

St Thomas of Canterbury

Sunday Mass times:

Saturday
6:00pm

Sunday
8:00am (Latin)
9:15am (Children's Liturgy of Word)
11:15am
6:00pm

Adoration:

Monday 8:30am - 9:30am
Tuesday 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Weekday Mass times:

Monday 8:00am
Tuesday 9:30am
Wednesday 8:00am
Thursday 12:00noon
Friday 8:00am
Saturday 9:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday
10:00am - 10:30am
5:15pm - 5:45pm

Fathers' day off:

Fr Vipin: **Monday**
Fr Piotr: **Tuesday**



**Granville Road,
Sevenoaks TN13 1ER**

Parish Office: Magdalena Wiacek
Mon. Wed. Thurs. Fri.
8:30am - 12:15pm
Tuesday closed
Tel: 01732 454177
sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk
www.sevrccparish.org



**High Street, Otford
TN14 5PH**

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am
(with Children's Liturgy of the Word)
Wednesday 10:00am
Holy Days of Obligation **10:00am**
Adoration: Thursday 7:30pm - 8:30pm
Friday 11:00am - 12:00noon

Church contact:
Barry Authers
Tel: 01959 524362
sevenoaksmht@rcaos.org.uk



**Western Rd, Borough Green
TN15 8AG**

St Joseph's

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am
(with Children's Liturgy of the Word)
Thursday 10:00am
Holy Days of Obligation **6:00pm**

Church contact:
Antoni Offert
Tel: 07513 041075
sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk



**Fawkham Rd, West Kingsdown
TN15 6JP**

St Bernadette's

Mass times: Sunday 11:00am
Friday 10:00am
Holy Days of Obligation **11:00am**
Adoration: Wed 12:00noon- 1:00pm

Church contacts:
Jill & John Gobel
Tel: 01474 853676
sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk



St Thomas' catholic

**South Park,
Sevenoaks, TN13 1EH**
www.saintthomas.co.uk

Headteacher:
Ms Geraldine Leahy
Tel: 01732 453921

GIVE A LITTLE GIFT AID FORM



Archdiocese of
Southwark

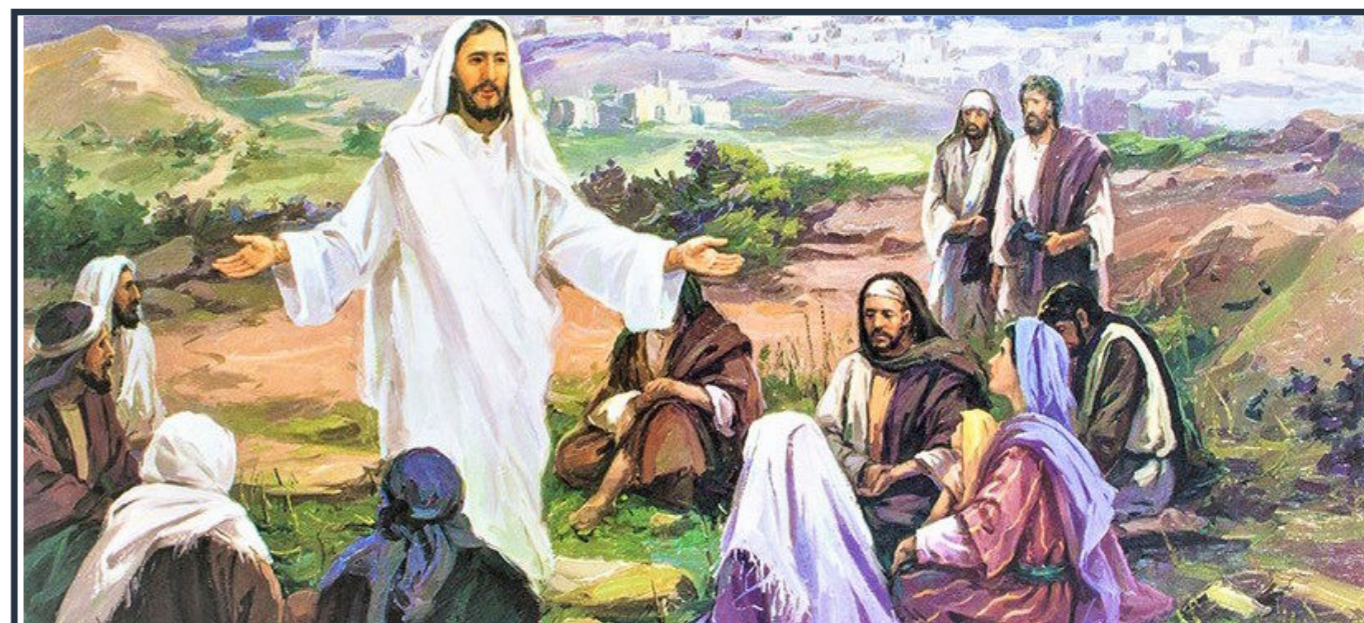
PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

CHURCHES IN SEVENOAKS, OTFORD,



Parish Newsletter

25th August 2024



This week we arrive at a significant moment in our journey through the Scriptures. This 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time brings to a close our recent reflection on the Eucharist, and we are asked to choose, like the Twelve Apostles, whether to follow Jesus or turn back to former ways of life.

In today's First Reading, Joshua challenges the Israelites to decide whom they will serve: the Lord or the foreign gods of the surrounding nations. This moment of decision mirrors our own spiritual crossroads. For the past several weeks, we have contemplated the profound mystery of the Eucharist — the gift of Christ's Body and Blood given for the life of the world. Now, as we stand before this mystery, we are asked to choose whether we will fully embrace it or turn away from it.

The Gospel shows us many disciples struggling with Jesus' teaching about the Eucharist. They murmur among themselves, finding it hard to accept the reality of eating His Flesh and drinking His Blood. Some even walk away. Yet, in the face of this challenge, Peter stands firm. Speaking on behalf of the Twelve, he declares, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." Peter's response invites us to make a similar choice: to stand with Christ, trusting in His words even when they are difficult to understand. This decision is not unlike the choice Joshua presented to the Israelites at Shechem. There, Joshua urged the Twelve Tribes to renew their covenant with God, much as we are called to renew our commitment to Christ through the Eucharist. The Eucharist is our daily miracle — a source of life that sustains us on our journey to the new homeland God has promised. Through this sacrament, we are united with Christ, sharing in His divine life and love.

This week, let us reflect deeply on this choice. Whom will we serve? Let us choose wisely, embracing the wisdom of God and living a life centred on Christ and the Eucharist.

Contacts & organisations

Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks

Presbytery and Parish Office: 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER

Website: www.sevrparish.org.uk **Tel:** 01732 454177

Parish Priest: Fr Piotr Kucharski piotrkucharski@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Vipin James, vipinjames@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr John Eyike, johneyike@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev'd Neil Philipson neilphilipson@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Mrs Magdalena Wiacek sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30am - 12:15pm, **Tuesday - closed**

Safeguarding Rep: Ken Baines sevenoakssgl@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator can be contacted on 020 7261 1606; in an emergency dial 999

Adoration

Barry Authers: sevenoaksadoration@rcaos.org.uk

Altar Servers (St Thomas's)

Catherine Ingram: ingramfamily15@yahoo.com

Catenians

Social club for Catholic men

Aiden O'Mahony: aidan.omahony@btinternet.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sunday Mass

Sevenoaks, 9:15am Mass:

Mark O'Prey: sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

Oxford, 9:30am Mass:

Catherine Bennett: sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

Borough Green, 9:30am Mass:

Fiona Newton: fionanewton321@btinternet.com

Choirs

Music Group:

Lonnie Christophers lonniechr@hotmail.com

Traditional Choir: Barbara Page 01732 454729

Borough Green: Chris Hurlll chris.hurll@outlook.com

Church Cleaning (St Thomas's)

James McSharry: jamesmcsharry@hotmail.com

Church Flowers (St Thomas's)

Kate Travers: katetravers521@hotmail.com

Confirmation Programme

Gabrielle Ellis: sevenoaksconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Finance Committee

Secretary: Mary Scott - 3maryscott@gmail.com

First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Programme

Catherine Tan: sevenoaksfhc@rcaos.org.uk

Gift Aid:

Sean Corrigan: sevenoaksgac@rcaos.org.uk

Holy Trinity Committee

Secretary: Barry Authers - sevenoaksmht@rcaos.org.uk

Lectio Divina

Kathie Gonzalez 01732 761253

Listening to you (Bereavement Support)

Third Monday, 10:30am in Parish Room

Ronnie Campbell, Sarah Harrison and Kate Travers

sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

Loaves and Fishes Foodbank

Isabelle Mercer: h.imercer@btopenworld.com

Mothers' Prayers

Mondays, 11:30am at Star House, Star Hill Road

01959 532505

Parent & Toddlers Group

Tuesdays 10:00am - 12:00noon, Parish Centre

Mary Hunt 07890 229794

RACET (Rural Africa Children's Education Trust)

MaryAnn Perasso 01959 522337, www.racet.org

Readers, Ministers & Welcomers Rota (St Thomas's)

Andrew Pembroke: st.thomas.rota@gmail.com

Repository

Open after Mass on Sunday: 8:00 am & 11:15am

RCIA

For adults becoming Catholic:

Andrew Wilkinson: sevenoaksrcia@rcaos.org.uk

Retreats

Catherine Roger: c.rodger@btinternet.com

St Bernadette's Committee

Secretary: Jill Gobel - jill.gobel@btinternet.com

St Joseph's Committee

Secretary: John Foley - johnandmariefoley@gmail.com

The Pilgrims

For retired parishioners

Jackie Pembroke 01732 450197

Scripture Fellowship

Reading a Gospel together

Andrew Wilkinson: andrewwilkos@gmail.com

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

Can help financially, practically, and through visits to the

isolated or housebound. Contact Paul Boyle 07796564018 or

Kathie Gonzalez sevenoakssvp@gmail.com


Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) (West Kingsdown)

Ann Vallins: annvallins@yahoo.com



Webmaster

Barry Authers: sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Speak, Lord

Joshua 24:1-2.15-18
Psalm 33
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

SUNDAY LITURGY FOR CHILDREN

Year B — 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

FOLLOWING JESUS

Some people did not believe what Jesus said. They started to follow him ...

Peter said ...



We will not

follow you. We know you are the head

of the church. We want to

follow you.

recently BAPTISED

Welcome to

Violet, Isabelle, Rose Smith; Aubrey Mae Adams; Isabella Louise Hesketh; Una Antonia Lanigan; Leon El Zein; Louise May Roots; Kaja Rose Izycka-Warry; Una O'Dwyer.

who were Baptised in our Parish

Parish and other NOTICES

GR BONIFACE'S PRESENTATION

Mgr Boniface has been visiting our Parish in Sevenoaks for over 20 years and during that time he has got to know most of us- with his big smile! He is the Vicar General of Archdiocese of Blantyre.

Malawi is a landlocked country and is one of the poorest in the world. The country faces a number of problems; rapid population growth, dependence on rain-fed agriculture, climate change and environmental degradation. It's a predominantly Christian country and Catholics make up about one-fifth of its population.

Please join us for a presentation of his work in the Parish Room on Saturday 31st August at 4:30pm (prior to 6pm mass). Refreshments will be served.

For those who wish to donate to support his work - please speak to him directly or send to Parish Bank account, 60-19-02, 25782002 (marked reference Fr Boniface) and we can remit the money to his Archdiocese.

DEANERY WORKSHOP FOR READERS.

The workshop takes place on 3rd September 11am or 10th September 7pm at St Augustine's Catholic Church, Tunbridge Wells and is for everyone involved or thinking about being the ministry of Reader in Tunbridge Wells Deanery. Come to explore spiritual and practical aspects this role. Register by Fr Graziano: tunbridgewells@rcaos.org.uk.

THE PILGRIMS GROUP TOUR TO MINSTER ABBEY & ST AUGUSTINE'S SHRINE AND CHURCH, RAMSGATE

A coach outing on Wednesday, 11th September 2024

The visit starts at Minster Abbey. Founded less than a 100 years after the arrival of St Augustine in 597AD to Christianise England, the Abbey is still home to 12 Catholic Benedictine nuns and in our short time there, we can enjoy the tranquility of their gardens and prayer-filled space. Refreshments and a simple lunch is available. We then continue to the Shrine and church of St Augustine. Designed by A.W.N Pugin as his personal church, it is an example of exquisite Gothic Revival by one of main architects of the Houses of Parliament. Price: £37pp excluding refreshments & lunch. More details are in a flyer. Please ask Felicia, nfe.17205@gmail.com, 07719 606 970 if your interest has been piqued.

RIDE AND STRIDE Saturday 14 September. Margaret Briggs is hoping to walk from Borough Green to East Malling, calling in at ten churches along the way. If you would like to sponsor her, please telephone her on 01732 885295. Half of the proceeds will come back to St Joseph's, the remaining amount going to Friends of Kent Churches to help maintain churches in the county. Thanks in advance for your support.

ST EDITH DEVOTIONS - PILGRIMAGE TO KEMSING

We are looking forward to celebrating the memorial of our local saint, St Edith of Kemsing, at 3:30pm on 15th

September at the Well in Kemsing. Please join St Thomas' walking group on the day.

The plan for the walk is as follows:

- We will meet at St Thomas' at 10:45, for an 11:00am start

- Please bring a packed lunch - we will have time to take our lunch/have a cuppa at Holy Trinity Otford

- Departure from Holy Trinity Otford will be 1:30pm

Arrival at St Edith's Well in time for: Devotion at 3:30pm, Vespers at St Mary's Church at 4pm, and Afternoon Tea at The Bell at 5pm.

Some print outs of walking directions will be left in the Porch if you are interested; if you have any questions about the route or would like a copy of the walking directions, please let Gina know (gina.hartnett@hotmail.com). If you would like to join us from Holy Trinity Otford, the second half of the Pilgrimage will be suitable for younger children of the Parish.

MEN'S PARISH RETREAT: Aylesford 1st to 3rd Nov 2024

"To be a pilgrim" A weekend to explore the next steps on our path led by Chris Chapman. Christopher Chapman is an experienced spiritual director and retreat leader.

The cost for the retreat for full board, lodging and the retreat facilitator is £240. If you would like to attend please pick up a registration form from the back of your Church or download a form from the website: www.sevrcparish.org.uk (just click on the news and masses tab and this opens up a tab for retreats and the registration form). The registration form and non refundable deposit of £20 made payable to 'RCAS Sevenoaks' must be returned to the Parish Office in an envelope marked PARISH RETREATS by the 16th September. Lift shares to Aylesford will be organised. Any queries please contact Catherine Rodger by email at c.rodger@btinternet.com or by ph:01732 458852

2024/2025 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

& FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME REGISTRATION

Registration for the next First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation Programme is now open.

Our initial parents' meeting is on Friday 4th October at 7pm and the sessions will begin in November. A full list of programme dates are listed at the end of the registration form. All sessions will take place at St Thomas of Canterbury Church in Sevenoaks.

<https://forms.office.com/e/wXt1HVkC1L>

REPOSITORY AT ST THOMAS'

We are seeking a volunteer to manage the Church repository at St Thomas'. For more information or to sign up, please contact Fr Peter or Magda in the Parish Office. Magda is available from Monday to Friday (except Tuesdays), between 8:30am and 12:15pm.

MASS INTENTIONS

All masses are at St Thomas's CHURCH unless otherwise stated

SUNDAY 25th AUGUST

6:00pm (Sat)

8:00am (Latin)

9:15am

11:15am

6:00pm

9:30am Otford

9:30am Borough Green

11:00am West Kingsdown

Monday 26th BANK HOLIDAY

9:00am

9:30am

Tuesday 27th Saint Monica

9:30am

Wednesday 28th Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

8:00am

10:00am Otford

Thursday 29th The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

10:00am Borough Green

12:00noon

2:00pm

Friday 30th Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, Martyrs

8:00am

10:00am West Kingsdown

Saturday 31st

9:30am

SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

6:00pm (Sat)

8:00am (Latin)

9:15am

11:15am

6:00pm

9:30am Otford

9:30am Borough Green

11:00am West Kingsdown

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY (B)

Wellbeing of Eugene Bannon and comfort of his wife

Good intentions of the donor's family

Helena Kendrick

Anthony & Brigid Butler

Peggy LaTrobe RIP

People of the Parish

Johnson Ayoung Chee RIP

Catherine Maher (100th birthday)

Adoration

Ruth Salt RIP

Hazel Pilorz RIP

Joan Grant RIP

Richard Knight RIP (9th anniversary)

Liz Broadbent RIP

Helena Kendrick

Funeral Mass - Deborah Seale RIP

Wellbeing of Lionel David Edwards

Holy Souls

Princess Diana RIP

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY (B)

Debbie Seale (O'Keefe) RIP

People of the Parish

Pat Mathwick

Mullally Family

Paul Edwards, Aileen & Victoria RIP

Richard Knight RIP, Laura Knight RIP

Wellbeing of Canon Luke Smith

Helena Kendrick

ST THOMAS' COFFEE MORNING - Can you help?

St Thomas is keen to set up a coffee morning for people in our church and local community. The aim is to provide a simple drop-in coffee/tea and biscuits every Thursday morning from 10.15 to 11.45 in our new church parish room. To run this successfully, we estimate we need a minimum of 20 male and female volunteers. This will mean people only have to help out once in every 5 or 6 weeks. Can YOU spare a couple hours to help in this fun, social venture for the parish?

If you are interested, or, if you have any questions, please contact one of us: Frances Smith: francesrsmith@hotmail.com / Catherine Rodger: c.rodger@btinternet.com / Fiona Newton: fionanewton321@btinternet.com

THE SICK

Helena Kendrick, Milena Currall, Sue Spilstead, Elizabeth Sherratt, Philip Hardaker, Paulina Andrea, Zamora Hernandez, Mavis Mitchell Lambert, Toni Barrett, Frank Easterbrook, Lynne Stanley, Veronica Williams, Yvonne Bollen, Ann Steven, Sean Cloke, Ann Farren and all in care and nursing homes in the Parish.

ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST

Ann McInerney, Anne Gomar, June Preen, Maurice Baggs, Sheila Tomalin, Lyndon Maggs, Baby Jimmy Goldsmith, Peter Brain, Anthony Biggs, Peter Boyle, Michael Dunphy.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

Latin Antiphons

Entrance:

Inclina, Domine, aurem tuam ad me, et exaudi me. Salvum fac servum tuum, Deus meus, sperantem in te. Miserere mihi, Domine, quoniam ad te clamavi tota die.

Communion:

De fructu operum tuorum, Domine, satiabitur terra, ut educas panem de terra, et vinum lætificet cor hominis.