



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



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

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2nd July 2023

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.

The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him.

Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

A little bit history

Today we celebrate 110 years of the construction of the first parish church in Baldock in 1913, and it seems that people enjoy having an outdoor mass so it's good to celebrate who we are; the parish community here and now, and remembering those in the parish who have gone before us.

We are one of many other Christian denominations in Baldock. When the first parish priest came here in 1913 relationships between the churches were not as good as they are now. The first mass was celebrated in the George and Dragon which is called The George now, and is one side of Barclay's bank. It had been 354 years since the last catholic mass had been celebrated by a catholic parish priest. When Fr Basil Barton came here on the 27th January 1913 there was no

church, no school and no parish house. His main task was to get a church built. The name of the church, Holy Trinity came from one of the benefactresses, and as it was St Augustine who was sent to England to convert the English to Christianity, Cardinal Bourne added the dedication to St Augustine of Canterbury. And so we were named the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury The first church opened on 2nd July 1913, Fr. Basil said that: 'it was a happy day but what pleased me most were two things, before mass', he said: 'I lit the sanctuary lamp, a simple act but with profound meaning', and the other was the blessed sacrament being placed in the tabernacle; After being without the Blessed Sacrament while he was living in the hotel. We have a great gift here to have the Blessed Sacrament in our midst. Fr Barton left Baldock in 1919. His achievement had been to establish a catholic community here in Baldock and create good links with the local community which made the work for his successors and future generations of Catholics much easier than it might have been. Fr. Basil Barton did a great deal of good which would only be seen after his death. Looking back we can see that he laid the foundations for the future life of the parish here in Baldock. A lot of what we do in the church takes time for the seeds we plant to grow, and the Lord gives the water to enable us to grow. We give thanks to God for the gift of this parish and for those who laid the foundations. Fr.Denis

OPEN-AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE



After mass tea and coffee will be served in the hall, and the barbeque will begin at 12.30 we will begin to clear up at 2.30pm. After mass we could do with some help to bring the furniture back into church. Many thanks to all those who helped prepare today's mass, especially the altar servers the shifters, the social committee who helped sell the tickets and those who have cooked our meal today. A word of thanks to the choir who have helped us give praise to God.

RED MISSION BOX HOLDERS

Please could Red Box holders bring in their boxes for counting and place them on the small table at

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) 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.

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

the back of the Church. Many thanks. Pam Winters

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 PROGRAMME (OPEN TO ANY CHILD IN YEAR 3 OR ABOVE)

On Saturday 16th September, between 10.00am and 11.30am, a parent's drop in at the Parish Rooms. During this time, 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

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES IN BALDOCK CEMETERY

On Sunday 13th 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.

CAFOD: update on the conflict in Sudan-

Violent conflict continues in Sudan and thousands of people are running out of food, water and medicine. Working as part of the Caritas network, your previous donations to CAFOD are enabling our teams to provide practical help to families who have escaped to

neighbouring countries, including South Sudan. Find out more on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/sudan-conflict

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, Forever and ever. Amen

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick in the parish especially, Patrick Sarsfield, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Stefan Baksalara; Peter Kelly; Peter Kelly; Michael Fruithof; Gertrude Smith; Margaret Mynott; Clara Gerarts; Antoni Pawlak Antoni Pawlak; Maria Averti; James Cairns; George Rathnow; Fr Terence Wardle; Thomas Barr and Norina D'Addario.

Sat 1 st	No mass	Dedication Of the Cathedral
Sun 2 nd	10.30am	Annual Open Air Mass
Mon 3 rd	10.00am	St Thomas Apostle Jenny Stephani RIP
Tue 4 th	10.00am	Grace Poscablo RIP
Wed 5 th	10.00am	Anne Houghton RIP
Thu 6 th	10.00am	Seamus Moran RIP
Fri 7 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

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>