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 Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 28th September 2025

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

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Today is the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, a day on which we recognize and honour those who accepted the challenge of leaving their homes and homelands to search for and work for a better life in a foreign land. Those who have never had to make such a radical decision find it difficult to imagine the incredible challenges refugees and migrants face, on their journeys and in their new homes, much as the rich man in today's Gospel cannot imagine how the poor, sickly Lazarus ended up on his doorstep. May we never forget to see the face of Christ in the stranger and respond with heartfelt compassion.

For the second Sunday in a row, we hear the prophet Amos deliver a harsh condemnation of the callous rich. Also once again, we hear Jesus tell a story to teach the proper attitude toward material wealth. Here, the rich man and Lazarus find their states completely reversed after they die. Let us heed the lessons Amos and Jesus teach us and pray that we never become blind and uncaring to those in desperate need.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 28th September	**Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 30th September		7.30pm
Sunday 5th October	**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 28th September	**Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish
Thursday 2nd October		12.30pm
Sunday 5th October	**Twenty-Seventh 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: Alan Tan **For those who have died recently:** Chris Peirce,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £120.68 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £75.57; 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.

Holy Hour. The Holy Hour has started again. 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.

Baptism. Please speak to Fr John or Deacon Paul after Mass if you would like your child to be baptised.

Come and See. Last week we began our exploration of the Catholic faith with three non-Catholics who are considering joining the Church, and one Catholic who is asking for adult Confirmation. Please pray for them as they begin a programme which will continue with regular sessions from now until next Easter.

Sacramental Programmes. We will soon start our Sacramental Programmes for children in Year 3 and above who would like to receive First Communion, and children in Year 10 and above who would like to be Confirmed. Please speak to Fr John or Deacon Paul after Mass to collect an Application Form.

Marian Garden. A special thank you to Dave Hawkridge who, with Cavan Kinsella, has worked hard to build the Marian Garden in front of the statue of Our Lady in the car park. The first stage of the work has now been completed and we will be adding pots at a later date.

Counting the Congregation. Today and for the next two Sundays, we will be carrying out our annual count of those attending Mass. The average attendance over those four weeks will be reported to the diocese for the collection of parish statistics they carry out every year.

Hymn Books. We have some hymn books that do not have a dedication in the front. If you would like to add a dedication asking for prayers for you or a member of your family at no cost, please write the details down and place in the basket in the porch.

Harvest Festival. At all Masses on Sunday 5th October we will be asking you to donate non-perishable food items for the local food banks. If you would like to help set up the harvest display at St Richard's, please join us at 9.00am on Saturday 4th October.
The Donation Box will also be available at Puckeridge Parish for you to put in your food items for the local food banks.

Men's Breakfast. We plan to run a men's breakfast on a Saturday morning this autumn, date to be confirmed. If you are interested in meeting other men from the parish and finding out more about our faith, please sign the list in the porch. We will contact those who sign up to work out a suitable date.

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.

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.

CAFOD
just one world
Registered Charity No. 285776

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal ths Harvest. Family Fast Day will be on Friday 3rd October. On that day we are asked to deny ourselves some of our luxuries, so that others in the world can have access to essentials. Please donate to CAFOD's Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Ware's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope which will be available in church, or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

The Bible Timeline Course. Grasp the Big Picture of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, with this Free, world-renowned course presented live online by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts Wednesday 1st October 2025 at 7.00pm (8 Wednesday evenings). Info & Registration: comeandsee.org

