on our Dona machines, as well as the plate at the back of the church. 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.

Lent Fasting Lunches and Family Fast Day: the overall total came to £1321.32. The Lent Fasting Lunches raised £814.30 and the Family Fast Day raised £507.02. CAFOD will receive £1321.32 for its important work. Many thanks for your generosity and to all who helped with and shared in the fasting lunches.

The Easter Offering 2026 to date is £3659.10 – cash collection on Easter Sunday £2259.10, Contactless £1260, directly to bank £140. Also to be included is ¼ of standing orders for April 2026 (as per diocesan guidelines). **Very many thanks for your generosity.**

Summary of Offertory Giving for March 2026: Cash and bank total: £3,369.33, standing orders £6,091.00, Dona contactless £1,614.52, Total £11,074.85 of which £1,542.39 is Gift Aid. Included in the overall figure of £11,074.85, was £269.36 for the Easter flowers, £683.55 for CAFOD from the Lenten Lunches, £364.44 for the CAFOD Family Fast Day, £393.09 for the Poor Parishes, £231.25 for the Easter Offering, £60 for First Holy Communion and £100 for the Building Maintenance Fund. Thank you all for your continued generosity!

Deanery, Diocesan, National & International News

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 next weekend. fr Brian is away for a few days.

Let us keep in our prayers all who are sitting examinations.

Many blessings for the Easter Season! fr Brian

