



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



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Feast of the Saints Peter and Paul 29th June 2025



SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES

Today the Church celebrates the feast day of SS. Peter & Paul. As early as the year 258, there is evidence of an already lengthy tradition of celebrating the solemnities of both Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day. Together, the two saints are the founders of the church in Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.

Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to the Lord Jesus by his brother Andrew, also a fisherman. Jesus gave him the name Cephas (Petrus in Latin), which means 'Rock,' because he was to become the rock upon which Christ would build His Church. Peter was a bold follower of the Lord. He was the first to recognize that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and eagerly pledged his fidelity until death. In his boldness, he also made many mistakes, however, such as losing faith when walking on water with Christ and betraying the Lord on the night of His passion. Yet despite his human weaknesses, Peter was chosen to shepherd God's flock. The Acts of the Apostles illustrates his role as head of the Church after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ. Peter led the Apostles as the first Pope and ensured that the disciples kept the true faith. St. Peter spent his last years in Rome, leading the Church through persecution and eventually being martyred in the year 64. He was crucified upside-down at his own request, because he claimed he was not worthy to die as his Lord. He was buried on Vatican hill, and St. Peter's Basilica is built over his tomb. St. Paul was the Apostle of the Gentiles. His letters are included in the writings of the New Testament, and through them

we learn much about his life and the faith of the early Church.

Before receiving the name Paul, he was Saul, a Jewish pharisee who zealously persecuted Christians in Jerusalem. Scripture records that Saul was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

Saul's conversion took place as he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community there. As he was traveling along the road, he was suddenly surrounded by a great light from heaven. He was blinded and fell off his horse. He then heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He answered: "Who are you, Lord?" Christ said: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

Saul continued to Damascus, where he was baptized and his sight was restored. He took the name Paul and spent the remainder of his life preaching the Gospel tirelessly to the Gentiles of the Mediterranean world.

Paul was imprisoned and taken to Rome, where he was beheaded in the year 67.

He is buried in Rome in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of SS. Peter and Paul: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labours, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."

PRAYER

God of saints and sinners, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Peter and Paul bore courageous witness to the death and resurrection of your Son. Hear our prayer for your blessings, that we may be more faithful witnesses to the truth of the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, both now and forever. Amen.



Mary's Meals You have until **Sunday 13th July** to return your envelopes with all your foreign coins/notes in it. Mary's Meals currently feeds over 2.4 million children one good meal every school day and we want to reach many more.

Sunday Readings: Parish Mass Book Page 180

Craft & Chat Our next meeting is on Friday 4th July, 9.30 - 11am. This group is for any adults who enjoy knitting, crochet, or any form of hand sewing, embroidery etc. Tuition can also be given if you wish to learn how to knit/crochet.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 20th September

A wonderful opportunity to be part of this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham. Ticket options: adult £35; child 6 to 12year old £15; child 0 to 5year old, free. The ticket is inclusive of travel by coach and the pilgrim's levy. The coach will be leaving from St. Hugh, Letchworth at 8am. We expect tickets to sell fast due to it being the Jubilee year, so please **email** Jo in the Parish Office now to book your place to avoid disappointment.

LAST WEEKEND TO BUY TICKETS - Annual Open-Air Mass & Parish BBQ



Will take place on Sunday 6th July at 10.30am. We hope that the whole parish will come together as one. Tickets for the BBQ: Adult £10; Child (5-12 years) £5; Under 5's are free but need a ticket to help us cater for the numbers on the day. A vegetarian option will be available. Please bring your own drinks and chairs for the day. We do need some volunteers, if you are able to help please speak to Fr. Denis. *Do invite family and friends to come along and please pray for good weather.*

2025 Parish Dates for your Diary

Sunday 6th July - Open Air Mass: 10.30am in the church grounds.

Sunday 17th August - Blessing of the Graves: 12.30pm at Baldock Cemetery.

Saturday 13th September - Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers' Day: 10.00am - 12.30pm, followed by lunch.

Saturday 20th September - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham: 8am, leaving from Letchworth.

Please speak to Fr. Denis if you have any questions regarding these events.



Your Prayers Are Asked For:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish, especially Tara Ferrissey, Ray Carter, , Sally-Ann Riegel and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Peter Comiskey and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Mary Carson-Rowland, Stefan Baksalara, Peter Kelly, Amadeo D'Addario, Michael Fruithof, Gertrude Smith, Margaret Mynott, Clara Gerarts, Antoni Pawlak, John Wardle.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sat 28 th	6.30pm	Saints Peter & Paul Madge & Frank Wearden - Repose of the Souls
Sun 29 th	8.30am 10.30am	Anne Houghton RIP Philip Murphy RIP Anniversary Saints Peter & Paul
Mon 30 th	10.00am	
Tue 1 st	10.00am	The Dedication of the Cathedral Church
Wed 2 nd	10.00am	Ben Stansble - sick
Thu 3 rd	10.00am	Saint Thomas, Apostle
Fri 4 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.

Children's Liturgy: Takes place during the 10.30am Mass except on the First Sunday of the Month (Family Mass) and during school holidays.

The Vigil Mass (6.30pm) and the Sunday Mass (10.30am) can be watched online via the Parish Facebook Page: ***Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury.***

Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Officers have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk within the Parish.

Patricia Cusack: Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Colette Murphy: Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Our Catholic Schools

St. John's Catholic Primary School, Baldock
T: 01462 892478 W: stjohns4.herts.sch.uk
The Saint John Henry Newman School, Stevenage,
T: 01438 314643 W: jhn.herts.sch.uk

John O'Neil is the Lister Hospital RC Chaplain
Mob: 07876 526935 or T: 01438 285518

Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Weddings and Funerals for further details please speak to Fr. Denis, look at the website or contact the parish office.

Church Hall Bookings the church hall is available to be booked for groups or celebrations. Please contact the parish office for more details.

Baldock Catholic Scout Group for boys & girls aged 6-14. Contact: enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk

To receive an email copy of the Newsletter, please visit our website:

parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock and click on 'Subscribe to Alerts' at the bottom of the page.