



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



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

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME 21st January 2024

Following Him:



The calling of the brothers in today's Gospel evokes Elisha's commissioning by the prophet Elijah. As Elijah comes upon Elisha working on his family's farm, so Jesus sees the brothers working by the seaside. And as Elisha left his mother and father to follow Elijah, so the brothers leave their father to come after Jesus.

Jesus' promise—to make them “fishers of men”—evokes Israel's deepest hopes. The prophet Jeremiah announced a new exodus in which God would send “many fishermen” to restore the Israelites from exile, as once He brought them out of slavery in Egypt.

By Jesus' Cross and Resurrection, this new exodus has begun. And the apostles are the first of a new people of God, the Church—a new family, based not on blood ties, but on belief in Jesus and a desire to do the Father's will.

From now on, even our most important worldly concerns—family relations, occupations, and possessions—must be judged in light of the Gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle.

The first word of Jesus' Gospel—repent—means we must totally change our way of thinking and living, turning from evil, doing all for the love of God. And we should be consoled by Nineveh's repentance in today's First Reading. Even the wicked Nineveh could repent at Jonah's preaching. And in Jesus we have “something greater than Jonah”). We have God come as our saviour, to show sinners the way, as we sing in today's Psalm. This should give us hope—that loved ones who remain far from God will find compassion if they turn to Him. But we, too, must continue along the path of repentance—striving daily to pattern our lives after His.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BALCOCK -

invite you to a Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to be held at 12 noon in our Church on Tuesday 23rd January. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available in the Parish Rooms after the Service. Please feel free to bring a packed lunch, if you would like to.

YOUNG @ HEART

Our next coffee morning will be on Thursday 15th February after the 10am mass. The sacrament of the sick will be administered during the mass. We provide the tea/ coffee and cakes all you have to provide is the chat!! All cake donations very welcome.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Session 1: Tuesday, 8th February at 7.30pm

Session 2: Tuesday, 13th February 7.30 30 pm If you are interested in joining the baptism course please contact Richard and Marie Miller. Please contact the parish office on 01462-893127

COLLECTION FOR THE LATIN PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM.

A word of thanks to those people who contributed to the collection for those suffering in the conflict in the Holy Land, the amount raised was £464.19. many thanks for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME



Confirmation If you are in year 9, please consider if you wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Parish. Application forms are available at the back of the church. The first meeting is on the 20th January 2024 at 4.45pm for candidates only; Subsequent meetings will take place on Saturday evenings. Please contact Joanna for more information at:

Joannabowen@me.com

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

The marriage preparation course will take place on Saturday 2nd March starting at 1.30 pm and on the Sunday 3rd March at 3.30pm. This course will be online. For further information please contact Reman McDonagh on reman.mcdonagh@hotmail.com

Newsletter Entries

We have a dedicated email address for entries in the newsletter. baldock@rcdow.org.uk . could you be so kind as to send them in by Tuesday evening.

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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

Mother Teresa Quotes:

“Peace begins with a smile.”

“We fear the future because we are wasting today.”

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.”

“Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.”

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”

“The most terrible poverty is loneliness, and the feeling of being unloved.”

“It’s not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”

“God doesn’t require us to succeed, he only requires that you try.”

“The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread.”

“Be happy in the moment, that’s enough. Each moment is all we need, not more.”

“Yes, you must live life beautifully and not allow the spirit of the world that makes gods out of power, riches, and pleasure make you to forget that you have been created for greater things

“We do not need guns and bombs to bring peace, we need love and compassion.”

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT:

Sign up to receive newsletters by email and help reduce our paper usage! Visit: parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock and click on 'Sign up for e alerts' on the homepage.

THE CHURCH HALL

The hall is ready to hold events, parties, workshops, birthday parties etc. seating for 50 people, £15 per hour. If you are planning an event do now consider this venue

CONTACTLESS CARD

NEW -We now accept donations by Contactless Card It is for those who wish to make a donation by card; we can now accept card payments for general donations. It is very easy to use. If you need help please do ask. The machine is on the back table of the church.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Celia Sheehan, Mary Callaghan, Simon Campion, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, Sidney Lazarus, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Elizabeth Horohan; Ethel Gaynor; George Kerrison; James Griffin; Alberto Cheles; Bridget Lynch; Frances Scully; Osythe Corry; Timothy Madden; Penelope Gardener; Timothy Scully; Eva Burgess; John O’Leary; Boleslaw Kuczynski; Margaret Barkley;

Sat 20 th	6.30pm	Betty Horohan RIP
Sun 21 st	8.30am 10.30am	Betty & Ray Knight RIP Yolanda Aquisa
Mon 22 nd	10.00am	Francis' intentions
Tue 23 rd	10.00am	
Wed 24 th	10.00am	Saint Francis de Sales
Thu 25 th	10.00am	The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle Kathleen Sarsfield RIP
Fri 26 th	No mass	Friday Abstinence, Saints Timothy and Titus

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