The Catholic Parishes of Buntingford and Old Hall Green & Puckeridge

3 Station Road SG9 9HT **2 Farm Lane SG11 1DT** **77 High Street SG11 1RX**

http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/buntingford **http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/oldhallgreen**

The Twenty Third Sunday of the Year 8th September 2024

Parochial Administrator: Fr John Cunningham **Parish Deacon**: Rev Deacon Paul O'Connor

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Waltham Cross Parish Office: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.00pm **Phone:** 01992 623156

Take a look around you as you make yourself at home in God's home. As you entered, did you welcome others as perhaps you yourself were welcomed? Did you see anyone you did not recognize? Did you give them the once over and make a judgment, perhaps in the back of your mind? In today's second reading, James instructs the Christian community to show no partiality in their assembly. He warns them that those they may tend to avoid or ignore may be exactly those whom God chooses for the kingdom. In that spirit, let us always warmly welcome all who join us to worship the Lord.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday 8th September	**Twenty Third Sunday of the Year**	9.15am People of the Parish
		11:00am People of the Parish
Sunday15th September		9.15am People of the Parish
		11.00am People of the Parish

All Masses are celebrated in the Church of St Richard of Chichester, Buntingford

Prayer Intentions. At this time of the year we are asked to pray for: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.

For those who are ill: Maralyn Haughton,

For those who have died recently: Angela Hart, Jean House,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for your last week's Offertory collection which came to £205.05 and for your Regular Standing Orders.

Harvest Festival. As part of Churches Together in Buntingford, you are invited to a lunch hosted at the URC church on Baldock Road at 12.30pm on Sunday 6th October. Further details next week.

Volunteers Needed. Most of our rotas are now running well but we need more volunteers to count the collection after 11.00 Mass each Sunday. The more volunteers we have the less often each volunteer needs to do the count. If you are interested, please sign the list in the porch or speak to Deacon Paul.

Sponsored Hike and Bike Saturday 14th September. There are two ways to be involved. If you would like to be sponsored to hike or bike around local churches, please take a pack from the porch. If you would like to be on the rota to welcome hikers and bikers to the church, please sign the list on the porch noticeboard.

Sacraments. If you, or your children, would like to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation, or if you yourself would like to become a Catholic, please speak to Deacon Paul after Mass today to collect an application form.

Parishioners Details Forms. We are collecting the details of our parishioners so that we can keep in contact with you. Please take one light blue form per household from the porch to complete and hand it in to Deacon Paul next week.

Mass Intentions. If you would like a Mass Offered for an Intention, please write the details on an envelope along with your offering and hand it in at the Sacristy after Mass. Deacon Paul will be able to arrange a suitable date for you.

Refreshments after Mass. There will be refreshments after the 9.15am Mass this Sunday morning as usual. If you attend the 11.00 Mass, you are invited to come early so that you can join us before Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

THE SEASON OF CREATION

Season of Creation 2024 Prayer

Triune God, Creator of all, we praise you for your goodness, visible in all the diversity that you have created, making us a cosmic family living in a common home. Through the Earth you created, we experience love and nourishment, home and protection. We confess that we do not relate to the Earth as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator. Our selfishness, greed, neglect, and abuse have caused the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, human suffering as well as the suffering of all our fellow creatures. We confess that we have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth, the groans of all creatures, and the roans of the Spirit of hope and justice that lives within us. May your Creator Spirit help us in our weakness, so that we may now the redeeming power of Christ and the hope found in him. May the groans of the Spirit birth in us a willingness to serve you faithfully, so that we may hear and heal Creation, to hope and act together with her, so that the first fruits of hope may blossom. Loving and Creator God, we pray that you will make us sensitive to these groans and enable us to have the same compassion as that of Jesus, the redeeming Lord. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth, and with one another, as creatures that are made in your image. In the name of the one who came to proclaim the good news to all Creation, Jesus Christ. Amen