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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)

7:00pm Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks

8:00am Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks

8:00am Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks

8:00am Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks

8:00am Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks

Fr David

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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

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



## St Joseph's BOROUGH GREEN

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

Western Rd, Borough Green  
TN15 8AG

### Church contact:

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



## St Bernadette's West Kingsdown

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

Fawham Rd, West Kingsdown  
TN15 6JP

### 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.sainthomas.org.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](http://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:

- z 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.
- z 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.
- z 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.
- z 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 non 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](http://www.sevrcparish.org.uk/parish_handbook.htm). This is a living document, please inform the Parish Office ([parish.office@sevrcparish.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@sevrcparish.org.uk), 01732 454177) if it needs correcting or updating. Thank you.



# Parish NOTICES

## Contents this Week Parish Garden Party

Pages 3-4	Parish Notices
Page 5	Mass Intentions
Page 6	Mass Readings
Page 7	Sunday Message
Page 8	Mass Activity for Children
Page 9	From the desk of the Parish Priest - <i>Why do we have the Old Testament?</i>
Page 10	Our New-look Newsletter
Page 11	Contacts & Organisations

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

### Today (Sunday) Parish Finance Comm

Meets on Monday evening in the Presbytery.

### Tuesday

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

### 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](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/donate-now).

### Thank you from Canon

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.

### Last Call for Lourdes Parish Pilgrimage

The Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes is from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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 ugonzalez@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

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

### In Holy Trinity, Otford:

Fridays 11:00am – 1:00pm.

### In St Barnabas Kingsdown:

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

## Parish Retreats at Aylesford Priory

### Women's Retreat 10 September 2017

*Becoming mirrors of God: living a reflective life*  
Led by Alice Keenleyside.

### Men's Retreat 27 October 2017

*The call* Led by Fr 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](http://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](mailto:c.rodger@btinternet.com) or by phone: 01732458852.

## Parish Finances

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### Offer 2nd July

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

Peter's Pence: £434.22

### Standing orders:

April	£4,280.93
May	£3,546.04

Thank you for your generosity

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto: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?



Macarius 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

# Mass intentions

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

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 14<sup>th</sup> 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)<br>(Shiriomi, 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 10<sup>th</sup> Feria

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 8:00am | Dr Lionel Edwards RIP (Birthday Anniv - 1910) |
|--------|---|

## Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> S BENEDICT, Ab., Patron of Europe

- |        |                                     |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 9:30am | Intentions of the O Sullivan Family |
|--------|-------------------------------------|

## Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feria

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

## Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Feria

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

## Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feria

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

## Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> S Bonaventure, BD

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

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- |                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 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 those 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 O Lord, let perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace

