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 First Sunday of Lent 9th March 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

Each year on the first Sunday of Lent we hear how Jesus was tempted by the devil three times during his forty days in the desert. Each time, Jesus resisted the devil, finding strength in God's word. As we embark on these forty days of Lent, we will encounter temptation as well. Our temptations will vary, but each will sound attractive in its own way. This Lent, let us keep in mind Jesus' responses to the devil in the desert and pray for the strength we need to resist temptation and to repent of the times we fail to do so. *From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2025 World Library Publications*

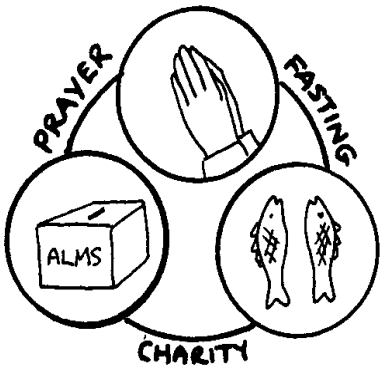
MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 9th March	**The First Sunday of Lent**	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 11th March		7.30pm
Sunday 16th March	**The Second Sunday of Lent**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 9th March	**The First Sunday of Lent**	11.00am People of the Parish
Thursday 13th March		12.30pm
Sunday 16th March	**The Second Sunday of Lent**	11.00am People of the Parish



Stations of the Cross. Each Friday between 5.00 and 6.00pm St Richard's in Buntingford we will pray the Stations of the Cross followed by a time of quiet prayer and adoration

Prayer Intentions. During Lent, we are asked to pray for: Europe; Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers

For those who are ill: Pope Francis **For those who have died recently:** John Wallace,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £97.15 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford **£166.07 ; and for your regular standing orders.**

Pope Francis. At the time of writing Pope Francis remains critically ill in hospital. Please keep him in your own personal prayers this week.

Funeral this week. The Funeral Mass for the late John Wallace will be celebrated on Monday 10th March at 2.00pm in St Richard's Buntingford.

Hymn Books. We would like to raise £800 to buy a new set of hymn books for St Richard's Buntingford to replace the current ones which are worn and outdated. Each copy of the hymn book costs £8.00 and parishioners are invited to make a donation to cover the cost of one or more of them. You will have the opportunity to dedicate each copy of the hymn book to one of your prayer intentions, which could be for your family, or for a friend or relative, or for some other intention. If you would like to donate, please put your donation into an envelope marked 'Hymn Books' with your name and the details of the person or persons to whom you would like the hymn book dedicated. Please collect an envelope from the porch and hand it in next week.

Mass for Bereaved Parents. This Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 5th April at 2.00pm.

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 our parish this weekend.

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 in to Deacon Paul.

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 07787 183288.

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 so that we can arrange a suitable date for you.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Matrimony. The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. The Mass is on Saturday 17th May at 2.30pm in the Cathedral. Please give your parish these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email).

CAFOD Big Lent Walk. Fr Tony will be doing the Lent Walk for CAFOD this year and would be glad if you could sponsor him. Donations can be made through his fundraising page at https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fr-tonys-fundraising-page2025

CAFOD Family Fast Day. CAFOD's Family Fast Day is on Friday 14th March. By praying, eating simply and giving, you'll be supporting local experts to provide simple, effective solutions to the toughest problems facing people around the world. Please collect a CAFOD envelope as you leave church to make a Lent offering. You can scan the QR code or search 'CAFOD envelope' to give online. If you can Gift Aid your donation, you'll add a free 25 per cent to anything you give! Please be a pilgrim of hope with us in the Jubilee Year by supporting communities worldwide to fight poverty and injustice, and so restore their hope.

Dates and Times and Places for your Diary - The Easter Triduum

Maundy Thursday	April 17th	St Richard's	6.00pm
Good Friday	April 18th	St Richard's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday	April 19th	St Richard's	8.00pm
Easter Sunday	April 20th	St Richard's	9.15am
		St Thomas's	11.00am

