ADVERT



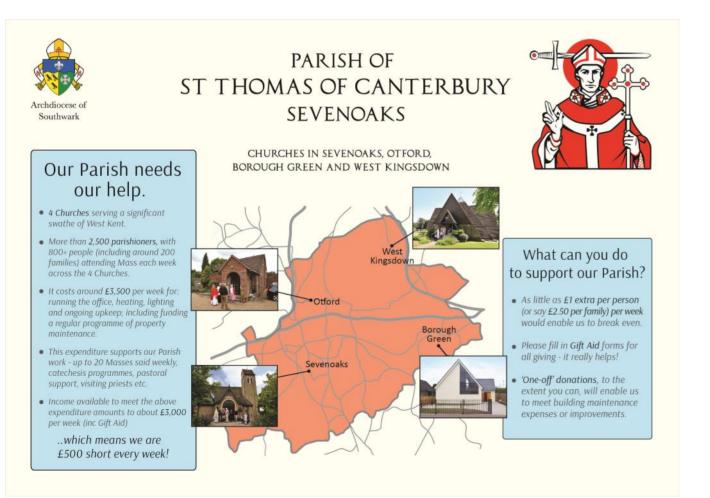
Shin Sei Do Karate Club

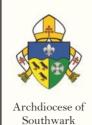
Shin Sei Do is a Karate Club offering classes for children and adults; experienced and beginners are all welcome.

The instructor (James McSharry) is a registered Karate instructor. He holds Martial Arts Coaching Qualifications (MASA), enhanced DBS certificate, Instructors' Public and Products liability Insurance and is affiliated to ShiKon Martial Arts.

The Club meets on Sunday and Tuesday evenings at Solefield School Hall, Fiennes Way, Sevenoaks, TN13 1PH.

For more information and to book visit <u>https://sevenoakskarate.co.uk/</u>.





PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

CHURCHES IN SEVENOAKS, OTFORD, BOROUGH GREEN AND WEST KINGSDOWN

Parish Newsletter



Mass: TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY (Year C) 2 Kings 5: 14-17; Psalm 97; 2 Timothy 2: 8-13; Luke 17: 11-19

First Reading: having been cured of his leprosy by Elisha, Naaman returns to his healer, who refuses a reward. Naaman wishes to ensure that when he returns home the God who has cured him will still be with him, so in a somewhat earthbound understanding of deity he takes two mules' worth of Israelite earth back to Damascus.

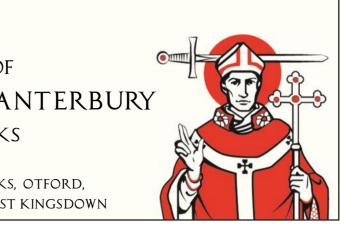
Psalm: this is the only psalm with just 'A Psalm' as the title. It is a hymn of praise to God for the salvation he has shown to the nations.

Second Reading: a summary of St Paul's message. In poetic form it explains the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, for His suffering and death are patterns for the suffering and death of His followers.

Gospel: ten lepers are healed, but only one - a foreigner - returns to Jesus and thanks God for his healing. Which is more surprising: that one praised God or that the nine didn't?

We know that God is the giver of all good things: every mouthful of food, every breath of air, every note of music, every good sight, and a million other things. Do we take time to count our blessings and to thank God for them?

Fr Davíd



9th October 2022

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

Sunday Mass times: Saturday 6:00pm

Adoration:

Monday

Tuesday

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

8:30am - 9:30am

6:00pm - 7:00pm

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

10:00am - 10:30am,

5:15pm - 5:45pm

Saturday



Granville Road, Sevenoaks TN13 1ER

Parish Office: Magdalena Wiacek Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:00noon Tel: 01732 454177 sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk www.sevrcparish.org.uk

Church contact:

Barry Authers

Tel: 01959 524362

sevenoaksmht@rcaos.org.uk



High Street, Otford TN14 5PH

Western Rd, Borough Green TN15 8AG



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

ST JOSEPH'S BOROUGH GREEN

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

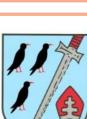
Mass times: Sunday 11:00am Friday 10:00am Holy Days of Obligation 11:00am Adoration: Wed 12:00noon- 1:00pm

ST BERNADETTE'S WEST KINGSDOWN

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

Executive Head: Mrs Katherine Sexton Academy Principal: Ms Geraldine Leahy Tel: 01732 453921





Fawkham Rd, West Kingsdown TN15 6JP

ST THOMAS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

CONTACTS & ORGANISATIONS

Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks

Presbytery and Parish Office: 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER Website: www.sevrcparish.org.uk Tel: 01732 454177

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons, KHS davidgibbons@rcaos.org.uk Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Littleton peterlittleton@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 - Friday 9:00am - 12:00noon

Safeguarding Rep: Ken Baines sevenoakssg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator can be contacted on 020 7261 1606; in an emergency dial 999

Adoration Barry Authers adoration@sevrcparish.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 sevenoaksclow@rcaos.org.uk Otford, 9:30am Mass: Magdalena Wiacek 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 Hurll chris.hurll@outlook.com

Church Cleaning (St Thomas's) Jim McSharry jamesmcsharry@hotmail.com

Church Flowers 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 Fr Peter Littleton: peterlittleton@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 01732 452988, Sarah Harrison 01959 522357, Kate Travers katetravers521@hotmail.com and Ann Livingston annlivingston@hotmail.co.uk

Loaves and Fishes Foodbank Isabelle Mercer: h.imercer@btopenworld.com

Mothers' Prayers Mondays, 11:30am at Star House, Star Hill Road 01959 532505

Baby & 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 Christine Landon christinedlandon@gmail.com

RCIA For adults becoming Catholic Andrew La Trobe andrew.latrobe@gmail.com

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 ac.jbpembroke@gmail.com or 01732 450197

Scripture Fellowship Reading a Gospel together Andrew Wilkinson andrewwilkos@gmail.com

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Paul Boyle 07796564018 Kathie Gonzalez sevenoakssvp@gmail.com

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) West Kingsdown UCM: Monica Biggs mmdbbiggs@outlook.com

Webmaster Barry Authers sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk

10

PARISH NOTICES

TODAY

Confirmation candidates

Welcome to our Confirmandi, who have their Mass of Election at the Saturday 6:00pm Mass. Please pray for them as they prepare for their Confirmation in November.

Supply Priests

We welcome Fr Bryan Wells and one of the Capuchin Franciscans friars helping out today (Sunday).

Second Collection

The Second Collection today is the Harvest CAFOD collection. For more information, for prayer resources, and to donate online go to cafod.org.uk. Use the CAFOD envelopes if you pay UK tax so that CAFOD can claim Gift Aid on your donation.

National Mass count

The fourth and final Mass count takes place today.

11:15am Mass

The Traditional Choir leads the music.

THIS WEEK

Prisons Week

Today is a Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families, and 9th - 15th October is National Prisons Week. Pact is the national Catholic charity that supports prisoners and their children and families. For more information, including how to get involved, go to www.prisonadvice.org.uk.

Tree pruning

The trees and bushes in front of the Presbytery are to be pruned on Monday. I suggest you don't stand underneath while the arboriculturists are doing this!

Wednesday: the Pilgrims

As older members of the Parish we would particularly like to pray for young people throughout the country during this time of insecurity and change. We ask you to join us at 10:00am in St Thomas's to pray the Rosary with this dedication in our minds and hearts. We welcome everyone, whatever their age. Afterwards we shall gather in the Parish Room for coffee.

NOTICES

Adults interested in becoming a Catholic

Anyone interesting in learning more about the Catholic faith - with no commitment at this stage, just come and see- please contact Andrew La Trobe (andrew.latrobe@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

St Thomas's Repository

After a number of years Christine Landon is retiring from running the Repository, and we thank her hugely for this ministry. Sophie McBrien has kindly agreed to help after the 9:15am Mass, but we will need more helpers. Contact Magda in the Office if you can devote a little bit of your time.

Secondary School Transfer

If you need Fr David to countersign a Supplementary Form for St Gregory's Catholic School or for Trinity School you should email him to make an appointment. He is unable to sign forms for other non Catholic Schools.

Finance

The Offertory for August, from all sources, was £12.584.00. Thank you.

The St Joseph's Quiz Night made just over £675 including £224 from the raffle - for St Joseph's funds. Thanks to all who helped organise it (especially Julia who did all the washing up) and to all who participated.

The Most Holy Trinity car park appeal raised £720.00. You can still donate to this: cheques payable to RCAS Sevenoaks or cash can be handed to Mary Scott. the Otford Treasurer.

Refugee families

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School have two families from Ukraine who need to find new accommodation. It is two mothers with a daughter each. Currently, they are together with one host family. They are really hoping to be able to stay in Sevenoaks as their children have settled very well at St Thomas'. They are either looking for a new host family or someone who has a flat that they would be willing to rent to them. They are happy to be on a bus route to Sevenoaks or even to now be apart as two lots of one Mother and one child. Financially, the Government provides host families with £350 a month to help with extra bills and Sevenoaks District Council is offering to help with deposits and the first month's rent. If you can offer assistance in any way then please ³ contact Melanie in the School office.

PARISH AND OTHER NOTICES

Most Holy Trinity Otford Social Evening

The parishioners at Otford are hosting a social event on Saturday 12th November at 7:30pm to raise funds for the car park resurfacing. There will be an entertaining talk by Blue Badge Guide Jonathan Fenner on Beasts, Bishops and Bankers: the Story of Sevenoaks, followed by cheese & wine. It will be in the Club Room at Otford Village Memorial Hall. Tickets (£15) will be on sale shortly; meanwhile save the date.

Diocesan Marriage Preparation Presenters

A married couple, both practising Catholics, are sought to present 6 courses a year in various Kent and South London locations. Salary £7,000 per couple, mileage paid, training given. For job description etc contact liamgallagher@rcaos.org.uk; applications by 14th October.

DIOCESAN & OTHER NOTICES

Archbishop's Certificate

This is an online course for all in Southwark who wish to know their Catholic faith more deeply, and is especially for those involved in evangelization, catechesis, and formation. Participants will take a two-year journey through the Church's teaching to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

The course commences this month and the cost (divided between the individual and the Parish) is £365. Further details and registration can be found at https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert.

Building a Better Marriage

A morning online course aimed at married couples, whether they have been married for a few years or decades. It is aimed at couples with average to good marriages looking to make their marriage better. There is no group sharing.

Booking is essential and there is a nominal charge of £10 per couple. The next sessions will be on 22nd October and 26th November. More details from Carole Batty (mflkent@rcaos.org.uk).

Life in the Spirit Day of Renewal

At St George's Cathedral on Saturday 22nd October, 10:00am - 5:00pm. The main speaker is Fr Michael Payyapilly VC from the Divine Retreat Centre in Australia. The day is organised by the Southwark Charismatic Renewal and includes praise and worship, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer for healing, Confessions, Mass, and testimonies. Booking is free: bit.ly/SouthwarkRenewal22.

World Youth Day 2023

Although it is a little while away, the Archdiocese will be taking a group of young pilgrims to the World Youth Day in Lisbon, 31st July - 7th August.

If you are interested visit www.bit.ly/wydsouthwark or www.lisboa2023.org/en/.

Bishop Howard Tripp RIP

Please pray for the soul of Bishop Howard Tripp, Emeritus Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark, who has died aged 95. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

MORE PARISH NOTICES

New to the Parish?

If you are new to the Parish, welcome. Please register by going to the Parish website (http:// www.sevrcparish.org.uk/) and clicking on 'Parish Registration'. Do also scroll through the list of Parish organisations etc on page 10; you may well find a group to interest you.

Formed.org Faith at Home

The Parish has purchased access to a powerful new resource that can enable you to grow in your knowledge of and love for your Catholic faith: formed.org. It has an extraordinary range of content, including movies, TV shows, discussion programmes, documentaries, courses, audiobooks, downloadable books and content for children and teenagers.

Parishioners can sign up for free. Simply

- 1. go to <u>www.formed.org</u> and click 'sign up'
- 2. click 'sign up as parishioner'
- 3. search for 'St Thomas of Canterbury Sevenoaks
- 4. enter your name and email address, and click 'sign up'.





arious financial matters

Notwithstanding last week's article about the First Collection at Sunday Mass I don't often write about financial matters. But today I want

to keep you informed about some financial aspects.

The 'outstations'

The three Chapels of Ease each have their own local account, with a Treasurer who is a member of the local committee. At Most Holy Trinity this is Mary Scott, at St Joseph's Margaret Briggs, and at St Bernadette's John Gobel. These local accounts do not have large sums in them but with some local fund raising they provide funds for the smaller local items. The example I always give is that if the clock falls off the wall and breaks the local Treasurer can buy a new one, without having to go through me or consulting the Parish Finance Committee. The three local Treasurers all sit on that committee.

Last weekend St Joseph's held their traditional Quiz Night, which raised £675 for St Joseph's funds. The Most Holy Trinity account is paying part of the cost (£26,000) of the car park resurfacing: £5,000 has already been transferred to the main Parish Account, £1,000 was donated by Otford Building Merchants, and further sums will come from last weekend's Second Collection and from the Ride & Stride. More fund raising will take place at the social event (see the notices).

Utility suppliers

Fortunately we are in the middle of three year contracts for gas and electricity. Our bills can rise but not to an exorbitant degree. Incidentally, our electricity comes rather bewilderingly from British Gas.

Some financial matters

We do need to keep a careful watch on the use of gas and electricity, so please don't keep lights on unnecessarily.

Our accountant, Stephanie Cotterill, is in the process of investigating similar contracts for water bills, so we hope to make savings there.

It might be that solar panels on the Church roof would be cost effective. Does anyone know about them? Please contact me if you do.

We also have some software on the photocopier which alerts us if the cost of printing is high (eg if something downloaded from the internet is in colour and not black and white as we thought). This Newsletter costs 10p each, partly offset by the back page adverts. Please contact Magda in the Parish Office to advertise there.

Donations

You can donate to Parish Funds (hopefully Gift Aiding your donation so we get back the tax you have paid) by a Standing Order. Go to the Parish website to download the forms (http://www.sevrcparish.org.uk/ giftaid.htm). If you make a bank transfer please give a clear reference (eg 'Mass Intention', 'Baptism donation', 'First Communion book' etc). The bank details are NatWest Bank, Sort Code 60-19-02, RCAS Sevenoaks, A/c No 25782002.

Alternatively you can use the card reader in St Thomas's Entrance, or donate via Just Giving (again on the website). Cash donations can of course be put in the First Collection or the Second Collection when there is one.

Parish Finance Committee

The Committee, chaired by Ben Andradi, meets regularly and keeps a close eye on the accounts. It also authorises expenditure over £1,000. Expenditure over £10,000 has to be approved by the Diocesan Finance Office. The other members of the Committee are Margaret Briggs, Amanda Buttinger, John Gobel, Kees Kempenaar, Frank Quinn, and Mary Scott (Secretary). I and Fr Peter also attend.

Parish Centre Working Party

The Parish Centre badly needs refurbishment, and a Working Party has been set up to explore what can be done. Amanda Buttinger chairs this, assisted by Christina Rose, with representatives from the groups who use the building. A questionnaire about the Centre will be issued soon. If you have architectural or building surveyor expertise and could assist this Working Party do let me know.

CHRISTY'S STORY

(from Pact)

There is currently no structure in place for children whose mothers are in custody, and no official records are kept about how many children are affected by the imprisonment of a parent. Women are far more likely than men to be primary carers for children prior to imprisonment, and the effect of maternal separation on children is often more devastating, with far-reaching implications for their growth and development.

Christy is just one of the women supported by Pact's pilot project, Together a Chance, which supports mothers in custody to maintain links with their children. Launched in response to Lord Farmer's recommendation that all women's prisons should have an on-site social worker as part of a multidisciplinary custodial team, the scheme has placed social workers in two women's prisons: HMPs Send and Eastwood Park. It aims to empower women to play a positive role in their children's lives, and be involved in decisions relating to their welfare, while protecting the best interests of their children.

We shared Christy's words alongside key findings from the_project's interim evaluation at an event earlier this year in the House of Lords. Her story shows how Pact's social workers have become invaluable to both mothers and community practitioners, and that the project can create systemic change in the way imprisoned mothers and their children are dealt with, responded to, and cared for.

Christy's social worker, Becky, has supported her to connect with Local Authority social workers in matters involving her children and to speak for herself at court. She has also been able to build positive relationships with professionals working with Christy's children to encourage familial visits and establish more regular contact through phone calls and letters. Christy said:

"I have always felt so alone in my fight to secure contact with my children. It's even more of a strain being a parent in prison because of the stigma attached to it. It's like you're losing before you begin.

"You're unable to use the internet for advice or support, you're unable to use a phone to chase courts or professionals who may be involved. You're stuck with just pen and paper, and let's face it, in this day and age it's just prehistoric and doesn't give us a good start. You're effectively isolated and alone.

"Maintaining family ties is crucial in the progress of rehabilitation. It can provide a stable foundation to build upon. Being part of the project has made me see how much help and support is needed in this area.

"My case was never going to be straightforward and at times it was extremely challenging for Pact. The main obstacle they faced was communication from Local Authority social services and since the pilot project has been involved, this issue has been resolved. I believe it is because the Together a Chance team are social workers and know the protocols.

"Since my social worker, Becky, started supporting me, my life has been so much easier. She has taken away so much stress and I am in a much better position in respect of child contact. Becky has been consistent, friendly, non -judgmental, approachable, but most importantly reliable and professional. She has listened to me and for the first time in years, I feel "heard". I feel like my relationship with my children matters and my rights are being upheld."

"It is the little things that enable the big things to happen, such as printing forms, posting, phoning/emailing, minute-taking, liaising with professionals and the option of a McKenzie friend*. She has done - and continues to do - all of this for me, and more. She has been my rock. I know it is still not over, but she has enabled me to trust and hope again."

* A McKenzie friend is someone who supports or encourages an individual representing themselves in court proceedings.

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

SUNDAY 9 th O	ctober	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY
6:00pm (Sat)		Frank Haggarty RIP
8:00am (Latin)		People of the Parish
9:15am		Fr Joe Andradi
11:15am		Archbishop Peter An
6:00pm		João Pereira RIP
9:30am	Otford	Archbishop Cyril Cov
9:30am	Borough Green	Holy Souls
11:00am	West Kingsdown	CAFOD
Monday 10 th	Feria	
8:00am		Anna Mullan RIP
Tuesday 11 th	Feria	
9:30am		Oksana Popova RIP
Wednesday 12	2 th Feria	
8:00am		Alfred & Lily Lockyer & their parent
10:00am	Otford	Holy Souls
Thursday 13 th	S EDWARD	the CONFESSOR, King
10:00am	Borough Green	William Gallagher RI
12:00noc	n	Bridget Alexander RI
Friday 14 th	Feria	
8:00am		Christopher Gouck G
	West Kingsdown	
Saturday 15 th	S Teresa of J	lesus, V D
9:30am		All dec'd of the donc
SUNDAY 16 th (October	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY (
6:00pm	(Sat)	Holy Souls
8:00am (Latin)		Archbishop Michael
9:15am		Barry Burns RIP (4 th a
11:15am		People of the Parish
6:00pm		Cyril Waite RIP (birth
9:30am	Otford	End of pandemic
9:30am	Borough Green	Peace in Ukraine
11:00am	West Kingsdown	Marie Lourdes Rade

(C)	Baptism	
	Welcome to	
	Helena Halliday	
	who was Baptized at	
nigo RIP	St Thomas's, Sevenoaks	
	last weekend.	
vderoy RIP		
	Departed anniversaries	
s RIP	Lilian Andrey O'Grady, Patricia Johnson, Ron Jones, Helene Dawson, Kitty Collins, Mary Walshe, Mark Bullock, William Schnorr, Tony Ivil, Kay Johnston, Marian Crofton, Desmond Tanner, Winifred Pepper, John Taylor, John Arundel, Jean Brown, John Mansfield, Edward Thomson, Maureen Mode, Lorenza Conning- Rowland, Mary Woodhams,	
	Deirdre Dodd, Michael Kohut.	
Р	Eternal rest grant unto them,	
Р	Please remember the sick who have been commended to our	
	prayers, especially:	
iallo	Yvonne Bollen, Peter Ringham,	
gonde RIP	Deidre Thomas, Ann Steven, Lilian Spragg, Jane Tabor, Ken Holmes, Mary Scott, Sean	
or's family	Cloke, Ann Farren and all in	
'C)	care and nursing homes.	
Bowen RIP	LATIN ANTIPHONS	
anniversary)	Entrance Si iniquitates observaveris,	
nday)	Domine, Domine, quis sustinebit? Quia apud te propitiatio est, Deus Israel.	
gonde RIP	Communion Divites eguerunt et esurierunt; quærentes autem Dominum non minuentur omni bono.	