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Archdiocese of
Southwark

PARISH OF
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
SEVENOAKS

Churches in Sevenoaks, Otford,
Borough Green and West Kingsdown



Parish Newsletter

9th July 2017



Today's Mass: 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading: the prophet depicts the coming of the humble king of peace, in words which Christians have always taken to refer to Jesus Christ.

Psalm: a royal psalm in praise of God, our king.

Second Reading: we have the Spirit in us, and so we should lead spiritual lives and be concerned with spiritual matters; this is the only way to have eternal life.

Gospel: this passage follows a section in which Israel fails to see that Jesus Christ is the Messiah (even John the Baptist was uncertain). If we compare the words used here with the book of *Exodus* it becomes clear that Jesus is the new Moses, but His new covenant does not produce the onerous burdens of the old law of Moses but a new teaching which, with God's help, we can follow.

Fr David

HOLI

Elegant women's outerwear for
the modern day professional

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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

Weekday Mass times:

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

Adoration:

Monday 8:00am - 12noon
8:00pm - 9:00pm
Tuesday 10:00am - 12noon
Thursday 11:00am - 3:00pm
Saturday 8:30am - 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday
10:00am - 10:30am,
5:15pm - 5:45pm



Granville Road,
Sevenoaks TN13 1ER

Parish Office: Mrs Ingrid La Trobe
Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri
9:00am - 12noon
Tel: 01732 454177
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk
www.sevrparish.org.uk

Contacts & organisations

Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks

www.sevrparish.org.uk Parish Tel: 01732 454177

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons, KHS
frdavid@sevrparish.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Okora
frpaul@sevrparish.org.uk

Retired Priest: Canon John Bailey, KHS
Tel: 01474 852223

Parish Secretary: Mrs Ingrid La Trobe parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk

Presbytery and Parish Office: 12 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1ER

Parish Safeguarding

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is Isabelle Parsons 07873 953423.
The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator can be contacted on 02072 611606. In an Emergency dial 999.



MOST HOLY TRINITY OTFORD

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am
Wed 10:00am

Adoration: Friday 11:00am - 1:00pm

High Street, Otford TN14 5PH

Church contacts:

Rosemary Curtis 01959 522624
(Sacristan)
Anne Knight 01959 524488
(Acting Secretary)
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk



Western Rd, Borough Green
TN15 8AG

St Joseph's BOROUGH GREEN

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am*
*Currently taking place at
Borough Green Primary Sch Hall

Church contact:

Antoni Offert
Tel: 07513 041075
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk



Fawham Rd, West Kingsdown
TN15 6JP

St Bernadette's West Kingsdown

Mass times: Sunday 9:30am
Thurs, Fri & Sat 9:15am
Holy Days of Obligation 11am

Adoration: Wed 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Church contact:

Jill & John Gobel
Tel: 01474 853676
parish.office@sevrparish.org.uk

St Thomas' catholic primary school



South Park,
Sevenoaks, TN13 1EH
Headteacher: Mrs Claudia Aquilina
Tel: 01732 453921
www.saintthomas.co.uk

St Thomas' Pre School

Head: Mrs Debbie Whitehead
Tel: 01732 779517
info@stthomaspreschoolsevenoaks.org.uk

Adoration: Barry & Marie Authers
adoration@sevrparish.org.uk

Altar Servers: David Brunning Tel: 01732 465518
davidabunning@btinternet.com

Catenians: The Catenians are a social club for Catholic men aged 18 to 108. We also help the parish with social events. We always welcome visitors to our meetings at Knole Park Golf Club on Seal Hollow Road. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm followed by dinner at 8.30pm. For further information, please contact: aidan.omahony@btinternet.com or on 07834 259 229.

Children's Liturgy:

Sevenoaks, 9.15am Mass: Anne Murphy
annemurphy2000@yahoo.com
Otford, 9.30am Mass: Alex Wilson-Beales
Tel: 07789 776602

Finance Committee:

Chair: Bill Farren 07990 565031
Minutes Secretary: Terry D'Avrincourt 07812 054364

Gift Aid: Sean Corrigan

sean.corrigan@sevrparish.org.uk

Lectio Divina: Kathie Gonzalez

Tel: 01732 761253

Mothers' Prayers: Mondays, 11.00am at Star House, Star Hill Road, Sevenoaks. Tel: 01959 532500

Readers, Ministers' & Welcomers Rota, St Thomas's
Tony Cappozzi: st.thomas.rota@gmail.com

Parents & Toddlers: Emma McGovern 07786 219742,
Lourdes Marinetto-Travers 07900 591527
Tuesdays 9.30am - 11.30am, Parish Centre

RACET (Rural Africa Children's Education Trust)

MaryAnn Perasso 01959 522337, www.racet.org

The Pilgrims: Teas or lunches, four times a year, held at St. Thomas's in the Parish Centre. All older parishioners are welcome and lifts are available. Contact:

Jackie Pembroke 01732 450197
ac.jbpembroke@gmail.com
or Pat Harman 01732 453902
bobandpat.harman@gmail.com.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP): Kathie Gonzalez

01732 761253

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM)

Borough Green UCM: June Dinmore (President)
Tel: 01732 824424
West Kingsdown UCM: Monica Biggs (President)
Phone number....

Young Disciples: Two groups of informal catechesis for school years 4-6 and 7-9, Sundays after 9.15am Mass in the TV room upstairs. Term time only. Contact: Enia Adeleye at youngdisciples@sevrparish.org.uk

Further details of organisations are available in our Parish Handbook and on our website

Visit us at www.sevrparish.org.uk

Our new-look newsletter

Welcome to our new-look Newsletter. We hope that once you get used to it you will like it.

Why have we changed? There are a number of reasons:

- ♦ previously there were a lot of different pieces of paper to collect: at the 8:00am Mass, for example, there was a Mass booklet, the Antiphon Sheet, the Marian Antiphon card, a Newsletter, a Missalette, as well as a Mass Sheet and the children's Mass Sheet, quite apart from any prayer cards/special newsletters/info sheets for particular Sundays. Almost all of these are now included in the one Newsletter.
- ♦ the previous Missalettes were notoriously prone to mistakes (part of the *Gospel* was omitted two Sundays ago, for example) and it often had texts which the choir or the priests did not use and was thus confusing.
- ♦ two sides of A4 was simply inadequate for the old Newsletter to include everything, and the resultant small font size made it difficult to read, especially for the elderly.
- ♦ more pages in the new Newsletter means that more information can be included, about parish contacts and organisations for instance. It also allows for longer articles, some by Fr David but also by different parishioners, which will give a much broader spread of interest than before.

Why is there advertising on the back page?

Well, quite simply to pay for the paper and printing costs. This does, however, enable parishioners to advertise their businesses and services.

What does it contain?

The Sunday Mass Readings and prayers are in the middle – for ease of use at Mass – along with the Redemptorist *Sunday Message*. Basic information about the times of Mass, Confessions, Adoration etc. at each of the four churches are on the front inside cover, while information about Parish contacts and organisations are on the back inside cover. Parish Notices are on page 3 and 4, Mass Intentions and details of Baptisms, the sick and so on are on page 5. Page 8 is for younger children, page 9 contains an article by Fr David and page 10 will contain various items, contributed by parishioners.

So please use it Mass and then take it home and read it at your leisure. Don't leave it behind to clutter up the church (another reason for reducing the great number of bits of paper!) And if you would like to write something for page 10, let Ingrid know in the Parish Office.

Fr David

Parish Handbook

With many thanks to Pat Harman and Esther Beugeling, this is now available in all Porches in hard copy. If you would like a copy and there are none available, please let Ingrid in the Parish Office know. Please note the handbook is available electronically at http://www.sevrcparish.org.uk/parish_handbook.htm. This is a living document, please inform the Parish Office (parish.office@sevrcparish.org.uk, 01732 454177) if it needs correcting or updating. Thank you.



Parish NOTICES

Contents this Week

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Today (Sunday)

Visiting Priests

Today we welcome Fr Michael Ezenwamadu, CSSp to offer the 8:00am and 9:15am Masses, and Fr Mark Odion, MSP to offer the Mass at Otford and the 11:15am Mass.

Sea Sunday

Today is Sea Sunday, when we pray for the work of the Apostleship of the Sea and support its work by the second collection. The Apostleship of the Sea is the official maritime welfare and mission agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. Without those who live and work at sea we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops, but their working conditions are poor, and they are often at sea away from their families for months at a time. Two thirds of seafarers are Catholics. AoS supports them both practically and spiritually. See the poster for more information. You can also donate online at www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/donate-now.

Last Call for Lourdes Parish Pilgrimage

The Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes is from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd September. It includes four nights' accommodation, on a full board basis, and with all the usual pilgrimage programme. If you would like to go please contact Ingrid in the Parish Office within the next week.

Parish Garden Party

We look forward to seeing you at the party in the Presbytery Garden this afternoon from 2 to 5pm. This is a major get-together for all the parish, so do come along if you possibly can, bring all the family, have a pleasant afternoon, and get to know some other parishioners. There will be a BBQ, afternoon tea, music, activities for the children, a bric and brac stall and a book stall. Do buy a raffle ticket if you haven't done so already, great prizes including dinner cooked by Fr David and Fr Paul, and 1 week holiday in the Algarve (to recover from the dinner). £1 a ticket.

Set up will be from 11am on Sunday morning, do pop along if you can help to get things ready.

This Week

Parish Finance Committee

Meets on Monday evening in the Presbytery.

Tuesday

The Feast of St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe.

Thank you from Canon Bailey

Canon John Bailey wishes to say thank you to his many friends for their best wishes and prayers on the occasion of his 65th Anniversary of his Ordination as a priest.

Thank you

Many, many thanks to everyone who turned up last Saturday morning for the work party. The garden was cleared, both sheds emptied, the Presbytery loft, basement and Church basement were all cleared, the Flower Room sorted and a start was made on the Library. We could not have done this without so many willing hands. Thank you again.

'The Pilgrim'

The diocesan newspaper is published every month. It usually includes an article by Fr David. Please take a copy home and read it. The parish pays for the copies, so don't worry about paying for it, just take it and read it.

Parish NOTICES

Loaves and Fishes

Are collecting today. Donations of only non-perishable foods and toiletries. Foods: tinned meat, veg etc.; dried foods e.g. rice, cereals; preserves and saurdrinks esp. UHT whole milk. Check 'use by' dates to allow 1 month storage. To curb oversupply, NO tea, pasta, soups, baked beans. Queries: 07487 652846. Thank you.

We are looking for a parishioner to help organise the bi-monthly parish collection of food for the food bank. If you are interested in helping please contact Kathie for more details on 01732 761253 or email ugonza-lez@btinternet.com. Many thanks.

Adoration times reminder

Adoration is at the following times. Can YOU spare some time to come and pray before Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament?

In St Thomas's:

Mondays 8:30am – 12:00 noon, 8:00pm – 9:00pm;
Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00 noon;
Thursdays 11:00am – 3:00pm;
Saturdays 8:30am – 9:20am.

In Holy Trinity, Otford:

Fridays 11:00am – 1:00pm.

In St Bernadette's, West Kingsdown:

Wednesdays 7:30pm – 8:30pm;
Thursdays 10:00am – 11:00am

Parish Retreats at Aylesford Priory

Women's Retreat: 8th - 10th September 2017

Becoming mirrors of God: living a reflective life

Led by Alice Keenleyside.

Men's Retreat: 27th - 29th October 2017

The call of the Father - Led by Mgr Matthew Dickens.

Have you remembered to submit your form? Please do consider attending these enriching Parish Retreats (perhaps organise a group of friends to go together?)

If you would like to attend please pick up a REGISTRATION FORM from the back of your Church or download a form from: www.sevrcparish.org.uk, and return it to the Parish Office **as soon as possible**. Any QUERIES please contact Catherine Rodger by email at c.rodger@btinternet.com or by phone: 01732458852.

Parish Finances

*What return can I make to the Lord
for his generosity to me? Psalm 116*

Offertory - 2nd July

St Thomas	1233.76
Otford	225.72
B Green	268.45
W Kingsdown	103.23
TOTAL	£1,831.16

Peter's Pence: £434.22

Standing orders:

April	£4,280.93
May	£3,546.04

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Gift Aid

If you haven't yet done so, please collect your box of envelopes. If you can't find your box email Sean Corrigan (sean@corrigan-family.com) or ring Ingrid in the Parish Office.

If you pay by Standing Order or put money in the 'loose' collection, now is the time to review the amount you give: are you giving back to God generously out of all the good gifts he gives you?

If you pay UK tax but do not yet use the Gift Aid system, please fill in a Gift Aid form or contact Sean Corrigan (sean@corrigan-family.com). You make the same contribution as now but we can claim back the tax you have paid. This brings in a substantial amount to parish funds.

Please see the noticeboards at St Thomas' Church

- ◆ Newsletter from St Gregory's School

How do I get my Notice in the Newsletter?

Please submit items for inclusion in this Newsletter no later than Wednesday evening. Submit to Parish Office at parish.office@sevrcparish.org.uk. Notices are subject to available space and the approval of Fr David.



From the Desk of the Parish Priest

Why do we have the Old Testament?



Marcion was a Bishop in the early Church. He disapproved of the violence and vengeance to be found in what we call the Old Testament, and its portrayal of what seems like a jealous God, and proposed that these 'Hebrew Scriptures' should not be part of the Christian Scriptures. (He also rejected parts of the New Testament.) Unfortunately this led him to heretical views about Jesus Christ, and he was one of the first people to be condemned as a heretic by the then Pope, in the year 144. Ironically, the fuss he caused prompted the Church – over a period of time - to draw up a list of which books were to be regarded as authorised scriptures. This list is known as the canon of scripture (a 'canon' was a measuring stick).

A fundamental reason why the Christian Church retained the Old Testament as part of its sacred scriptures is that Jesus Himself treated it as the word of God; He often referred to it (eg Mk 12:10); He found in it the declaration of His own mission (eg Mk 14:21); and he said that he came "not to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfil them" (Mt 4:17).

Secondly, every New Testament writer refers to Old Testament texts, and regards them as having divine authority. St Paul explicitly says so in I Tim 3: 16: "all scripture [by which he means the Hebrew scriptures] is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, ..." In Acts 4: 11 no less a person than St Peter quotes Psalm 118:

22 as proof that he who had been rejected had indeed risen from the dead.

As the theologians of the first few centuries began to develop Christian doctrine, they came to understand that the mighty acts of God as seen in the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus were but the culmination or finale of the mighty acts of God about which they read in the Hebrew scriptures. God had always been the God of mighty acts! We see this understanding in St Stephen's speech in Acts 7 and in St Paul's speech in Acts 13. The deeds of God recorded in the Old Testament – such as the Creation, the Exodus, the Ten Commandments, King David, the prophets, and so on – are all part of the whole salvation history of the Christian Church.

The New is in the Old
concealed, the Old is in
the New revealed.

St Augustine.

They also came to understand that the Old Testament not only prepared the way for Christ but also revealed Him. The suffering servant passages in Isaiah, for example, foretell the sufferings of Christ and give us a framework for understanding His passion. Thus St Augustine wrote: "The New is in the Old concealed, the Old is in the New revealed". In other words, we cannot properly understand Jesus Christ if we jettison the scriptures which were so important to Him and which place Him in His correct context.

Thus the Second Vatican Council said in 1965 (Dei Verbum §16) that the books of the Old Testament "remain permanently valuable", quoting Romans 15:4.

The Church received from the Jewish faith both these books of scripture and the belief that they are the inspired word of God. But there is a difference: to the Christian these books are God's word not in its completeness but rather as a promise. They look forward to the New Testament, the new covenant, Jesus Christ.

God loves his children

Jesus is gentle and kind

Use the key to find Matthew 11:27

R	C	O	N	S	T	E	H	K	X	U	W	A	F	P	G
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Matthew 11:27

Footprints

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus taught us to know God the Father

Yokes were used by people and animals to share a heavy load. Jesus offered to share our load or problems and worries

Replace the words in CAPITALS with other rhyming words which make sense!

(HUM) _____ to (PEA) _____

(HAND) _____ I (PILL) _____

give (WHO) _____ (BEST) _____

Matthew 11:28

Mass intentions

All masses are at St Thomas's CHURCH unless otherwise stated

Sunday 9th July 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

6:00pm (Sat)	Miss H.M. McNabb RIP
8:00am	Rodrigues Family Intention
9:15am	People of the Parish
11:15am	Fernando Family RIP (Traditional Choir)
	(Shirimi, Salina, Dileepa, Suramithra, Benjamin)
6:00pm	Michael Dunphies RIP
9:30am Otford	Philomena Cromwell RIP (Birthday Anniv)
9:30am Borough Green	Mary Mitchel RIP
11:00am W. Kingsdown	Gerald Given (Anniversary)

Monday 10th Feria

8:00am	Dr Lionel Edwards RIP (Birthday Anniv - 1910)
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Tuesday 11th S BENEDICT, Ab, Patron of Europe

9:30am	Intentions of the O'Sullivan Family
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Wednesday 12th Feria

8:00am	Intentions of the Brown family
10:00am Otford	Miss H.M. McNabb RIP

Thursday 13th Feria

9:15am W. Kingsdown	Celia Piddock
12:00noon	Tomas Cribbin RIP

Friday 14th Feria

8:00am	Timothy & Clea Andradi RIP
9:15am W. Kingsdown	Ken O'Brien RIP

Saturday 15th S Bonaventure, BD

9:15am W. Kingsdown	John & Kathleen Doyle
9:30am	Rodrigues Family Intention

Sunday 16th Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

6:00pm (Sat)	Fr Gregor Lenzen C.P.
8:00am	Sylvia & Kenneth Shore RIP
9:15am	People of the Parish
11:15am	Phyllis Claydon Morel RIP
6:00pm	All the staff of St Finbarrs Hospital
9:30am Otford	Miss H.M. McNabb RIP
9:30am Borough Green	Frank Hullett RIP
11:00am West Kingsdown	Patrick Bunton RIP

Sunday 8:00am Mass Antiphons

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Suscepimus, Deus, misericordiam tuam in medio templi tui. Secundem nomen tuum, Deus, ita et laus in fines terrae; iustitia plena est dextera tua.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Venite ad me, omnes qui laboratis et onerati estis, et ego reficiam vos, dicit Dominus.

Please remember the sick who have been commended to our prayers, especially:

Thomas Healy, Rosemary Remnant, Hazel Pilorz, Maureen Way, Sue Chamberlain, Celia Piddock, Ana Pilar Santos

Anniversaries:

Edna Waller, Jerry Lynch, Susan Temple, Hugh Cogleh, Agatha Vincent, Margaret Pyke, Christine Devitt, Agnes Byrne, Harold Hinton, Vera Doherty, Baby Emily Gregg, Margaret Baniff, Harry Eyre, Elizabeth Hardman, Eithne Riddle, Francis Morandi

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

