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 Baptism of the Lord

12th January 2025

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

Correspondence Address: 204 High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts, EN8 7DP **Email**: walthamcross@rcdow.org.uk
Waltham Cross Parish Office: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.00pm **Phone:** 01992 623156

Over the Christmas season, which ends today, the Gospel passages have told how God's Son was made manifest to the world. The angels told the shepherds that a Saviour had been born in Bethlehem. The magi followed the star to give homage to the newborn Messiah. The youth Jesus amazed the teachers in the temple. Today we hear that at Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove and the Father's voice could be heard saying, "You are my beloved Son." We rejoice today, for the Son of God is continually revealed to us.

From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2023 World Library Publications

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 12th January	**The Baptism of the Lord**	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 14th January		7.30pm
Sunday 19th January	**The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 12th January	**The Baptism of the Lord**	11.00am Luca Fusi RIP
Thursday 16th January		12.30pm
Sunday 19th January	**The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish

Prayer Intentions. During Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for: Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Unemployed.

For those who are ill: Charlie Gallagher, Colin Horgan **For those who have died recently:** Dan O'Mara, Luca Fusi,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £81.92 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford **£57.10; and for your regular standing orders.**

Lent Groups. Please sign up on the list in the porch if you would be interested in meeting with other parishioners for an hour each Wednesday evening in Lent for a talk about our faith.

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.

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.

Parishioners Details Forms. If you are new to the Parish, or have not done so already, please take one light green form per household from the porch to complete and hand it in to Deacon Paul.

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.

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.

BASH. This local group of volunteers offer lifts to local people who need help getting to medical or dental appointments. If you would like to help, please contact Val on 07733 091731.



Just because most of us were baptised when we were babies does not mean that baptism is a childish thing. To walk daily without baptism means to accept the challenge of being part of a kingdom whose values challenge the world. And it means not being afraid or embarrassed about wearing our baptism on our sleeves.

Baptism is a sacramental sign that we have been given salvation in Christ. But just being baptised doesn't mean we're "saved". Our baptism has to be a genuine sign. We have to live out our baptism rather than simply acting as though it was something that was over and done with one Sunday in church long ago.