



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY - THANET

Father Joe's Easter and Farewell Message

He makes all things new! (Isaiah 43:19)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Our parish has entered a new phase. It is truly joyous for me that our parish has entered a phase of flourishing!

Holy Family – Thanet has become reinvigorated and has developed a real sense of community. It is now a parish that is outward looking with members being attentive to the visitor. The parish has developed into a more diverse one made up of people of all ages. In the last five years, many of the congregation are new to the parish and we are still growing; we are attracting non-affiliates, lapsed Catholics and people moving into the area. A culture of hospitality is now embedded in the parish and one of evangelisation is gradually taking root. Furthermore, parishioners are becoming confident, inviting family and friends to the church and to its outward looking parish events. In this new phase we are also welcoming a new priest to lead us to even further growth.

This new phase of our parish coincides with Easter. Easter is about new life. The death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ drew us into a new relationship with the Father; we became adopted sons and daughters of God, and so at this time we are reminded to leave behind sin. This is precisely what a parish serves: to proclaim the Risen Christ by word and deed, so all will encounter the transformative love of God. It is within this love, that we will one day live the fullness of salvation that the death and resurrection of Jesus brings, eternal life with God in heaven.

All we have achieved shows that with vision, hard work, goodwill, good leadership, and most importantly the grace of God, parishes can be lively and flourishing places that serve our communities. I exhort each of you to take hold of this springtime, and working together with your new shepherd, Father Jackson Sebastian, take this to the next level.

Thank you for the prayers, love and support you have offered me in my five and half years of service to the parish and beyond here in Thanet. You will forever remain in my heart.

May our parish continue to be a herald of the Good News of the Risen Lord.

Happy Easter to each of you and your families.

Yours in Christ,

Father Joe Owusu-Ansah

Welcome Father Jackson Sebastian

We look forward to welcoming Fr Jackson who arrives in the parish on Easter Monday, 6th April.

Mr. Charlie Mara - Archdiocesan Award

As a parish we congratulate and appreciate all that Charlie has contributed as he receives the Archdiocesan award *Fideliter Servienti* in recognition of his committed service to the Church.

SVP Quiz Night - Saturday, 18th April

Our St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) are holding a fun quiz in the hall. Tickets are £5 each available after Mass. Please bring your own food and drinks.

Second Collection next Weekend - St George's Cathedral, Southwark

This collection is for the support and maintenance of St George's, the mother church of the diocese.

Parish Priest: Father Joseph Owusu-Ansah /thanet@rcaos.org.uk /01843 841549
The Presbytery, 46 Minnis Road, Birchington, CT7 9SF
www.holyfamilythanet.org.uk / Safeguarding: thanetsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Easter Edition - April 2026

Saturday 4th April

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT (A)

Vigil 8pm

Mercy Matthews, RIP

Sunday 5th April

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT (A)

Mass 8.30am

Anthony Foster, RIP

Mass 10.30am

People of the Parish

Tuesday 7th April

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

Mass 6pm

Andrew Mccloughlin, RIP

Wednesday 8th April

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Mass 10am

Lucy Casey, RIP

Thursday 9th April

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Mass 8am

Friday 10th April

Friday within the Octave of Easter

Mass 10am

Michele Arterton - Intentions

Saturday 11th April

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER(A)

Vigil 6pm

Brian Arthur Gray, RIP

Sunday 12th April

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass 8.30am

Mass 10.30am

Peter Carter, RIP