

**Parish of St Theodore Cranbrook, Kent**  
*together with*  
**Benenden, The Chapel of Our Lady and St Joseph**

*Together with Staplehurst, Sissinghurst and Sandhurst*

**Priest:** Fr Barry [Baz] Grant EMAIL-barrygrant@rcaos.org.uk

The Priest's House, St Theodore's RC Church, High Street, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 3DT Telephone: 01580 713364

## Newsletter

### ✠ SUNDAY 1 February 2026- Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (A) – p 702

#### Racial Justice Day

**First Reading-** Zephaniah 2: 3, 13; 12-13; **Psalm-**146 (145): 7-10; **Second Reading-** I Corinthians 1:26-31; **Gospel-** Math: 1: 5-12

**Saturday St Theodore's 18.00 [for Sunday] –**

**SUNDAY Our Lady and St Joseph's 09.00 –**

**St Theodore's 11.00**

1. **Missal Guide-** Intro- **523**; Creed- **541**; Euch Prayer I- **593**, II- **605**, III- **613**, IV- **623**; Communion Rite- **633**
2. **Get Involved in Parish Life!** - You're warmly invited to join one of our parish teams – the Prayer Group, Tea and Coffee Ministry, Church Cleaning Team, Flower Decoration Group, or becoming a Lay Reader.
3. There will be a **second collection** at masses for the **Catholic Association for Racial Justice**.
4. '**Ordinary Time**' refers to those liturgical periods outside the great feasts of the Church like Christmas and Easter, but it is rich in spiritual meaning. Catholics are called to recognise Christ in everyday life, not just in extraordinary moments. The green vestments symbolize growth and renewal, highlighting this season for spiritual nourishment and deepening faith. See [Understanding "Ordinary Time": A Deeper Dive into the Church's Liturgical Year - Catholic Heroes](#)
5. **Candlemas**, also called **the Presentation of the Lord**, is observed on February 2 commemorating the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the ritual purification of the Virgin Mary (Lk 2:22–40). It proclaims Christ as the light of the world, and is marked by the blessing and lighting of candles. Rooted in Jewish law, the feast is the end of the Christmas season and links the joy of Christ's birth with His passion and resurrection – see [CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: Candlemas](#)
6. There will be **tea and coffee** after Sunday masses. Thanks to the tea and coffee makers
7. There is a collection box for **Nourish** in the church entrance at St Theodore's
8. Please consider helping the valuable work of **Mary's Meals** see [Mary's Meals UK Charity - Helping to Feed Hungry Children Living in Poverty Worldwide | Mary's Meals UK](#)
9. The long-time cleaner of the parish house has retired. Is there anybody willing to volunteer to replace them? If so, please contact Father Barry
10. An individually guided silent Retreat is being organised by the Sisters of St Andrew (99 Belmont Hill, London SE13 5DY) are running a silent retreat weekend for beginners. **Friday 6 to Sunday 8 February 2026**. Arriving **Friday at 5pm** finishing **Sunday at 5pm**. **Donation £80-£140** (residential, self-catering only). Details from [www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com](#). They are also running a four-week Lenten retreat in person or online. Please book before **Thursday 12 February**
11. Please pray for **Bishop Richard Moth** who is to be installed as Archbishop of Westminster on 14 February 2026

1. **Dates for your diary?**

1. Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass for Racial Justice Sunday at St George's Cathedral on **Sunday 1 February 2026, at the 10am Mass**
2. Bishop-elect Gerard Bradley has his Episcopal Ordination and Mass on Monday 2 February 2026 at 12.30pm

As always, I ask for **your prayers** for the wellbeing of the sick of this parish

**God bless you all**– Father Baz

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**SUNDAY** Our Lady and St Joseph's **09.00** -

St Theodore's **11.00**

**Monday** The Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas

**Tuesday** St Laurence of Canterbury (d. 619), Archbishop or St Blaise (d. 316), Bishop and Martyr

**Wednesday** St Henry Morse (d. 1644), Priest and Martyr

**Thursday** St Agatha (d. 251), Virgin and Martyr

**Friday** 10:00 -Mass at St Theodore's

10.30 - Rosary

**Saturday** St Theodore's 18.00 [for Sunday]

## ✠ SUNDAY 8 February 2026- Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (A) – p 706

**First Reading-** Isaiah: 58: 6-10; **Psalm-**112 (111): 4-9; **Second Reading-** I Corinthians 2: 1-5; **Gospel-** Matthew 5: 13-16

**Saturday** St Theodore's 18.00 [for Sunday] –

**SUNDAY** Our Lady and St Joseph's 09.00 -

St Theodore's 11.00

**NOTE:** Weekday Masses are held in the Presbytery at 10am, unless otherwise stated

For details on feasts- for St Laurence of Canterbury see [St. Lawrence of Canterbury - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online](#); for St Blaise see [St. Blaise - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online](#); for St Henry Morse see [Ven. Henry Morse - Encyclopedia Volume - Catholic Encyclopedia - Catholic Online](#); for St Agatha see [CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA: St. Agatha \(newadvent.org\)](#)

**Parish Contacts** [all 01580 – except Tony and Margaret(A-M) which are mobile numbers]

**Welfare Group:** Father Barry 713364 or Judy on 892159. If you, or you know anyone who needs help, or Someone to talk to, please contact us and we will do all we can to help.

**Preparation for Sacraments:** Father Barry 713364 or Margaret 891187

**Prayer Group:** Thea 713882; Marie 713712; Tony 07812 159353; Judith 892159 Margaret (A-M) 07871 346343; Eileen 713126; Sheila 481260; the intention of the group is to pray for the same request on the same day. Telephone any member and your prayer request will be passed on to all the other members

**Rosary Group – every Friday at 10.30 am [following the 10 am Mass].** If anyone would like to attend, please do come along, we would love to see you. Do come if you can.

**Amazon-** Support the Archdiocese of Southwark when using Amazon see <https://www.resouthwark.co.uk/donate/support-as-you-shop/>



**To set up Gift Aid for the Parish-**

**Facebook page-** This content is not available at the moment

**Newsletter-** cranbrookgac@rcaos.org.uk - if you would like to receive an electronic copy please send your email address to editor or fill in the slip at the back of the church      **Newsletter-** 010226f