



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



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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10th May 2026



A Gospel reflection

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks tenderly to His disciples as He prepares to leave them. He knows their hearts are troubled, and so He offers both a promise and a reassurance: they will not be abandoned. "I will not leave you orphaned," He says.

At the heart of this passage is a simple but demanding truth: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." Love, in the Christian sense, is not just a feeling but a way of living. It is expressed in faithfulness, in trust, and in the daily effort to follow Christ more closely. Yet Jesus does not ask this of us alone. He promises "another Advocate" – the Holy Spirit – who will remain with us forever. The Spirit is not merely a distant helper but God dwelling within us, guiding, strengthening, and encouraging us in our Christian life.

This is a deeply consoling message. We are not left to navigate life by our own strength or wisdom. In moments of doubt, struggle, or uncertainty, the Holy Spirit is present, quietly leading us towards truth and peace.

Jesus also speaks of a profound union: "On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you." This is the mystery of our faith – that through Christ, we are drawn into the very life of God.

As we continue through the Easter season and look ahead to Pentecost, we are invited to renew our openness to the Holy Spirit. Let us ask for the grace to live out our love for Christ more faithfully, trusting that He is always with us.

We are not alone. Christ remains with us, and His Spirit lives within us.

Mary Queen of the May

May is a month that is loved, and its arrival is welcome for several reasons. In our hemisphere spring advances with so many colourful blossoms; the climate is favourable for walks and excursions. For the liturgy, the month of May always belongs to the Easter Season, the season of the "alleluia," of the revelation of the mystery of Christ in the light of the Resurrection and of the Easter faith; and it is the time of expectation of the Holy Spirit, who descends with power on the nascent Church at Pentecost.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

First Holy Communion Congratulations to Leo, Jack, Lily, Klara, Kenzi, Xavier, Caitlin, Nino, Max, Olivia, Barnaby, Zachary, Viktor, Samuel and Luke who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 9th May.

The Ascension of the Lord On Thursday 14th May there will be Mass at 10.00am and 7.30pm.

Family Day - Saturday 16th May

Family Day

Come learn about the Holy Spirit and enjoy family fellowship

Saturday May 16th
3:00-4:30 in the Parish Hall

Games, crafts, and refreshments

All are welcome to join

Parish Mass Book Readings p268

Church Flower Rota We urgently need more volunteers to join the church flower Rota. You might like to give it a try a couple of times before committing yourself to a regular slot. If we can get a few more volunteers it would mean that you would do the church flowers once every two months.

We want to keep our church looking beautiful and your help would be very much appreciated. If you would like to help, please phone 01462 892640 or leave a message at the parish office 01462 893127/email: Baldock@rcdow.org.uk

Blessing of the Graves On Sunday 16th August, the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Assumption Father Denis will lead a small service at Baldock Cemetery, which is just off The Sycamores, next to The Orange Tree Pub. He will be blessing the graves of all our loved ones. If you wish to attend, please be there at 12.30.

Webinar - Raising Teenagers in a Catholic family, Tuesday 2nd June at 8pm As children enter adolescence, parenting can feel brand new. Mike and Alicia from the Messy Family Project share faith-filled wisdom and practical tools to help parents guide their tweens and teens with patience, modelling, and stronger relationships.

2026 Parish Dates for your Diary

Saturday 30th May, 6th & 13th June - Baptism Course: 11am - 12noon. For parents of children being Baptised in the Parish .

Sunday 31st May - Confirmation Mass: Bishop Paul McAleenan will confirm the candidates at the 10.30am Mass.

Sunday 5th July - Open Air Mass: 10.30am in the church grounds. We will need helpers to set up the Mass and some help with the BBQ after Mass.

Sunday 13th December - Celebrating 50 Years of the New Parish Church. The Archbishop of Westminster Richard Moth, will celebrate Mass with us and bless the foundation stone as we celebrate fifty years of the new church built here in Baldock.

Your Prayers Are Asked For:

We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish, especially *Mary Callaghan, Liz McCaul* 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:

Mary Day, Martha Smith, Sarah Feeney, Frances Madigan, Michael Connors, Margaret Ferraris, Brian Randall, Vincenza Luggeri, Elsie Smith.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sat 9th	6.30pm	The First Holy Communion Children
Sun 10th	8.30am 10.30am	Cecilia Loayza - RIP Olindo Lanni - RIP
Mon 11th	10.00am	Douglas Houghton - RIP
Tue 12th	10.00am	
Wed 13th	10.00am	
Thu 14th	10.00am 7.30pm	<i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>
Fri 15th	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.