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 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 5th October 2025

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

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Each week we gather here as a family of faith, expressing our faith and deepening our faith as we celebrate the Eucharist together. Yet, we may still feel that our faith is weak, especially if we compare ourselves to others we know. But do you know what? So did the twelve apostles. Today we hear them ask the Lord to increase their faith. May his response hearten us, his present-day disciples, as we struggle with our own faith.
The prophet Habakkuk cries out to God in frustration, upset that nothing is being done about the discord and violence in Judah. "Patience," God answers. The apostles cry out to Jesus, complaining their faith isn't strong enough. "You have plenty," Jesus assures them. May we not be too timid to cry out to God in our need, may we listen for God's reassuring voice, and, as we sing in the psalm, may we harden not our hearts.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 5th October	**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 7th October		7.30pm
Sunday 12th October	**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 5th October	**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish
Thursday 9th October		12.30pm
Sunday 12th October	**Twenty-Eighth 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 £43.40 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £126.81; 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.

Christmas Tree Festival. Last year we submitted a Jesse Tree to the festival at Aspenden church. This year we are inviting some of you to work together to create St Richard's entry for this year's festival on the weekend of 13/14th December. Please speak to Deacon Paul if you would like to take a lead on this.

Counting the Congregation. Today and next Sunday, we will be continuing 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 was last Friday 3rd October. On that day we were 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. Continues on Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm (8 Wednesday evenings). Info & Registration: comeandsee.org

Eucharistic Festival. There will be a Eucharistic Festival on Saturday 11 October at 12:30 with Cardinal Vincent Nichols in Westminster Cathedral, with Veneration of a Relic of the newly Canonised St Carlo Acutis. The afternoon will also include Mass celebrated by the Cardinal, addresses by Bishop Nicholas Hudson and Fr Alan Robinson, Adoration, Rosary, Confessions and a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament.

Exhibition: 'Defiant Love in Times of War': Holiness under the Third Reich. To mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War an art exhibition will be on display at Farm Street Church throughout the month of October, sharing powerful stories of unknown heroes, daring to choose love amid the hatred of the Third Reich.