

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

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.sevrcparish.org.uk



**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
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

Headteacher:

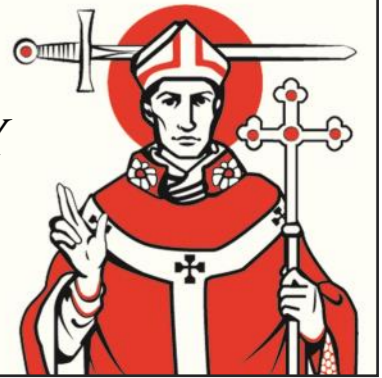
Ms Geraldine Leahy
Tel: 01732 453921



Archdiocese of
Southwark

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

CHURCHES IN SEVENOAKS, OTFORD,
BOROUGH GREEN AND WEST KINGSDOWN



Parish Newsletter

12th November



This year, as we approach Remembrance Sunday, the echoes of conflicts past mingle with the dissonant sounds of the present. Each year we recall, with solemn respect, the end of both World Wars. But today, maybe more than ever, the spirit of remembrance takes on a renewed significance as we witness the turmoil in Ukraine and the recent strife in Palestine, reminding us of the fragility of peace.

In the light of the readings for this Sunday — Wisdom 6:12-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Matthew 25:1-13 — we are called to a vigilance of heart and mind. Wisdom invites us to seek and find her, to understand that true wisdom lies in living with a view to eternity, recognising the ultimate triumph of peace and justice. The people of Thessalonica are comforted with the promise of the Resurrection, assuring us that those who have died have not perished, but are in God's embrace, awaiting us all in the final resurrection. And the Gospel admonishes us to be prepared, like the wise virgins, for we know neither the day nor the hour of the Bridegroom's return. This call to preparedness can also be seen as a call to work for peace in the present, to be ready to serve and aid those in need.

As Catholics let our remembrance be twofold: a tribute to the fallen and a commitment to the living. We honour those who gave their lives in the sincere belief that their sacrifice would yield a better world. Yet, we must also hold fast to our call to be peacemakers, for blessed are they who sow the seeds of peace in times of discord.

Let us then on this Remembrance Sunday stand in solidarity with all who suffer due to war — be they the war-torn residents of Ukraine or the afflicted in Palestine, or any other oppressed and bullied children of God. Our prayers extend to them, and our actions should follow suit. Let us be a beacon of hope through volunteering, through donations, and through our advocacy for peace and justice. May our remembrance not only be a reflection of the past but also a catalyst for a future where war is a memory, not a reality.

Fr Peter



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 Peter Kucharski piotrkuharski@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Vipin James, SDV vipinjames@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 Hurl chris.hurl@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 01732 452988, Sarah Harrison 01959

522357, Kate Travers katetravers521@hotmail.com

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)

Monica Biggs: mmdbbiggs@outlook.com

Webmaster

Barry Authers: sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk

ST THOMAS' YOUTH PROGRAM - TRUTH SEEKERS -

In the heart of Church's mission lies the vital task of guiding our young people towards a flourishing relationship with God. Cultivating young disciples with the vision of enriching our youth's spiritual journey, we are proud to introduce the TRUTH SEEKERS program. This initiative emerged from meaningful conversations during our recent Confirmation Program, where the need for continued faith formation for our children was keenly felt.

TRUTH SEEKERS is designed for children (boys and girls) 13 to 16 years of age, aiming to fortify their understanding and relationship with Christ.

PROGRAM GOAL:

Reinforcing the awareness and knowledge of Christ, to help sustain a lifelong love of God and His Church.

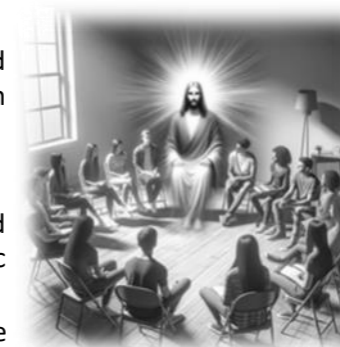
ACHIEVING BY:

- Encourage learning, debate and discussion on fundamental Catholic Faith matters
- Creating a structured program to provide support and development for young teenagers within the Parish
- Establishing a safe and supportive community, where children feel comfortable to explore their faith with likeminded peers

PROGRAM STRUCTURE:

The program will follow 3 main themes, being:

KNOWING GOD <=> LOVING GOD <=> SERVING GOD
These pillars of faith will be examined in three blocks of weekly sessions, typically of 4-6 weekly sessions.



Block 1 (Feb/Mar), Block 2 (Jun/Jul), Block 3 (Sep/Oct). Given where we currently find ourselves, the plan for the balance of 2023 will be to run blocks 1 and 2 over the balance of the year, and look to have the full program run from 2024 onwards.

The weekly sessions will be run on a Saturday evening after Mass - typically from 19:00pm to 20:15/20:30pm.

The session will start with prayer, an ice breaker game, a small meal and video of 20min to 30min followed by open debate and discussion on the topic of the video.

Content remains to be finalised for Blocks 2 and 3, however it is proposed to use "The Search" video series for Block 1.

We will commence with the **2nd block of the TRUTH SEEKERS** program starting Saturday 4th November between 7:00pm - 8:15pm. The program will run on Saturday evenings through to mid-December 2023.

The TRUTH SEEKERS is a call to all our teenagers who have completed their confirmation. to continue nurturing the seed of faith planted within them. But TRUTH SEEKERS is more than just a program; it is a stepping stone to a deeper, more intimate relationship with God and we encourage all teenagers to get involved.

For any queries, please email Giuseppe De Simone on giuseppe@desimone.co.za

Together, let us commit to the spiritual growth of our young parishioners, for they are the future of our Church and the bearers of our faith to the world.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

ON SATURDAY 2ND DEC 2022 FROM 10.00 - 16.00
AT THE POULT HOUSE BARN, ASHES LANE, HADLOW, TN11 9QU
(ENTRANCE OPPOSITE NORTH FRITH FARM)
SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION £5

Through the use of music, poetry, prayer and nature, the day will be an opportunity to prepare for Christmas by reflecting on events and people leading up to Jesus' birth.

The day will be led by Sevenoaks parishioner Gilly Fenner who has worked as a spiritual director for over 20 years.

Please bring a bible and a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. Please wear weather appropriate clothes and shoes as there will be an opportunity to spend part of the day will be outside.

All are welcome though numbers are limited to 20. If you wish to attend please email Gilly at gf58b@iCloud.com

PARISH AND OTHER NOTICES

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This Sunday, 12th November:

- Remembrance Day Parade and Service at 10.50am at Vine War Memorial, Sevenoaks
- at St Thomas' we will keep 3-minute silence at 11.00am, and the Mass will be kept in the atmosphere of Remembrance
- at Otford, after the 9.30am Mass, all are invited to attend the Otford War Memorial 11.00am
- at Borough Green we will begin with 3-minute silence, and the Mass will be offered as a Requiem Mass for the Heroes and Victims of the two World Wars
- at West Kingsdown are invited to attend the 11.00am Remembrance at the Church of England Church, and Mass will therefore start at 11.30am

SECOND COLLECTION - ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

The 2nd Collection this weekend is for the Archbishop's Appeal, to support the three key areas of diocesan responsibility: Youth & Evangelization, Our Faith in Action, and Clergy Care and Formation. For more details see the leaflets available.

HOLY SOULS AND BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE

Traditionally the month of November is dedicated to prayer for the faithful departed (Holy Souls). Please notify us of any names to be added to the November Books of Remembrance preferably by email (sevenoaks@rcaos.org.uk). There will also be special envelopes for donations for the Masses to be offered in November and throughout the year for the Holy Souls, including all those in our Books of Remembrance.

THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

The blessing of graves at Greatness Cemetery will take place on Sunday 19th November at 3.00pm. We can bless other cemeteries and graves in the parish by appointment

HOLY TRINITY SOCIAL

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who organised and contributed to the success of our Holy Trinity Social event. Your presence, enthusiasm, and support made the evening truly special.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

The official First Holy Communion opening Mass this Sunday at 9:15am at St Thomas'.

Parent & child FHC sessions are on Friday 10th November (3:45pm-4:30pm) OR Sunday 12th November (10:15am-11:00am) at St Thomas' Church.

ALTAR SERVER'S MEETING

We would like to invite all our Altar Servers to a meeting on Friday, 24th November at 7.30pm in St Thomas' church. Please would all our young Altar Servers make the effort and attend along with their parents. If for any reason you are unable to make it, please contact Fr Vipin (vipinames@rcaos.org.uk). Your presence and participation are greatly appreciated.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS RECRUITMENT

Ministry at the altar is not only a privilege but also a great way to deepen our Catholic faith. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please reach out to Fr Vipin and attend the upcoming Altar Servers meeting on 24th November, 7.30pm.

CHILDRENS LITURGY at 9.15am MASS

The Children's Liturgy helps our young parishioners to understand and embrace the Word of God in an engaging way. We are eager to bring back this enriching experience for our children at the 9.15am Mass on Sundays at St Thomas', Sevenoaks. To make this possible, we seek volunteers to help lead the liturgy. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Fr Peter piotrkucharski@rcaos.org.uk or Magda.

CONFIRMATION MASS

On Saturday 18th November at 12:30pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark our young parishioners will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from the hands of Bishop Philip Moger. Please join us if you can and remember our Confirmation group in your prayers.

SVP COLLECTION - Thank you

Our parish SVP thanks all the parishioners for their generosity. We have collected well over £1300 in the September annual collection. These funds will enable us to continue to help those in need.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

SUNDAY 12th November

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

11:30am *West Kingsdown*

Monday 13th *Feria*

8:00am

Tuesday 14th *Feria*

9:30am

7:30pm

Wednesday 15th *Feria*

8:00am

10:00am *Otford*

Thursday 16th *Feria*

10:00am *Borough Green*

12:00noon

Friday 17th *Feria*

8:00am

10:00am *West Kingsdown*

Saturday 18th *Votive Mass of Our Lady III*

9:30am

SUNDAY 19th November

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

11:00am *West Kingsdown*

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY

- Wellbeing of Edwards
- Holy Souls
- People of the Parish
- Lucy Cziraki
- Private Intention
- Angela Brunning RIP
- Requiem Mass for the dead of two World Wars

Nancy Lally RIP

Joseph & Josephine Brown RIP

Richard Latter RIP (anniversary)

Catenians Dec'd Brothers Mass

John Farren RIP

Fr David Forrester RIP

Wellbeing of Angela Newton

Ken Holmes RIP - post-funeral Mass

Neil D'Souza RIP (anniversary)

Margaret Clarke RIP

Paul Robert Edwards RIP

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY

- Moreen Ward RIP
- Holy Souls
- In thanksgiving - Seila Santos
- Lucy (Mahony) Cziraki RIP
- Angela Murphy RUP (anniversary)
- People of the Parish
- John Lobo RIP (post-funeral Mass)

Susan Vasini RIP

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK

Sue Spilstead, Valerie Dias, Gwen Farrell, Elizabeth Sherratt, Philip Hardaker, Paulina Andrea, Zamora Hernandez, Mavis Mitchell Lambert, Tony Barrett, Frank Easterbrook, Lynne Stanley, Veronica Williams, Yvonne Bollen, Peter Ringham, Ann Steven, Lilian Spragg, Mary & Chris Scott, Sean Cloke, Ann Farren and all in care and nursing homes in the Parish.

ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

Margery O'Callaghan, Luise Gouldstone, Richard Latter, Winnie Havercan, Reginald Frith, Edith Scott, Arthur Strain, Francis Comerford, Rose Anne Gilgan, Margaret Trousdell, James Cairney, Terence Oung, Thomas Brady, Jeannine Greene, Dorothy Schnorr, Patricia Wright, Leo Monaghan, James Currin, John Staples, Winifred Lyons, Jean French, Monique Brittan, Baby Mercer, Susan Hatfield, David Murphy, Catherine Moran, Fr John Jeffries, Johanna Smith, Patrick O'Driscoll.

LATIN ANTIPHONS

Entrance:

Intret oratio mea in conspectu tuo; inclina aurem tuam ad precem meam, Domine.

Communion:

Dominus regit me, et nihil mihi deerit; in loco pascuæ ibi me collocavit, super aquam refectio nis educavit me.