

MASS INTENTIONS

ALL MASSES ARE AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER *The HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH*

8:00am (Latin)	In thanksgiving: Frank Haggarty's 91 st birthday
9:15am	Shona Bagley RIP
11:15am	Dec'd relatives: Andradi Brown family
6:00pm	People of the Parish
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Dec'd members of the Scott family
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	Hong Ling Chang-Kit RIP
11:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	Canon Tony Ford RIP

Monday 27th *S John, Ap Ev*

12:00noon	Lancy Rodrigues RIP
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Tuesday 28th *The Holy Innocents*

12:00noon	David & Anne Saffron RIP & bereaved family
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WEDNESDAY 29th *S THOMAS of CANTERBURY, M*

10:00am <i>Oxford</i>	Our Priests
12:00noon	Founders & Benefactors of the Parish RIP

Thursday 30th *Sixth day of Christmas Octave*

10:00am <i>Borough Green</i>	Holy Souls
12:00noon	Pat Mathewick RIP

Friday 31st *Seventh day of Christmas Octave*

8:00am	Good intentions of the donor's family
10:00am <i>West Kingsdown</i>	Holy Souls

SATURDAY 1st JANUARY *MARY, the HOLY MOTHER of GOD*

9:30am	Holy Souls
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SUNDAY 2nd JANUARY *SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY*

6:00pm (Sat)	Tom Healy
8:00am (Latin)	Barbara Hinjenston Randolph RIP
9:15am	People of the Parish
11:15am	Rita McMahan RIP & Geraldine McCarthy RIP
6:00pm	Holy Souls
9:30am <i>Oxford</i>	Holy Souls
9:30am <i>Borough Green</i>	Swift end to the pandemic

LATIN ANTIPHONS (for the 8:00am Mass):

Entrance:

Venerunt pastores festinantes, et invenerunt Mariam et Ioseph et Infantem positum in praesepio.

Communion:

Deus noster in terris visus est, et cum hominibus conversatus est.

St Thomas' School: *'outstanding'*

It is a great pleasure to report that in its recent Section 48 Ofsted Inspection the School was rated an 'Outstanding Catholic School'. We send our congratulations to Mrs Sexton, Executive Principal, Ms Leahy, Academy Principal, the teachers, and all the staff. Thanks are also due to governors and parents for their support.

Synodal Meeting

A final meeting date has been set for Sunday 9th January (exact location to be confirmed depending on the requests) for anyone who did not participate in the previous meetings. Anyone interested please email David Cooper (dpcoop1963@gmail.com).

Parishioner interview

An interview with Aidan McSharry - a parishioner currently at University - can be viewed on the Parish website at <http://www.sevrceparish.org.uk/virtual.htm>.

This will be of particular interest to teenagers and young adults. Other interviews can be viewed at the same place: do have a look.

PLEASE PRAY

- for an end to the pandemic;
- for the sick, especially Deidre Thomas, Ann Steven, Lilian Spragg, Jane Tabor, Rod Shelton, Mary Scott, Mary Varley, and all in old people's homes;
- for the homeless and those supported by local foodbanks;
- for the families of the parish;
- in thanksgiving for the Incarnation of Our Blessed Lord
- for our parish (*especially on Wednesday, the Solemnity of our Patron*).

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, SEVENOAKS

www.sevrceparish.org.uk 01732 454177

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28; Psalm 83; 1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24; Luke 2: 41-52

26th December 2021

Note to readers: the Readings are those **Ad Libitum for Year C**, page 122 in the Lectionary.

First Reading: in the story of the birth and dedication of Samuel (born to Hannah, an ancestor of Jesus) we can readily see parallels between Samuel and Jesus. The name 'Samuel' means 'name of God'.

Psalm: this psalm is describing Mount Zion (ie Jerusalem), which *Hebrews* describes as "the city of the living God" because the Word was made flesh and dwells among us.

Second Reading: as children of God we should keep two commandments: to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

Gospel: Mary and Joseph accidentally leave Jesus, aged 12, behind in Jerusalem. They find him in the Temple, his true Father's house. Do we, like Mary and Joseph, eagerly go in search of Jesus in church, the house of God?

Fr David

NOTICES

Pastoral Letter

In place of the Homily today there is a Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop.

Supply priests

Fr Ola Craig and Fr Bryan Wells are assisting us today.

Crib Offerings

All donations placed in any of the Cribs in the four Churches will be sent to the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, earmarked for schools in Bethlehem and the West Bank.

Parish Office

Magda is away for a couple of weeks, and so the Parish Office is closed, reopening on Wednesday 5th January 2022. Emails to the Office will still be monitored. For any more immediate matter please contact the Clergy.

This Week

Monday is a Bank Holiday: Holy Mass in St Thomas's at 12:00 noon. There is no Adoration this day.

Tuesday is also a Bank Holiday: Holy Mass in St Thomas's at 12:00 noon. There is no Adoration this day.

Wednesday is the Solemnity of St Thomas of Canterbury, Patron of our Parish and Secondary Patron of the Archdiocese. Holy Mass at Most Holy Trinity at 10:00am, and at St Thomas's at 12:00 noon, followed (COVID permitting) by refreshments. Come and celebrate our Feast Day!

Holy Mass on **Thursday, Friday** and **Saturday** all at the normal times at St Thomas's, Borough Green and West Kingsdown. Friday (being in the Christmas Octave) is not a day of abstinence (ie you may eat meat). Saturday is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

St Thomas Becket books

We have some books about St Thomas on sale in the Repository, priced £8.00. They include devotions to St Thomas, a new Novena for Christmas, a programme for pilgrimage to Canterbury, prayers for various needs, and lovely illustrations by a monk of Silverstream Abbey.

Sacrament of Penance

You can still get your Christmas Confession in! Confessions are heard in St Thomas's on Saturdays at 10:00am - 10:30am and 5:15pm - 5:45pm. Alternatively ask a priest after Mass or email Fr David or Fr Peter for an appointment.

Christmas Offering

Along with the Easter Offering this is your offering to the priests of the parish. The Archbishop has ruled that all collections received on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Sunday 26th (the Feast of the Holy Family) will form part of the Christmas Offering; this includes all donations made by the card reader in St Thomas's.

In addition all donations given electronically by bank transfer and identified as 'Christmas Offering' will "constitute the annual personal Christmas offering of the faithful for their priests". You can make a bank transfer (put 'Christmas Offering' as the reference) to

Bank: NatWest

Sort code: 60 19 02

A/c name: RCAS ST THOMAS OF
CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

A/c number: 25782002

You can, of course, use this for any donation, to the parish (First Collection), to Second Collections (please make the intended recipient clear), or for Mass Intentions.

Fr David and Fr Peter thank you for your generosity.