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**

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time 17th August 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

Today's second reading speaks of a great cloud of witnesses, perhaps referring to the large number of Christians who gave witness to their faith through their words and actions. Baptised in the Lord, we are those witnesses now. Looking around and seeing our faith community gathered here today, let us think of ourselves as a "great cloud of witnesses," assured of each other's support and encouragement as we live out our discipleship to the Lord.
Today's readings are difficult to hear. Jeremiah's preaching so inflamed the people of Judah that he was thrown into a pit to die. Jesus warned his disciples that he came to inflame people so much that parents would turn against their children and vice versa. Nevertheless, says the author of Hebrews, we much persevere in our faith, endure our cross, and resist sin, so that one day we may find the joy that lies before us. As we suffer hardships on our journey to the Lord, may God's word encourage us to never give up.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 17th August	**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am John Keogh RIP
Sunday 24th August	**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 17th August	**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish
Sunday 24th August	**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish

Prayer Intentions. During Ordinary Time: We are asked to pray for:
A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Human Life; Europe;
Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Seafarers.

For those who are ill: **For those who have died recently:** Ann Parker,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £96.50 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £106.72; and for your Regular standing orders

Fr John is on holiday until late Tuesday 26th August. Fr Tom will be looking after Waltham Cross Parish while he is away. Fr Tom will come to Buntingford and Puckeridge on both of the Sundays

Come and See. If you would like to find out more about becoming a Catholic, please speak to Deacon Paul and sign up for this course which starts in September.

Baptism. Please speak to Fr John or Deacon Paul after Mass if you would like your child to be Baptised so that we can fill out an Application Form.

Holy Hour. Holy Hour is cancelled during August. It will return in September.

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.

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.