

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:

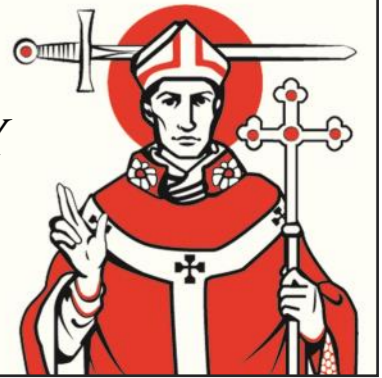
Ms Geraldine Leahy
Tel: 01732 453921



Archdiocese of
Southwark

PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SEVENOAKS

CHURCHES IN SEVENOAKS, OTFORD,
BOROUGH GREEN AND WEST KINGSDOWN



Parish Newsletter

19th November 2023



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

"Charity is certainly greater than any rule. Moreover, all rules must lead to charity."

– St. Vincent de Paul

The 2023 World Day of the Poor- this Sunday - draws our attention not only

to the spiritual dimensions of poverty but also to its practical, everyday realities. This Sunday's readings, when considered in the context of the current challenges faced by many in our communities, call us to a deeper and more active engagement with those living in poverty.

The parable of the talents in Matthew's Gospel can be seen as a metaphor for our responsibility to use our resources, not just for personal enrichment, but for the betterment of those around us. In a world where many are struggling with the cost of living, grappling with issues like food insecurity, debt, and inadequate housing, this parable challenges us to invest our 'talents' in ways that uplift and support those in need.

The first reading from Proverbs, which highlights the virtues of a worthy wife, particularly her outreach to the poor, resonates deeply with current initiatives within our communities. This passage encourages us to actively participate in alleviating the struggles of the poor, reminding us that true virtue and wisdom lie in our actions towards those who are less fortunate.

St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, emphasizing preparedness and vigilance, speaks to the urgency of responding to the needs around us. In a world marked by economic challenges and social inequalities, this message urges us not to be complacent but to be proactive in our support of those affected by poverty.

In light of these readings and the current socio-economic challenges, the 2023 World Day of the Poor becomes a powerful call to action. It urges us to recognize the poor in our midst – those struggling with the cost of living, the marginalised, migrants, refugees, and all who are in need of our support. We are reminded that our faith calls us not only to spiritual reflection but to concrete action – be it through charitable giving, volunteering, or advocating for social justice.

This Sunday, let us commit to seeing and responding to the needs around us, inspired by the teachings of the Gospel and the pressing needs of our time. Let us embrace the challenge to be the hands and feet of Christ in a world where many are crying out for compassion and assistance.

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 piotrku@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 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 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: mmdbiggs@outlook.com

Webmaster

Barry Authers: sevenoakswebmaster@rcaos.org.uk

THANK YOU

In the vibrant tapestry of our parish, your generosity stands as a beacon of support, illuminating the path towards the continued flourishing of our community. We extend our deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment and the invaluable contributions that form the lifeblood of our parish.



To make the process of supporting our parish more convenient, we're excited to introduce new avenues for donations. Whether you prefer a one-off gift or wish to establish an ongoing commitment through a direct debit, the process has been simplified for your ease. By scanning the QR code or visiting our website at <http://www.sevrparish.org.uk/>, you can seamlessly navigate the donation process and contribute to the well-being of our parish family.

Additionally, for those attending services in person, we've made provisions for donations through the card machine located at the back of the church. Your offerings, whether big or small, play a crucial role in sustaining the various initiatives and programs that define our parish's identity.

As we invite you to embark on this journey of giving, we would like to draw your attention to the transformative power of Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer. Gift Aid increases the value of your

donation by 25%, turning £1 into £1.25. Once you've enrolled, whether you contribute through a standing order, envelope, or the card reader at the back of the church, it will be duly processed.



You can sign up by scanning the QR code provided. Simply complete your details, choose Sevenoaks Parish from the dropdown menu, select the email of the Sevenoaks Gift Aid Coordinator, and we will take care of the rest.

Your contribution can be significantly enhanced at no extra cost to you. By not forgetting to Gift Aid, you allow us to stretch the impact of your generosity even further, ensuring that every pound you contribute becomes a vital resource for the growth and well-being of our Parish.

Your generosity of heart echoes the spirit of community and shared responsibility. It is through the collective efforts of individuals like you that we can continue to nurture the bonds that make our parish a place of warmth, support, and shared faith.

Once again, thank you for your enduring support. Together, we are building a stronger, more vibrant Parish Community for all to cherish and call home.

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

CONFIRMATION MASS

Congratulations to our newly confirmed. May the Holy Spirit guide them in discovering the joy, real value and responsibilities of our Catholic faith. A big "thank you" to our Confirmation catechists, music team, altar servers and all who helped in making the day so special.

TODAY - THE BLESSING OF GRAVES

The blessing of graves at Greatness Cemetery will take place on Sunday 19th November at 3.00pm.

MONDAY - LISTENING TO YOU

Do come along if you would like a quiet, confidential space to talk and be listened to. There is no need to let us know you are coming. You will be very welcome and we always have coffee and biscuits ready for you. 10.30 am to midday in the Presbytery this time, owing to the parish renovations.

HOLY TRINITY SOCIAL

Thank you so much for those who supported our event and may have also bought some raffle tickets. Jonathan Fenner gave us in an depth talk on the Delights of the Darent, followed by a very enjoyable and sociable cheese and wine buffet. An amazing total of over £1800 was raised and this will support the Parish refurbishment fund-raising initiative.

The Raffle Prize winners were:

Steven Ryan - Two free Pilgrimages to Medjugorje
 Adrian/Trish Pinington - Two Tickets to Sixteen's Choral Pilgrimage
 James McBrien - Indian Meal cooked by Fr Vipin
 Catrina Dickenson - £50 John Lewis/Waitrose Voucher
 Kate Authers - Bottle of Champagne
 Catrina Dickenson - Bottle of Malt Whiskey
 Tony Pluck - Bottle of Gin
 Fr. Piotr - Bottle of Champagne
 David Cooper - Half a Case of Wine
 Gilly Fenner - £50 Waitrose/John Lewis Voucher
 Silvana Wuttke - Presentation tin of Bayliss & Harding toiletries
 Martin Kourie - Box of Luxury Chocolates

For those unclaimed prizes please contact Barry on 07773 658469 to arrange collection. Many thanks again for all your support.

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.

CHILDRENS LITURGY at 9.15am MASS

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, please contact Fr Peter piotrkucharski@rcaos.org.uk or Magda.

HOLY SOULS MASSES

Thank you to all who donated towards the Holy Souls Masses using the special November envelopes. All the names that were included will be included in our November Book of Remembrance, and collective Masses for the Holy Souls will be offered when possible.

ST THOMAS' PTA NOTICE

Volunteers will be selling tickets for our Christmas raffle after Mass for the next three weekends. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 8th December. Money raised by the PTA is greatly appreciated by our parish school and there are some fantastic prizes to be won!

ADVENT TAIZÉ EVENING

Advent is a time for silent and meditative preparation for Christ's coming. Please join us for a prayerful Taizé evening on Friday 1st December at St Thomas' church 6pm – 6.45pm. Refreshments will be available afterwards in the porch and all donations will go to the Parish refurbishment project.

GIFT AID - QR CODE

Please consider supporting the Parish and enhancing your contribution through Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

SUNDAY 19th November

6:00pm (Sat) Moreen Ward RIP
 8:00am (Latin) Holy Souls
 9:15am In thanksgiving - Seila Santos
 11:15am Lucy (Mahoney) Cziraki RIP
 6:00pm Angela Murphy RIP (anniversary)
 9:30am *Oxford* People of the Parish
 9:30am *Borough Green* John Lobo RIP (post-funeral Mass)
 11:00am *West Kingsdown* Susan Vasini RIP

Monday 20th *Feria*

8:00am Constance Mary Edwards RIP (30th anniversary)

Tuesday 21st *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

9:30am Dec'd members of the family Andradi-Brown

Wednesday 22nd *Saint Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr*

8:00am Alfred & Lily Lockyer and their children RIP
 10:00am *Oxford* Holy Souls

Thursday 23rd *Feria*

10:00am *Borough Green* Fr Piotr
 12:00noon Deacon Kevin Dunne RIP

Friday 24th *Saints Andrew Dũng-Lạc and his Companions, Martyrs*

8:00am All souls especially those with no-one to pray for them
 10:00am *West Kingsdown* Doris White RIP

Saturday 25th *Feria*

9:30am All who are dying

SUNDAY 26th November

6:00pm (Sat) Michael Stack RIP
 8:00am (Latin) Simon Aspinall RIP
 9:15am People of the Parish
 11:15am John Hallorem RIP
 6:00pm Mattie & Sheila Brennan RIP
 9:30am *Oxford* Colleen Lockyer (birthday)
 9:30am *Borough Green* Fr Vipin
 11:00am *West Kingsdown* Winifred Havercan RIP

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY

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

Wilhelmina Jaques, Anne Hennessy, Bishop John Jukes, Monique Brittan, Christina Hill, George Detrick, Frank Farrell, Kathleen Howard, John Meredith, Sharon Hardy, Rosamunde Montagu, Peter Davis, Patricia Wallis, Lawrence Fairman, Leo Cadley, Richard Latter, Richard Morel, Paddy Murphy, Gladys Cross, Msg John Moran, Joe Grochala, Thomas Cadley, Eleanor Keating, Cecilia Evans, Maria Dubiel-Emery, Molly Long, George Kavanagh, Paul Emmelkamp, Dudley Levey.

LATIN ANTIPHONS

Entrance:

Dicit Dominus: Ego cogito cogitationes pacis et non afflictionis; invocabit me, et ego exaudiam vos, et reducam captivitatem vestram de cunctis locis.

Communion:

Mihi autem adhaerere Deo bonum est, ponere in Domino Deo spem meam.