



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



PP: Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: Baldock@rcdow.org.uk

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 3rd July 2022

Congratulations to Fr. Denis Sarsfield who celebrates the 20th Anniversary of his Priesthood on July 6th 2022

Denis Lawrence Sarsfield was born on 11th August 1962 in the Whittington Hospital in Upper Holloway. His was a happy childhood shared with two older brothers and a younger sister. Mum and Dad, Patrick and Kathleen, both hailed from Ireland, Mayo and Donegal and had settled in the parish of Our Lady of the Rosary and St Dominic, in Haverstock Hill, London. Denis spent a happy childhood in the area and remembers playing on nearby Hampstead Heath. He also loved spending time at the local youth club and it was here, through meeting and working alongside two retired carpenters, that Denis found an aptitude for working with wood. On leaving school, the young Denis began an apprenticeship with Wimpey building contractors. He applied himself diligently to his work and developed into an artisan craftsman, even winning awards for the standard of his work.

As his horizons widened, Denis found an inkling for travel and spent time working in Australia and in the Channel Isles. During his time in Jersey he began to sense the hand of God moving him forward almost in response to counter some of the less appealing and more worldly secular values that he saw unfolding among the people with whom he worked. A turning point came when his mother came to visit him in Jersey. He had missed his home life and during her visit he was touched by the power of God's love in his life. He sensed that he was being moved powerfully forward in some way. Denis' response was to listen and to follow this calling. Several other promptings and encounters, including a visit to Medjugorje, led him at the age of thirty-three, to Campion House and to Allen Hall in Chelsea, where he undertook a seven year period of study for the priesthood.

Following his ordination at Westminster Cathedral on 6th July 2002, Father Denis initially served in the parish of St Mary of the Angels in Bayswater before moving on to work as a chaplain in the Cathedral. Here he was involved in Adult Formation, most notably nurturing Catholic converts through the RCIA scheme. Father Denis has always believed that one of the main joys of

priesthood is through encountering and working with everyday people and his work in the Cathedral gave him many opportunities to do that.

It was Bishop George Stack who realized that Father Denis would make a perfect match for the then priest-less parish of Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury in Baldock. This was part of a policy of placing younger priests in some of the outlying parts of the diocese. Thus, it was in June 2009 that a rather apprehensive parish priest landed in our rural outpost of North Hertfordshire. Although it all seemed to be so far away from the bustle of London for him, he was given an enthusiastic and friendly welcome and Father Denis soon began to feel at home. He set about listening to his new parishioners and working alongside them to develop the parish, building on what had gone before and working with a group of parishioners eager to engage in community life.

Thirteen years on from Father Denis' arrival, our parish has been moulded and enhanced in many new and positive ways. Sustained by a life of prayer, a love of the Eucharist and a supportive parish community, Father Denis finds much joy in his thriving parish. Once a true city boy, he has really come to embrace 'life in the country', and he can often be found spinning on two wheels around the lanes and byways around Baldock on his bike. 'Don't try and steer your own course too much', advises Father Denis, 'listen to the Lord and allow yourself to be called. The joy of being an adult Christian is to follow that call with an open heart'.

Many Congratulations on the twentieth anniversary of your priesthood, Father Denis. May you know that you are loved by a grateful parish, and may you continue to be blessed in your ministry in the years to come. - **Richard Miller**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS BACK There will now be a regular 'family mass' on the first Sunday of every month. Children's liturgy will be held weekly at the 10.30 Sunday Mass

TEA AND COFFEE (& BISCUITS) AVAILABLE



AFTER 10.30 MASS EVERY SUNDAY

Page number for Parish Mass Book -105

RC HOSPITAL

CHAPLAIN: John O'Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518,

FOR ALL GENERAL PARISH ENQUIRIES

CONTACT: Parish Office: Tel: 01462 893127

CHURCH HALL HIRE:

Please contact parish office 01462 893127

BAPTISM

PREPARATION: For further information please contact Richard and Marie Miller Tel: 01462 490630.

RCIA COURSE:

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings; if you would like to find out more please speak directly to Fr. Denis.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478 The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

NEWSLETTER

Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address (baldock@rcdow.org.uk) or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you

VATICAN NEWS

Remember that you can keep up with all the latest news from The Vatican at the Official Vatican Network www.news.va/en.

Your SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray especially for the sick of the parish especially, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Joe Sarno and Pietro Micele, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Gertrude Smith; Margaret Mynott; Clara Gerarts; Antoni Pawlak; John Wardle; Maria Averti; James Cairns; George Rathnow; Fr Terence Wardle; Thomas Barr; Norina D'Addario; Dorothy Osborne

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year! Were you a pupil or member of staff at St. John's between 1972 and 2008? Come and join us on Saturday July 9th, 2022, between 4.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. for a walk down memory lane. There will be an adult bar and BBQ available. We hope to see you there. Please share with friends and family who attended St. John's.

ANNUAL OPEN-AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE



This year will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 10th July. Please remember that, as there will be **ONLY ONE MASS DURING THE WEEKEND**, we hope that the whole parish will come together and celebrate. Tickets on sale, with adult tickets priced at £8. A vegetarian option will be available. Tickets for children aged 5 to 12 years

will be priced at £4, under 5's are free but must have a ticket to help us to cater for the numbers on the day. Please bring your own drinks and your own chairs for the day. We would appreciate the help of volunteers on the day, and we will put up lists at the back of the Church asking for support, please sign up if you are able to help. It would be a good time to invite family and friends, and please pray for good weather.

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES IN BALDOCK CEMETERY

On Sunday 14th August, the Feast of the Assumption, Father Denis will lead a small service at Baldock Cemetery, which is just off The Sycamores, next to The Orange Tree Pub. He will bless the graves of all our loved ones. If you wish to attend, please be there at 12.30.

Sat 2 nd	6.30 pm	Staff & Students of JHN School
Sun 3 rd	8.30am 10.30am	Patsy Tierney RIP
Mon 4 th	10.00am	
Tue 5 th	10.00am	Anne Houghton RIP
Wed 6 th	10.00am	St MARIA GORETTI Mass in school 20th anniversary mass for Fr. Denis.
Thu 7 th	10.00am	Alberto Cheles RIP
Fri 8 th	No Mass	

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered.

Holy Hour: Saturday 5.15 - 6.15 pm
Confessions: Saturday 5.45 - 6.15 pm

Or by appointment with Fr. Denis

Family Mass: 1st Sunday 10.30 am

THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

Fr. Denis is still celebrating Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night for the Vigil Mass, Sunday morning Mass 10.30am, & morning Masses Monday to Thursday at 10am. All are accessible through the Parish Facebook page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury**. For more information, please go to the Parish website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock>

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me,
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Permit me not to be separated from Thee.
From the malicious enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me,
And bid me come to Thee,
That, with thy saints, I may praise Thee,
For ever and ever. Amen.