



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



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

## Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### Returning Thanks

A Foreign leper is cleansed and in thanksgiving returns to offer homage to the God of Israel. We hear this same story in both the First Reading and Gospel today. There were many lepers in Israel in Elisha's time, but only Naaman the Syrian trusted in God's Word and was cleansed. Today's Gospel likewise implies that most of the 10 lepers healed by Jesus were Israelites - but only a foreigner, the Samaritan, returned.

In a dramatic way, we're being shown today how faith has been made the way to salvation, the road by which all nations will join themselves to the Lord, becoming His servants, gathered with the Israelites into one chosen people of God, the Church. Today's Psalm also looks forward to the day when all peoples will see what Naaman sees - that there is no God in all the earth except the God of Israel.

We see this day arriving in today's Gospel. The Samaritan leper is the only person in the New Testament who personally thanks Jesus. The Greek word used to describe his "giving thanks" is the word we translate as "Eucharist". And these lepers today reveal to us the inner dimensions of the Eucharist and sacramental life.

We too have been healed by our faith in Jesus. As Naaman's flesh is made again like that of a little child, our souls have been cleansed of sin in the waters of Baptism. We experience this cleansing again and again in the Sacrament of Penance - as we repent our sins, beg and receive mercy from our Master, Jesus.

We return to glorify God in each Mass, to offer ourselves in sacrifice - falling on our knees before our Lord, giving thanks for our salvation.

In this Eucharist, we remember "Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David", Israel's covenant king. And we pray, as Paul does in today's Epistle, to persevere in this faith - that we too may live and reign with Him in eternal glory.

### Prayers for the sick and the departed

If you would like a friend or family member to be remembered in our prayers for the sick please

feel free to write their name in the 'Healing Book' that is brought to the altar at every Mass.

Remembering the anniversary of a deceased family member or friend can be a great comfort - please let Fr. Denis know if you would like a name included in the bidding prayers and newsletter.

### Saint Edward The Confessor



Dear Lord, you raised St. Edward, King and Confessor, to excel in good government and faithful service. May these ideals survive and flourish among us through his prayers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Our New Saint Vincent De Paul (SVP) Group



We have had two meetings so far to deepen the understanding of how the SVP works. Donations are always welcome - soon there will be an SVP option on the electronic card reader!

And of course, we always need your prayers for all who work in the mission to bring love, friendship and practical help to people who are experiencing loneliness or hardship. We offer a wide range of assistance from visiting the elderly, taking communion to the home bound to providing a young family with a washing machine.

If you yourself need our support or if you know of anyone in the area who is struggling please let us know. Hedy Fletcher 07599 175555 or Joanna Bowen 07792023211.

### The Pope's Prayer Intention for October

For collaboration between different religious traditions: Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

**Sunday Reading: Parish Mass Page 149**

**World Mission Sunday** is on Sunday 19th October. There will be a short presentation and collection for this important cause at all weekend Masses.

**Young@❤️** Our next coffee morning will be held on Thursday 23rd October after the 10am mass & blessing of the sick. We provide the tea & cake, so you can come along for the chat. Cake donations also welcome. See you there.

**Kid's Night of Light Party - Fri 31st Oct, 4-6pm**

Children are invited to join us for a positive alternative to Halloween, starting with a kid friendly and interactive Holy Hour (feel free to bring colouring/journal/Christian books/fidgets), followed by refreshments, crafts and sparklers! Teens are very welcome too. Parents to please stay. If you'd like to help, email [n.mbeutcha@gmail.com](mailto:n.mbeutcha@gmail.com)

**Thank You** The parish would like to thank Fr Stephen for supplying at our weekend Masses over the last two weekends. Thank you.

**2025 Parish Dates for your Diary**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November - Baptism Preparation Course:** 11am-12pm in the Parish Rooms.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October - First Holy Communion Welcome Meeting for the children and their parents:** After the 10.30am Mass in Church.

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Young @❤️:** At the 10am Mass.

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Cakes 4R Church.** More details to follow.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Confirmation Meeting for young people (in Yr9 or 10) and their parents:** After the 10.30am Mass in Church.

*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, Sally-Ann Riegel and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

*Cecilia Saunders, Lilian Tingey, Christine Wright, Marguerite O'Leary, William Darby, Johanna Rimmer, Kathleen Allen, Elizabeth Keane, Ian Piper.*

**Mass Times and Intentions**

Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<i>Rita Fletcher</i>
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	<i>Katherine Raven - RIP Claudia Pater - RIP</i>
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	Saint Edward the Confessor
Tue 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	Saint Teresa of Jesus
Thu 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	Saint Ignatius of Antioch

*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](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
Colette Murphy: [Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Our Catholic Schools**

**St. John's Catholic Primary School, Baldock**  
T: 01462 892478 W: [stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](http://stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

**The Saint John Henry Newman School, Stevenage,** T: 01438 314643 W: [jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://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](mailto:enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk)

*To receive an email copy of the Newsletter, please visit our website: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock) and click on 'Subscribe to Alerts' at the bottom of the page.*