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**

Palm Sunday 13th April 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

We begin the holiest week of the year by holding palm branches in our hands, which recall the palm branches the crowds used two thousand years ago to welcome the Lord into the holy city. Our palm branches are blessed, for they also welcome the Lord to this holy place. Though the people of Jerusalem had no idea what the true nature of Jesus' triumph would soon be, we do and so we anticipate Jesus' ultimate victory while recognizing the intense suffering and profound grief that will accompany it. Let us raise our voices along with our branches as we sing out as even the stones will, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2025 World Library Publications

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 13th April	**Palm Sunday**	9.15am Eric Pratt RIP
Tuesday 15th April		7.30pm
Thursday 17th April		6.00pm Bert Gomez RIP
Saturday 19th April		8.00pm The Easter Vigil
Sunday 20th April	**Easter Sunday**	9.15am Keith Bradley RIP

Puckeridge

Sunday 13th April	**Palm Sunday**	11.00am People of the Parish
Sunday 20th April	**Easter Sunday**	11.00am Bert Gomez RIP

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: Colin Horgan, **For those who have died recently:** Mary Ronan, Pamela Gale,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Marian Brzozowski, Eric Pratt

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £45.29 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford **£126.21; and for your regular standing orders**

Confessions. Fr John will be available for Confession after the evening Mass at St Richard's on Tuesday evening.

Hymn Books. We are close to our target of £800 to cover the cost a set of new hymn books. Donations are still welcome along with details of those to whom you wish the hymn book dedicated.

A New Sound System for St Thomas' Church in Puckeridge. The new Sound System has been installed and is working. As always with a completely new installation, it will need some fine tuning over the next few weeks to get the settings exactly as we want them. If you wish to make a donation towards the cost, there are envelopes (and Gift Aid Forms for those who are tax payers) available on the table at the back of the Church.

Maundy Thursday. We will include the washing of the feet in this Mass and need 12 volunteers. Please volunteer to have your feet washed by signing the list at the back of church. Perhaps we could see it as another way of imitating the humility of Jesus.

Flower arranging in both our Churches for Easter. If you would like to help with the Easter flowers, please join us on Holy Saturday, 19th April, **at 9.00 am in Buntingford, and/or at 2.30pm in Puckeridge**. You will be especially welcome if you have knowledge and experience to share. Donations of flowers are always welcome.

Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion by, and for, Yong People, Children and Families. There will be an adapted Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Thomas' Church in Puckeridge at 10.00am on Good Friday morning. It will be led by the younger elements of our Parishes. There will be an adapted Way of the Cross followed by an adapted version of the Solemn Intercessions, and then the Veneration of the Cross. The Liturgy will conclude with the traditional Collection for the Upkeep of the Holy Places. – The Christian Shrines in the Holy Land.
We need volunteers from among our younger people to help with the Readings and to lead the Prayers and the Veneration.

Easter Offerings. It has always been the case that people's Offering on Easter Sunday and on Christmas Day 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 Easter Envelopes available at the entrances to the Church.

Easter Posters. There are Easter Posters available at the Entrances to the Churches, please take one home and put it up in your window.

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.

Assist us to live, not to die Please encourage our MP (Chris Hinchliff) to attend Parliament and vote against the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill at Third Reading. There are post cards at the entrance to the Church, please take one and fill it in and post it to your MP at the House of Commons.

The Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group will meet in Holy Week on Wednesday April 16 from 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. to discuss Dilexit nos by Pope Francis. Please read chapter 2. Refreshments available and all welcome. We meet in the Hinsley room, Morpeth Terrace.

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).

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

Maundy Thursday	The Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Richard's	6.00pm
Good Friday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion for Children	St Thomas'	10.00am
	The Celebration of the Lord's Passion	St Richard's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday	The Easter Vigil	St Richard's	8.00pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	St Richard's	9.15am
	Mass	St Thomas's	11.00am

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY SCHOOL

St Thomas of Canterbury School have places available for Nursery from September 2025. We have an "outstanding" Early Years provision (Ofsted Inspection February 2023) and a judgement grade of "outstanding" for Catholic Life and Mission (Diocesan Inspection February 2024).

We are a nurturing, half form entry Catholic Primary School in rural Puckeridge, East Hertfordshire. We strive to provide the best possible education in a caring, Christian environment.

"Pupils enjoy being part of this close-knit school community. They are proud of their school. Pupils have positive attitudes towards learning and towards each other." (Ofsted Inspection February 2023)

We offer 30 hours Nursery provision, Monday to Friday (08:45 - 15:15) term time only.

Please contact the School for further details for an application form or see the school website for further details: www.stcanterbury.herts.sch.uk

