



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



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

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15th October 2023

Planned Giving Appeal 2023 -

Our Call to Stewardship

Time, Treasure & Talents - My Parish Commitment

“Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” (1 Peter 4:10)

Over the last two weeks you have heard about Stewardship, about the Parish Finances and about the specific needs of our parish. All parishioners were invited to prayerfully reflect on their commitment and contribution to our Parish, taking into consideration their own unique blessings of time, treasure and talent. As stewards of these gifts from God we are called to share them, with our parish, our local community, and the world. Let us each strive to return a sacrificial portion to God in thanksgiving for all He has sacrificed for us. **This week you have an opportunity to convert your reflections into concrete actions;** you are asked to think on how you wish to support the Parish financially and which method of giving you may wish to adopt. If you have any questions, on changing on how you are giving, there will be volunteers available after Mass. *Thank you, Fr Denis.*

Dressing for the Feast

Our Lord's parable in today's Gospel is again a fairly straightforward outline of salvation history. God is the king, Jesus is the bridegroom, the feast is the salvation and eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading. The Israelites are those first invited to the feast by God's servants, the prophets. For refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, Israel has been punished, its city conquered by foreign armies.

Now, Jesus makes clear, God is sending new servants, His apostles, to call not only Israelites, but all people—good and bad alike—to the feast of His kingdom. This an image of the Church, which Jesus elsewhere compares to a field sown with both wheat and weeds, and a fishing net that catches good fish and bad.

We have all been called to this great feast of love in the Church, where, as Isaiah foretold, the veil that once separated the nations from the

covenants of Israel has been destroyed, where the dividing wall of enmity has been torn down by the Blood of Christ.

And in the rich food of His Body, and the choice wine of His Blood, we have a foretaste of the eternal banquet in the heavenly Jerusalem, when God will destroy death forever.

But are we dressed for the feast, clothed in the garment of righteousness? Not all who have been called will be chosen for eternal life, Jesus warns. Let us be sure that we're living in a manner worthy of the invitation we've received.

MASS FOR DECEASED RELATIVES,

All Souls Day 2nd November 7.30pm:

November is the month of Holy Souls, when we pray for our deceased loved ones and we have our book of remembrance, in which we place the names of our family and friends who need our prayers. As we have our service of blessing the graves in August, I thought that it might be a nice idea to celebrate a special mass in November this year. Do come and join us and if you know of anyone who has lost a loved one and would like to join us please do invite them to the Mass.

EXTRA-ORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS' DAY:

Sat 4th November will be held in the Church and after in the Parish rooms, at 10am to 12.30pm, followed by Lunch. Extra-ordinary Eucharist Ministers please do reply to Beverley if you are not able to attend. We need to know the numbers to prepare the lunch.

OPEN MORNING -

St John's Catholic Primary School

St John's would like to welcome families with children who will be starting school in September 2024 to the first of their Open Mornings on Wednesday 18th October between 10.00 am and 11.00 am. Come and visit our spacious Reception classroom and meet our friendly Reception staff. Tours of the school will be conducted by Headteacher, Mr Timson. Children are welcome. We are also holding an evening event for prospective parents on Thursday 2nd November from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm and a second Open Morning on Friday 1st December between 10.00 am and 11.00 am. For more information please visit stjohns4.herts.sch.uk or call the school office on 01462 892478.

CAKES 4R CHURCH: 18th-19th November

Our next cake sale will be held on the weekend of 18th-19th November. We are asking our lovely parishioners if you could bake or buy some

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.

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

cakes/biscuits to be sold at all 3 Masses that weekend. Please label cakes to indicate if they are dairy or gluten free and if they have nuts in them and put your name on your cake containers so that we can return them to you..Paper plates will be handed out after mass next weekend so please take one home to remind you to bake! Cakes will be sold after all 3 Masses that weekend.

LAUDATE DEUM: POPE FRANCIS APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION ON CLIMATE

Pope Francis has released his Apostolic Exhortation *Laudate Deum*, 'Praise God', to 'clarify and complete' what he started in 2015 with his Encyclical Letter '*Laudato si'* on how we care for our common home. It has been released at the end of the Season of Creation on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October 2023.

Welcoming the Apostolic Exhortation, Cardinal Vincent Nichols says it 'is the Pope's heartfelt appeal to all people of good will, to communities, business, governments and international bodies that each play its part in facing and responding to the challenges of climate change.

He asks each of us to contribute by efforts "to reduce pollution and waste, to consume with prudence" and thereby help "to create a new culture". 'Faith in God as creator and giver of all good gifts is foundational. The

Pope's final words are: "For when human beings claim to take God's place they become their own worst enemies". You can access the Exhortation here <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/laudate-deum-popes-apostolic-exhortation-on-climate/>

PARISH'S MEN'S GROUP:

This month sees the second anniversary of our enriching Parish Men's Breakfast Sessions, so we warmly invite all men of the parish to join us. We meet in the Parish Rooms once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee and pastries/bacon butties at 8.30am. At 9.00am we watch an episode of the popular Christian TV Series 'The Chosen'. Future dates are 11th November and 9th December. (Second Saturday of each month) Do come along!! See Richard M or John B (or phone 07931 761403) for more information

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Patrick Sarsfield and Celia Sheenan, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Fr Dominic McKenna, John Southwell and Donal Hickey and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Marguerite O'Leary; William Darby; Johanna Rimmer; Kathleen Allen; Elizabeth Keane; Ian Piper; Adam Taylor; Adam Taylor.

Sat 14 th	6.30pm	Jennifer & Eric Austin
Sun 15 th	8.30am 10.30am	Katherine Raven RIP Liam Mahoney RIP
Mon 16 th	No Mass	
Tue 17 th	No Mass	
Wed 18 th	10.00am	St Luke, Evangelist Eddie Fegredo RIP
Thu 19 th	No Mass	
Fri 20 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>

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