

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2026**



## **Parish of The Holy Family - Thanet**

Parish Priest: Father Jackson Sebastian Mavelithayil  
The Presbytery, 46 Minnis Road, Birchington, CT7 9SF

Parish Safeguarding Rep:

thanetsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Phone: 01843 841549 Email: thanet@rcaos.org.uk

Website: holyfamilythanet.org.uk

### **Citizens of Two Kingdoms**

We carry two responsibilities: to build a better world on earth and to prepare our hearts for the Kingdom of Heaven. In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar—and to God what belongs to God." These words invite us to reflect on what we truly owe to God and to one another.

Coins bear the image of Caesar, but our hearts bear the image of God. Paying taxes, respecting just laws, protecting the vulnerable, and working for the common good are not merely civic duties; they are expressions of Christian faith.

Consider a simple example: a person finds a lost wallet on the street and returns it intact, even when nobody is watching. That small act of honesty reflects both good citizenship and a heart shaped by God. True integrity is doing what is right, not merely what is required or rewarded.

While we belong to an earthly nation, our deepest allegiance belongs to God. No worldly ambition should claim what belongs to Him alone: our conscience, worship, and love.

The question is not simply, "What do I owe my country?" but "What part of my life have I not yet given to God?" May our faith shape our citizenship, and may our lives reflect the justice, compassion, and hope of God's Kingdom.

**Fr Jackson**

### **Pet Blessing Service - Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 4pm**

Bring your house pets along to be blessed, or a photo of them if they are unable to come to this special service.

### **The Rosary & Mass Time Changes**

**20<sup>th</sup> October - 31<sup>st</sup> October**

The weekday 9.30am Adoration, Rosary & 10 am Mass on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays will not take place during these dates. In place of this we will have Mass at 6 pm only. We will be reciting the Rosary outside the Grotto at 5.40 pm and then processing into church for Holy Mass.

### **Collections received 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Collection Plate: £473.71 of which £175 was gift aided

Card Collection: £135 of which £65 was gift aided

Standing orders: £280 of which £280 was gift aided

Second Collection for Pact (Prison Charity) £20

**Second Collection for Missio will be taken on 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October**

***Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2026***

**Please Note the Clocks go back by one hour next weekend on  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 2am**

### **Christmas Fair Donations**

Our Christmas Fair is taking place on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 12-3pm. Please bring in good quality donations of Toys, Handbags, Jewellery & Candles for sale on our stalls. Any in date and unopened bottles of beer, wine, spirits, & fizzy drinks for the bottle tombola. From next Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October there will be a box in the porch for your donations. There is a meeting for those interested in helping at the fair after the 10.30 Mass on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October in the hall.

### **Winter Warmer Coffee Mornings**

Chris Bentley invites you to join her for a coffee at her home in Birchington during the winter season. Last year was very popular and people enjoyed chatting together and meeting up.

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 11 am, Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 11 am

Further dates in the new year.

Please call 07773 576795 to book your attendance.

### **Advent Door Wreath & Table Decoration**

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm - 4pm**

Come and make a wreath or table decoration for advent with us. **Places are limited.** Tickets are on sale after Mass or from the parish office **just £20 per person** and includes keeping either a wreath or table decoration and refreshments. You can purchase your second make on the day or leave it for us to sell at the fair raising funds for the church.

### **A Day with Mary - Westminster Cathedral**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

Join Archbishop of Westminster the Most Rev Richard Moth for a day of instruction, devotion and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. See poster in the porch for details or call the parish office.

### **Dates for your diary**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers at St George's Cathedral

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November - Advent Table Decoration & Wreath Crafting

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Fair

### **St George's Cathedral Chronicle**

If you would like to receive a quarterly edition of their journal showcasing the history and living heritage of St George's please complete the form at the back of the church and apply for a subscription directly with them. You can have a quarterly There is a copy at the back of the church for you to look at.

### **Church Heating**

There have been a number of enquiries made about the heating of the church as we move into the winter months. In order to reduce our outgoings, it has been the policy for a number of years to put the heating on from November. Please be mindful of the changing weather and wrap up warm.

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

***Please pray for...***

*Ernest Boateng, Richard Dickinson, Judith Newman, Kathleen Collins, Margaret Carter, Sheila Coleman, Mrs Pat Rea, JP Niedergang, and all who are lonely, sick or housebound in our parish.*

Please pray for the souls of our recently departed parishioners and those whose anniversaries fall at this time

*19th October 2024 - Shani Geevarghese  
31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 Geoff Bentley*

**Birthdays**

*15th October - Aethelflaed Stone*

Please note it is your responsibility to seek permission from the person who is ill to publish their name on the weekly newsletter and online.

Please contact the parish office to have any deceased Parishioner anniversaries added for the week/month of their passing. Also, to have birthdays or wedding anniversaries added that we can share and celebrate together as a parish family.

**In the Parish Hall**

**Faith Sharing Group,**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 7 pm** - all are welcome to join this fortnightly discussion group.

**Bible Study Group**

This group meets to discuss the Bible reading for the following Sunday. All are welcome.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 7.15pm** (Matthew 22:15-21)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 7.15pm** (Matthew 22:34-40)

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 7.15pm** (Matthew 5:1-12a)

**RCIA Dates**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October** - Following the 6pm Mass

**Refreshments**

Tea, coffee, squash & water, along with biscuits (sometimes cake) are served every Sunday after the 10.30am Mass. There is no charge (donations are accepted) Please stay and chat all are welcome.

**Rise Up Youth Group**

Our weekly youth group has changed to a monthly get-together the next one is on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> November.

It will meet on the first Friday of the month at 5pm and is open to all aged 13-17 years.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October**  
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY (A)  
**6 pm Mass**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October**  
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY (A) 8 am – 8.20am Confession  
**8.30 am Mass**  
*Intention: Isobel Plewis, RIP (Junior Martin)*

10 am -10.20am Confession  
**10.30 am Mass**  
*Intention: Patrick and Margaret Douglas, RIP (Bob Lattimore)*

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**  
Feria  
**5.40pm Rosary at the Grotto & Mass**  
*Intention: For the repentance of all sinners across the world  
(Kerala Catholic Charismatic Fellowship Kingdom)*

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**  
Feria  
**5.40pm Rosary at the Grotto & Mass**  
*Intention: Seamus Tuckell, Intentions (Suzanne Philips)*

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**  
Feria  
**5.40pm Rosary at the Grotto & Mass**  
*Intention: People of the Parish*

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**  
Feria  
**5.40pm Rosary at the Grotto & Mass**  
*Intention: Seamus Tuckell, Intentions (Suzanne Philips)*

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October**  
THIRTIETH SUNDAY (A)  
**4pm Pet Blessings Service**  
**5.40pm Rosary at the Grotto & Mass**  
*Intention: Maureen Jones, RIP (Margaret Carter)*

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October**  
THIRTIETH SUNDAY (A) 8 – 8.20am  
**8.30 am Mass**  
10 – 10.20 am Confession  
**10.30 am Mass**  
*Intention: Garrett & Marietta Brennan, Health & Wellbeing  
(Tony & Maureen London)*