

## St Thomas of Canterbury Sevenoaks

### 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**

### Clergy day off:

Fr Peter: **Tuesday**  
Fr John: **Monday**  
Fr Biju: to follow



12 Granville Road,  
Sevenoaks TN13 1ER

Parish Secretary: **Silvana Wuttke**

Parish Office: **Monday-Friday**  
**9.00am-12:00noon**

Tel: 01732 454177  
sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk  
[www.sevrccparish.org](http://www.sevrccparish.org)



High Street, Otford  
TN14 5PH

## MOST HOLY TRINITY OTFORD

**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 BOROUGH GREEN

**Mass times:** Sunday 9:30am  
(with Children's Liturgy of the Word)  
Thursday 10:00am  
**Adoration:** Thursday 10.30am-11.00am  
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 West Kingsdown

**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 primary school

South Park,  
Sevenoaks, TN13 1EH  
[www.saintthomas.co.uk](http://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,  
BOROUGH GREEN AND WEST KINGSDOWN



Parish Newsletter

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

19th January 2025



Dear Friends,

This Sunday, as we celebrate Peace Sunday, we are reminded of our vocation as peacemakers in a world longing for healing and reconciliation. Pope Francis, in his message for the World Day of Peace, invited us to embrace hope, calling us to have “disarmed hearts”— hearts that turn from selfishness to generosity, from division to unity, from fear to trust. The work of Pax Christi, the international Catholic peace movement, is a concrete response to this call. They remind us that peace is not merely the absence of war but the presence of justice, dignity, and mutual care; and that peace-building is not just for world leaders—it begins in our hearts, our homes, and our communities.

This week also marks the beginning of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th–25th January). The search for peace is deeply tied to the call for unity

among all who follow Christ. As we pray for peace in our world, let us also pray for healing in the Body of Christ, that divisions among Christians may be transformed into bonds of mutual love and mission. Many local churches are coming together to mark this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and I encourage you to pray individually and, where possible, to take part in local peace services as a sign of our shared commitment to Christ's mission of reconciliation.

This theme of renewal and transformation also resonates in the letter from Archbishop John Wilson, calling us to look ahead with hope as we seek the renewal of our Archdiocese. While acknowledging our real challenges—declining numbers in our churches, financial struggles, and an ageing clergy—he urges us not to be defined by these difficulties. Instead, he encourages us to dream boldly about what God can achieve through us. He invites us to take part in the Called to Bear Fruit consultation, ensuring that every voice in our parish can help shape the future of our local Church.

This Sunday's Scripture readings reflect this same invitation to renewal. The Gospel takes us to the wedding at Cana, where Jesus performs His first public sign. More than a simple miracle, this moment is a revelation: Jesus is the divine bridegroom, calling humanity into a covenant of love. He transforms water into wine, just as He can transform our lives, our Church, and our world when we place our trust in Him. As Pilgrims of Hope, we are called to walk together, to renew our faith, and to become signs of peace and unity in a world longing for reconciliation. Let us respond—not just with words, but with actions. May Christ, be our light!

*Fr Peter*

# Contacts & organisations

**Presbytery and Parish Office:** 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER  
**Website:** [www.sevrcparish.org.uk](http://www.sevrcparish.org.uk) **Tel:** 01732 454177

**Parish Priest:** Fr Piotr Kucharski ([piotrkucharski@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:piotrkucharski@rcaos.org.uk))  
**Assistant Priests:** Fr John Eyike ([johneyike@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johneyike@rcaos.org.uk))  
Fr Biju John ([bijujohn@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bijujohn@rcaos.org.uk))

**Parish Deacon:** Rev'd Neil Philipson ([neilphilipson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:neilphilipson@rcaos.org.uk))

**Parish Secretary:** Silvana Wuttke ([sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk))

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 9:00am-12:00noon

**Webmaster:** Barry Authers: [sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Rep:** Ken Baines ([sevenoakssg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoakssg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk))

**Safeguarding DBS:** Sally Kelly ([sevenoakssg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoakssg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk))

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

# PASTORAL LETTER ON CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT



To be read at all Sunday Masses on Sat 18/Sun 19 January 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

This Jubilee Year calls us to remember that we journey together as 'Pilgrims of Hope' who look to Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life. At the wedding in Cana, Our Lady spoke words that are addressed to us today: 'Do whatever he tells you.' (Jn 2:5) Trusting in the Good News brought to us by the Lord Jesus we are encouraged to look to the future with confidence. God keeps his promises and can make all things new. Therefore, we place our hope in God's Word. He asks us to be 'tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.' This means we each have a part to play in building up the Church's life of faith and fulfilling the Great Commission to 'make disciples of all nations.' (Mt 28:19)

The Jubilee Year offers each of us, and all of us, a profound opportunity to reflect prayerfully on the future of our Archdiocese. We face some significant challenges - nearly half of our diocesan priests will reach the canonical retirement age of 75 by the end of 2025; Mass attendance has declined by a third over the past 25 years; and many parishioners have yet to return to parish life since the pandemic. But - and importantly - these realities do not need to define us. Financial uncertainties in many of our parishes may feel daunting, but they are also an invitation to rediscover our mission, and to dream boldly about what God can achieve through us.

Pope Francis, in his letter *The Joy of the Gospel*, shared a vision that resonates deeply with the challenges we face: "I dream," he said "of a 'missionary option,' that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language, and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 27).

I have the privilege to serve as your Archbishop, and I want to say to you that I share this dream. A dream of an Archdiocese where every parish embraces this missionary spirit, becoming evermore vibrant communities where new people are continually encountering the Lord Jesus. My hope is for our parishes to be places of profound joy and healing, where lay men and women experience the transformative love of Christ; where they are equipped to carry forward the Church's mission with renewed purpose. I invite you to dream with me and to make this dream a reality.

In 2023, we embarked on a process entitled *Called to Bear Fruit*. It's a journey of listening, collaboration, and renewal in a spirit of synodality. We began by listening to the hopes and concerns of our clergy. Now, I would like also to hear from you, my sisters and brothers in Christ. What signs of vitality do you see flourishing in your parish? Where do you perceive the challenges to be? How can we work together, as clergy, laity and consecrated people, and neighbouring parishes, to make the Church's mission more effective in our local communities?

Today, I would like to ask for your help in two ways:

First of all, please pray for the renewal of our Archdiocese. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to illumine our hearts and minds with fresh possibilities during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Together, let us pray for the courage and wisdom to discern the path ahead.

Secondly, to engage in the *Called to Bear Fruit* consultation. A booklet is available at Mass today which outlines six key themes for reflection. I encourage you to gather in small groups, as works best in your community. Come together prayerfully to reflect on these themes, and share your insights with the *Called to Bear Fruit* team. The booklet explains everything about how to do this.

When I began my ministry as your Archbishop, I said that I did not come to the Archdiocese to manage decline, but to lead with hope. This Jubilee Year of Hope is our chance to open ourselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to work together towards a revival of Christian life, witness, and mission in our Archdiocese. For this, I humbly ask for your prayers, your ideas, and your active participation. Together, we can re-imagine our parishes as thriving centres of faith, healing, and evangelisation.

As Pilgrims of Hope, therefore, let us walk this journey together with faith, courage, and joy.

With every blessing and with the assurance of my prayers and gratitude

Yours devotedly in Christ

+ John Wilson  
Metropolitan Archbishop of Southwark



Archdiocese of Southwark

## PASTORAL & FINANCE COMMITTEES

### Parish Finance Committee

Secretary: Mary Scott - [3maryscott@gmail.com](mailto:3maryscott@gmail.com)

### Holy Trinity, Otford

Secretary: Gilly Fenner - [gf58b@icloud.com](mailto:gf58b@icloud.com)

### St Jospeh's, Borough Green

Secretary: John Foley - [johnandmariefoley@gmail.com](mailto:johnandmariefoley@gmail.com)

### St Bernadette's, West Kingsdown

Secretary: Jill Gobel - [jill.gobel@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.gobel@btinternet.com)

**Gift Aid:** Sean Corrigan: [sevenoaksgac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksgac@rcaos.org.uk)

### Parish Lead for Formation:

Adrian Pinington

### Parish Lead for Catechesis:

Trish Pinington

### Parishes Lead for Evangelisation:

Andrew La Trobe & Sue Sylvester

## LITURGY

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Coordinator

Barry Authers: [sevenoaksadoration@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksadoration@rcaos.org.uk)

### Altar Servers (St Thomas's)

Catherine Ingram: [ingramfamily15@yahoo.com](mailto:ingramfamily15@yahoo.com)

### Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sunday Mass

⇒ *Sevenoaks, 9:15am Mass:*

Mark O'Prey: [sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk)

⇒ *Otford, 9:30am Mass:*

Catherine Bennett: [sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk)

⇒ *Borough Green, 9:30am Mass:*

Fiona Newton: [fionanewton321@btinternet.com](mailto:fionanewton321@btinternet.com)

### Choirs

*Music Group:* Lonnie Christophers [lonniechr@hotmail.com](mailto:lonniechr@hotmail.com)

*Traditional Choir:* Barbara Page 01732 454729

*Borough Green:* Chris Hurll [chris.hurll@outlook.com](mailto:chris.hurll@outlook.com)

### Music Rota and Volunteers:

Kathleen Bouverie: [kcbouverie@yahoo.com](mailto:kcbouverie@yahoo.com)

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

Andrew Pembroke: [st.thomas.rota@gmail.com](mailto:st.thomas.rota@gmail.com)

## SACRAMENTS & CATECHESIS

### Confirmation Programme

Gabrielle Ellis: [sevenoaksconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk)

### First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Programme

Catherine Tan: [sevenoaksfhc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksfhc@rcaos.org.uk)

### RCIA (for adults becoming Catholic):

Andrew Wilkinson: [sevenoaksrcia@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksrcia@rcaos.org.uk)

## PRAYER & WELLBEING

### Mothers' Prayers

⇒ Mondays at 11:30am at Star House, Star Hill Road 01959 532505

⇒ Thursday after the 12noon Mass in the Parish Centre

### Parent & Toddlers Group

Tuesdays 10:00am - 12:00noon MH Room

Mary Hunt 07890 229794

### Lectio Divina

Kathie Gonzalez 01732 761253

### Listening to you (Bereavement Support)

Third Monday, 10:30am until midday in Parish Room

Sarah Harrison, Kate Travers, Ann Livingston, Sally Haggarty.

Contact via [sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk)

### Retreats

Catherine Roger: [c.rodger@btinternet.com](mailto:c.rodger@btinternet.com)

### Scripture Fellowship

Reading a Gospel together

Andrew Wilkinson: [andrewwilkos@gmail.com](mailto:andrewwilkos@gmail.com)

### Quiet Days

Gilly Ferner - [gf58b@icloud.com](mailto:gf58b@icloud.com)

## SOCIAL ACTION

### Caritas Representative: Gina Hartnett

([gina.hartnett@hotmail.com](mailto:gina.hartnett@hotmail.com))

### Catenians (social club for Catholic men)

Mark O'Prey ([markoprey@googlemail.com](mailto:markoprey@googlemail.com))

### Knights of St Columba

Br David Havard: [action.youth@kscsouthwark.org](mailto:action.youth@kscsouthwark.org)

### Loaves and Fishes Foodbank

Isabelle Mercer: [h.imercer@btopenworld.com](mailto:h.imercer@btopenworld.com)

### St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

Contact Paul Boyle 07918 808222

### St Thomas' Coffee Morning

Thursdays 10:15-11:45am in our Parish Centre.

Contact Frances Smith at [francesrsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:francesrsmith@hotmail.com)

### Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) (West Kingsdown)

Ann Vallins: [annvallins@yahoo.com](mailto:annvallins@yahoo.com)

## OTHER MINISTRIES

### Church Cleaning (St Thomas's)

James McSharry: [jamesmcsharry@hotmail.com](mailto:jamesmcsharry@hotmail.com)

### Church Flowers (St Thomas's)

Kate Travers: [kate.travers521@hotmail.com](mailto:kate.travers521@hotmail.com)

### St Thomas's Repository

Esther Ford: [sevenoaksrepository@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sevenoaksrepository@rcaos.org.uk)

Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

## Parish and other NOTICES

**SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND** is for Pax Christi which promotes peace in the world.

**CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT.** Archbishop John Wilson invites us all to reflect on the future of our Archdiocese. Booklets outlining six key themes for reflection are available at the back of the church. We encourage you to take a copy, read through it, and share your thoughts. Your insights will help shape the renewal of our Archdiocese. Let us pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and engage actively in this important journey of faith and mission.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK IN OTFORD.** The ecumenical service will be this Sunday 19th January at St Bartholomew's church, in Otford. All welcome at 5:00pm for tea/cake followed by the service at 5.30pm.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK IN SEVENOAKS.** Parishioners are invited to join in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service on Sunday, 26th January 2025, at 3:00 pm, at St John's Hill United Reformed Church, in Sevenoaks. It is an opportunity for Christians of all denominations to come together in prayer and fellowship, reflecting the unity we share in Christ. It is a time to celebrate our shared faith, pray for healing and reconciliation among all Christians, and give witness to the Gospel in our community. We hope to see many of you there!

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT.** On the third Monday of each month, parishioners from the Bereavement Support team will be in the Parish Centre from 10:30am until 12noon for anyone who would like to talk in confidence about a bereavement or other loss such as job, health, family pet. This month, it is on Monday 20th January.

**Our TRUTH SEEKERS** youth programme will have a session on Saturday 25th January, at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. Teenagers who have completed their Confirmation are all welcome. For queries, email the Parish office: sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk

**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES.** An exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles by Carlo Acutis will be displayed in St Thomas's for 3 weekends commencing 1st February. Carlo Acutis, who died in 2006 at the age of 15, will be canonised on 27th April 2025 on Divine Mercy Sunday. For details, contact Colleen Lockyer on 07768 453460 or Enia Adeleye on ennata@me.com.

**RECOLLECTION for women and girls.** This will be rescheduled. A new date will be confirmed soon.

**The FOOD BANK** is calling on your generosity to provide the their clients with new socks, especially men's socks. Some come without socks during this cold weather and this is not an item that can be found in charity shop. It would make a lovely gift for St Valentine's day. Thank you for your continuous support. Isabelle Mercer

**QUIZ NIGHT:** Saturday 22nd February at 7:30pm at St Joseph's, Borough Green. Teams of 6. £10 each to include a ploughman's supper and tea/coffee. Bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles. Contact Jenny 07591301186 or Margaret 01732885295 for booking.

**JUBILEE WALKING PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD - A CALL FOR PILGRIMS AND HOSTS TO PILGRIMS - DATE FOR THE DIARY.** As part of the Jubilee Year celebrations in 2025 called for by Pope Francis, there will be a walking pilgrimage from St George's cathedral to the Marian shrine of Aylesford in Kent. This will start on Monday 2nd June and arrive on Friday 6th June 2025, in time for the big diocesan Jubilee event on Saturday 7th June 2025. The pilgrims will stop at selected parishes on route sleeping in church halls or staying locally with parishioners or in B&Bs. Our parish has been chosen as one of the stopping places; the pilgrims will arrive in Sevenoaks on 4th June and stay two nights. Would you like to become involved - by joining the walkers for part or the whole of the walk, by welcoming them here, by offering hospitality to the pilgrims overnight for the two nights, by volunteering to cook, or be part of the welcome ministry? Please let Gina know (Gina.hartnett@hotmail.com).

### REPOSITORY OPENING TIMES THIS WEEK

**Saturday 18th January:** after 6:00pm Mass

**Sunday 19th January:** after 9:15am Mass and before 11:15am Mass

**Thursday 23th January:** during Coffee morning - from 10:15 until 12 noon.

**Saturday 25th January:** after 6:00pm Mass

**Sunday 26th January:** after 6:00pm Mass  
New cards (birthday, get well, mass intention, etc) and other items are available, and further copies of the new CTS Sunday Missal have now arrived, alongside other CTS publications. We also stock prayer and devotional books, a wide variety of rosaries, Holy water bottles and other gifts. Any queries, contact Esther Ford at sevenoaksrepository@rcaos.org.uk.

## MASS INTENTIONS

All masses are at St Thomas' CHURCH unless otherwise stated

### SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

6:00pm (Sat)  
8:00am (Latin)  
9:15am  
11:15am  
6:00pm  
9:30am Otford  
9:30am Borough Green  
11:00am West Kingsdown

### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Peace Sunday)

Stefania & Jan Ociepa and Stanislaw Czaja RIP  
People of the Parish  
Celia & Patrick Kinnell RIP  
Bernadette Butterworth RIP  
Bill Owen RIP  
For the intentions of the donor's mother.  
Norma Dalton RIP  
Patrick O'Grady RIP

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Joseph and Josephine Brown RIP

### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>

9:30am St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr  
Tim Kelly RIP  
12:00noon Otford  
Funeral Mass: Frank Easterbrook RIP

### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>

8:00am D'ced members of Andradi Brown family  
10:00am Otford  
Maria Fareló's intentions and the Fareló family

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

10:00am Borough Green Jacob and Andy (blessings in 2025)  
12:00noon Bernadette Butterworth RIP

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

8:00am St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  
Bernadette Butterworth RIP  
10:00am West Kingsdown Norma Ann Dalton RIP

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Feast of the Conversion of St Paul the Apostle  
Alan and Margaret Wilkinson & family

### SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

6:00pm (Sat) THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)  
8:00am (Latin) For the well being of Tony Cronin  
9:15am People of the Parish  
11:15am Helena Kendrick  
6:00pm Eileen Pengelly RIP  
9:30am Otford Tony Wiacek RIP  
9:30am Borough Green Frank Easterbrook RIP  
11:00am West Kingsdown Protection and good health for Barbara & family  
Catherine Maher (Christmas wishes)

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

### ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

Rosemary Creagh, Harry Healy, Liberato Siuiflia, James Regan, Celia Kinnell, Patricia Mary Rudden, David Cole, Simon Emmerson, Nora McCoy, Deacon Sanuel Gyepi-Garbrah, Terence Lyons, Bob Kossowski, Eileen Bass, Ethel Whiddett, Oswald Brown, Mary Collier, Dorothy Claydon, Marguerite Ogden, Mary Gerrard, Kathleen Kavanagh, Bernard Burt, Sheila Murphy, Nora O'Neill, Sandra Spokes, Brian Denton, Daniel Driscoll, Kathleen Wright, Val Parsons, Nora West, Erin Smith

*Eternal rest grant unto them  
O Lord, and let perpetual light  
shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

### Recently died

**Catherine (Cathie) Cairney**  
funeral arrangements to be confirmed

*May they rest in peace*

### Latin Antiphons

#### AD INTROITUM:

Omnis terra adoret te, Deus, et psallat tibi;  
psalmum dicat nómini tuo, Altíssime.

#### AD COMMUNIONEM:

Parásti in conspéctu meo mensam,  
et calix meus inébrians quam præclárus est!