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**

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th September 2025

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

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Over the last two thousand years Jesus had been given many titles, from Bread of Life to Our Saviour. One of his first titles, going back to when he first stood and proclaimed God's word in the synagogue, is Rabbi, or Teacher. How appropriate to focus on that title on this first Sunday of September, a time of year when millions of young people are returning to school. Today we hear Jesus teach the crowds what it means to be a disciple. May he teach us as well as we gather together in his name.

Jesus, our teacher, offers lessons today on being a disciple. These lessons can be difficult, we must carry our own crosses, we must renounce all our possessions, we even must hate our own family, but we gather as a family of faith in this place to hear them and reflect on them. The words of Wisdom may help, as they point out that as much as we try, we cannot possibly conceive the mind of God. Therefore, with faith and humility, let us listen to God's word.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 7th September	**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 9th September		7.30pm
Sunday 14th September	**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 7th September	**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish
Thursday 11th September		12.30pm
Sunday 14th September	**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish

Prayer Intentions. During Ordinary Time - Autumn: We are asked to pray for: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.

For those who are ill: For those who have died recently:
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £49.07 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £117.45; and for your Regular standing orders

Confessions. Fr John will be available for confessions after the evening Mass at St Richard's Buntingford each Tuesday.

Baptism. Baby Grace, who we welcomed last Sunday at St Richard's, will be baptised at 12.00 on Sunday 14th 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. The Holy Hour starts again in September. Each Friday the church at St Richard's in Buntingford will be open from 5.00 to 6.00pm. Please pop in to light a candle and say a prayer. The hour will usually end with Benediction.

The Sacraments. If your child is in Year 3 or above in September, and you would like them to receive First Communion, please collect an Application Form after Mass today.
If your child is in Year 10 or above in September, and they would like to be Confirmed, please collect an Application Form after Mass today.

Refreshments after Mass. There will be refreshments in Benson Hall after the 9.15am Mass at St Richard's today. 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.

Quiz Night. St Peter's Church are holding their Annual Quiz Night at Benson Hall from 7.00pm on Saturday 20th September. Tickets are available on their Facebook page.

Beginning of term Mass. Monday 8th September at 2.00pm in the School. Parishioners are welcome to attend, but need to sign in at the school.

Sponsored Hike and Bike. We would like to support the Historical Churches Trust who make grants for the maintenance and restoration of church buildings in this area. On Saturday 13th September would you be able to act as steward by being in St Richard's to welcome hikers and bikers, sign their forms and offer them refreshments? We would ask each steward to fill a one-hour slot on the day, preferably with another person. If you can help, please add your name to the sign-up form near the font. Thank you in advance for your support.

CAFOD: RESPONSE IN GAZA

Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk. Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

