



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



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

## 11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023

The Church is the fulfillment of God's covenant promises to Israel—a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (see Deuteronomy 26:19; Isaiah 62:12).

In the Church, we have been gathered as the new “Israel of God” (see Galatians 6:16). He has made us His own people, the flock He tends, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Moses was Israel's first shepherd (see Exodus 3:1). With the Promised Land in view, he prayed that God would raise up a successor so that God's people would not be left as sheep without a shepherd (see Numbers 27:17).

These same words are used in today's Gospel to describe Jesus' pity for the crowds, who are “troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Israel's shepherds—the Pharisees and scribes—had abandoned and misled the people through their hypocrisy and spiritual blindness (see Matthew 23:1-36; Jeremiah 50:6).

But God had long before promised that He Himself would come and save His sheep—searching over the whole earth where they had been scattered “for lack of a shepherd” (see Ezekiel 34:1-24).

Jesus is the new Moses and new David promised by the prophets, a divine shepherd-king sent to restore God's priestly kingdom (see John 10:11).

As Moses commissioned Joshua as his successor, so we see Jesus today giving the Twelve His powers and authority (see Matthew 9:35; 10:1). In God's plan, they are to seek out the lost sheep of Israel first and then bring all nations into the fold (see Acts 13:46; Romans 1:16).

Together we have been saved and reconciled to God, as we hear in today's Epistle. As He delivered Israel, He has also made us a kingdom of priests in the Church (see Revelation 1:6).

So we come in this Mass to serve Him with gladness, to praise His kindness, which endures forever

### FEASTS OF SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE

John Fisher and Thomas More were beatified in 1886 along with 54 other English Martyrs. As a priest and bishop John Fisher was martyred in the Tower of London in 1535 for his opposition to the marriage of King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn, and his refusal to acknowledge Henry as supreme head of the Church of England. Thomas More was martyred 2 weeks later for the same reasons. Before his martyrdom Thomas More declared himself to be ‘the king's good servant, but God's first’.

### DAY FOR LIFE

The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, Day for Life is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year it falls on **18 June**. Next week there will be a collection at each mass.

### Prayer to St Joseph Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph,  
at the word of an angel,  
you lovingly took Mary into your home.  
As God's humble servant, you guided  
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,  
and welcomed Jesus as your own son.  
Watch over us and protect us, as we take  
care of those who need our help. Let us  
cherish life. Amen

### ANNUAL OPEN-AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE



This year will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Please remember that, as there will be **ONLY ONE MASS DURING THE WEEKEND**, we

### 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 the parish office on 01462-893127 .

**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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) [Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

hope that the whole parish will come together and celebrate. Tickets will soon be on sale, with adult tickets priced at £10. A vegetarian option will be available. Tickets for children aged 5 to 12 years will be priced at £5, 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. It would be a good time to invite family and friends and please pray for good weather.

### First Holy Communion 2024 Programme (Open to any child in Year 3 or above) Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

**between 10.00am - 11.30am:** for parents to drop in to the Parish Rooms during this time where you will meet with Fr. Denis and complete your child's application form for First Holy Communion. If your child was not Baptised in Baldock please bring their Baptism Certificate with you. The sessions will commence in November 2023 and the children will make their First Holy Communion in May 2024. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Denis.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

#### MEN'S GROUP

Men of the Parish are welcome to come and join our regular Men's Breakfast sessions. These take place once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee

and a Danish served at 8.30am. We finish at 10.30am. Come along and meet friends old and new. See Richard M or John B for more details.

### BLESSING OF THE GRAVES IN BALDOCK CEMETERY

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 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

### YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick in the parish especially, Fr. Philip Law, Mairead Kirke, Patrick Sarsfield, Peter Gray and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Michelle Stapleton; George van Spall; Lino Sicheri; Bernard Lyons; Florence Langford; Mary Rodgers; Thomas Aldridge; Louis Launay; Helen Plumb; Edward Stryjski; John McNally and Joseph McCabe.

Sat 17 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Virginia & Francesco Cutaldo RIP
	10.30am	Sister Maria Vera Birthday
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Matt & Celine Colyer 60 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Annv.
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	St Alban Protomartyr
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00	SS John Fisher Bishop & Thomas More Martyrs
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	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: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30 am

Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 10.30am. 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.

**THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA**

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

**Job Advert - CAFOD Diocese of Westminster** Community Participation Co-ordinator - Full time role. Involves both recruitment and support of existing team of Volunteers. Further details on web page. [cafod.org.uk/jobs](http://cafod.org.uk/jobs) (Closing Date 25/6)