



St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Monsignor Matthew Dickens
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Parish Office: Mon 10am-11am, Tues 9am-3pm,
Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-2pm



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

23 MARCH 2025

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish”

Mass Times

Sat 22	Feria NO 09:30 MASS OR CONFESSIONS 12:00 Mass of Confirmation 17:30 Vigil Mass of Sunday George & Philomena Kehoe RIP
Sun 23	Third Sunday of Lent 10:00 People of the Parish 16:30 Stations of the Cross
Mon 24	Feria 09:30 Margaret Doherty RIP
Tues 25	The Annunciation of the Lord Solemnity 09:30 Amelia Baza, Birthday
Weds 26	Feria 09:30 Michael Thelwell RIP
Thurs 27	Feria 09:30 Deacon Simon Cockshutt RIP
Fri 28	Feria 09:30 William John Tems RIP Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 29	Feria 09:30 Tony Greetham RIP 12:30 Baptism Otilie Marguerite Elsie Corr 16:00 First Holy Communion Reconciliation Service 17:30 Vigil Mass of Sunday People of the Parish
Sun 30	Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday 10:00 Maggie Danby RIP 16:30 Stations of the Cross

Confessions: Saturday 10.15-10.45

Baptisms & Marriages:

Please contact the Parish Priest



Moses Before the Burning Bush, Gebhard Fugel (1863–1939)

In the parable of the fig tree, Jesus calls us all to repentance. In the first place we need to recognise that we are sinners. Every person is guilty of sin and so every person is called to repentance. The point of the parable of the fig tree is that the owner of the vineyard gives the tree another chance to bear fruit. Lent is our chance to come back to Christ, to know his healing and his forgiveness, above all in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, in confession. Christ calls us to open ourselves to his forgiveness and to bear the fruit of true Christian: to be a person of faith, of love, of peace, of joy. Do not wait to unload yourself of whatever is heavy in your heart. The Risen Christ wants to lift that weight from your life, and he will do that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Do not let the mistakes of the past deprive you of knowing the peace and joy of Christ's healing in the present.

Mgr Matthew

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings: Year 1

SECOND COLLECTION

22 – 23 MAR – POOR PARISHES

This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

29 – 30 MAR – ORGAN FUND

For the previous restoration and maintenance of our Willis Pipe Organ.



REMINDER! BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS

BST begins on 30th March. Clocks go forward one hour.

Congratulations to our thirteen young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday.



Please keep them all in your prayers.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) 2024 – 2025



Next meeting Wednesday 26 March, 19:00 in the Presbytery.

Please pray for the nine adult candidates of our parish who will receive the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil and will become full members of the Catholic Church.



Our candidates & their sponsors with Archbishop John at the Rite of Election at St George's Cathedral, Southwark.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

First Reconciliation Service: Sat 29 March 16:00 in the Church.

Next children's class: Sat 26 April 16:00 in the hall (no classes during Easter School Holidays).

Next Parents & carers' meeting: Fri 2 May 19:00

First Holy Communion Mass: Sun 6 July 2025 12:00

JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY AT THE FRIARS, AYLESFORD 7 JUNE 2025

Led by Archbishop John Wilson, a day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun - activities for children & adults. This is the pinnacle event of the 2025 Jubilee in the Archdiocese of Southwark. There will be a walking pilgrimage from St George's Cathedral in Southwark to The Friars (2-6 June). Free event. You can find out more at rcaos.org.uk/jubilee2025 or see poster at the back of the church.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL APPEAL 29-30 MARCH

Next Sunday Nick Falcone, our parish finance officer, will give a report on the financial situation of our parish. We need to raise our income to ensure our financial security. Please consider how you can support the parish by increasing your regular giving, taking out a standing order and/or gift-aid. Members of the parish finance committee will be available after Mass. My sincere thanks to you all for your generosity. Mgr Matthew

Keeping Lent

The season of Lent is a blessed time for us to return to Christ, to confess our sins and to renew our life of faith. Every Sunday afternoon in Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 16:30.

Mgr Matthew's 'Steps of Pain, Steps of Hope', his meditations on the Stations of the Cross, is available for purchase at £5 per copy, all money goes to parish funds. The book is beautifully illustrated with pictures of the Stations in St Thomas' church.

Join our new Fitness Group!

Every Saturday after the morning Mass
10:30 - 11:30 in the Parish Hall

Starting: Saturday
29 March 2025

- 60 mins of standing exercises
- All levels of fitness welcome



FILM CLUB

JOIN US FOR "CONCLAVE"

MARCH 28, 2025

11:30AM

PARISH HALL



SPOIL MUM AT OUR

MOTHER'S DAY Cake Sale!

After Mass, Sunday 30th March In the Narthex

CAKES NEEDED! PLEASE BRING CAKES TO CHURCH BEFORE THE 10AM MASS.

All proceeds go to the church! Thank you for your generosity!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Lent Bible Reading

Join us as we read and reflect on the Holy Week narrative from St Luke's Gospel. Reflections will be guided by the writings of Pope Benedict XVI.

3.30pm every Sunday of Lent (next on 23 March)
Becket House, adjoining the church on Santos Road
Facilitated by James Dugdale; all are welcome!



No sign-up or pre-reading needed.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Parish Collection	£435
Parish Dona	£238
Standing Orders	£601
CAFOD Collection	£345
CAFOD Dona	£213



R O T A S	22 - 23 March
	Welcome & Coffee: L. Northeast, M. Ascensao
	Readers: SAT: S. Doney, S. Palmer
	SUN: Y. Osei-Kuffour Ekert, L. Ekert
	29 - 30 March
	Welcome & Coffee: F. Azevedo, M. Figueiredo
	Readers: SAT: R. & S. Jackson Cousin
	SUN: A. Stacey, C. Webb

CHURCH MAINTENANCE TEAM: Meet 11am-1pm on the 2nd Saturday of the Month.

Next meeting: **12 APRIL. JOIN US!**

DIARY DATES AT-A-GLANCE:

- 27 Mar 10am, Knit & Natter, Parish Hall
- 28-30 Mar Walsingham Lenten Retreat
- 29 Mar 10:30am Fitness Group in the Parish Hall
- 30 Mar 3:30pm, Lent Bible Reading, Becket House
- 28 Mar 11:30am, Film Club, Parish Hall
- 30 Mar Mother's Day Cake Sale after Mass in the Narthex
- 3 Apr 10am, Knit & Natter, Parish Hall