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 Third Sunday of Advent 15th December 2024

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

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We will hear it at least a few times over the next two weeks: "It's better to give than to receive." We recognize this when we see the expressions of joy in a child's face or tears of appreciation from a parent or spouse when they open a gift we've given them. Jesus himself said the same words to his disciples, though in a context more like the one we hear today with John the Baptist preaching to the crowds to share what they have with those who have less. As we prepare for the Lord's coming, let us share from the bounty the Lord has blessed us with and give to those in need. In our hearts, may we continually relearn the blessings of giving. *From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2023 World Library Publications*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 15th December	**The Third Sunday of Advent**	9.15am Gilbert & Nancy Jones – Int.
Tuesday 17th December		7.30pm
Sunday 22nd December	**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**	9.15am Michael O'Connor RIP

Puckeridge

Sunday 15th December	**The Third Sunday of Advent**	11.00am David John King RIP
Thursday 19th December		12.30pm
Sunday 22nd December	**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**	11.00am People of the Parish

Prayer Intentions. During Advent, we are asked to pray for: Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers

For those who are ill: Charlie Gallagher, Colin Horgan

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £59.80 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford **£65.30; and for your regular standing orders.**

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve - Puckeridge – 3.00pm There will be Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 3.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve. If any young person wishes to take a more active role in this celebration, please see Deacon Paul.
Christmas Day - Puckeridge – 10.00am
Christmas Day - Buntingford – 10.00am

Refreshments after Mass. There will be refreshments in Benson Hall after the 9.15am Mass as usual. We look forward to seeing you there. You are especially welcome if you are visiting this parish this weekend.

Christmas Offerings. The Offering on Christmas Day and on Easter Sunday are your gift to the Clergy, and not a donation to the Parish as such. For those people who normally donate by Standing Order, there are Christmas Envelopes available at the entrances to the Church.

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

Holy Hour. Each Friday between 5.00pm and 6.00pm St Richard's in Buntingford will be open for a time of quiet prayer and adoration. Please feel free to join us for the whole hour or to pop in for just a few minutes.

SVP Vinnie Packs. The SVP are distributing over 10,000 homeless packs (Vinnie Packs) during the extreme cold weather. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.10 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West **sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**. Thank you so much for your support.

An Advent Calendar with a difference. Please look at the Advent Giving Calendar in the porch at Buntingford and on the Notice Board at Puckeridge and bring one of the gifts suggested to put into the hamper in the Porch at Buntingford, and the one by the Altar at Puckeridge, next week so we that can share the gifts with the local food bank.

Church Decoration. If you would like to help decorate the church in Buntingford for Christmas, please come along after the 9.15 Mass on Sunday 22nd December. Any help will be greatly appreciated.
In Puckeridge, the preparation will be after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 22nd. Offerings of Greenery and Flowers/Plants are more than welcomed. Please speak to Sarah Howitt if you wish to donate something.

Epiphany. To celebrate this great feast (a day early) please join us for a Bring and Share Brunch in Benson Hall after the 9.15 Mass at St Richard's on Sunday 5th January.