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**

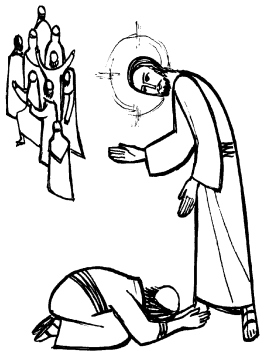
The Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 12th October 2025

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

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We gather as a community of faith to worship God, to thank God for the blessings we've received, and to be nourished by the Eucharist. It is quite fitting that we give thanks to God when we celebrate the Eucharist, since eucharistia is Greek for thanksgiving. Today's readings can remind us how appropriate it is to give thanks to God, just as we would thank a neighbour who does something special for us. Let us be a thankful people, expressing a spirit of gratitude throughout our lives.
Today's readings extol the virtue of gratitude. We hear first of Naaman, a foreigner, who is so grateful to Elisha and the Lord for curing his leprosy that he returns to offer gifts. In the Gospel, another foreigner, a Samaritan, returns to Jesus to offer thanks after his leprosy is cured. May we be as grateful as them for God's blessings upon us, starting with our "Thanks be to God" for the saving power of God's word. *From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2025 World Library Publications*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 12th October	**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am Catherine Mair RIP
Tuesday 14th October		7.30pm
Sunday 19th October	**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am Chris Peirce

Puckeridge

Sunday 12th October	**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish
Sunday 19th October	**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish

There will be no Mass on Thursday at Puckeridge this week.

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, Anna Gizzi, **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 £56.00 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £127.00; and for your September standing orders £252.00 at Puckeridge and at Buntingford £548.00; Online Donations £210.00.
Cafod collection at Puckeridge £150.00 and at Buntingford £196.22

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

Bishop Paul McAleenan. On Sunday 19th October, we will welcome Bishop Paul to the parish. He will be celebrating the weekend Masses for us at 9.15 at St Richard's Buntingford and at 11.00 at St Thomas's Puckeridge.

Funeral. The Funeral of Chris Peirce will take place at St Mary the Virgin, Westmill, at 1.00pm on Tuesday 21 October. If you plan to attend, please consider sharing lifts with others as parking is very limited at Westmill.

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.

First Holy Communion. Parents who wish their children to receive First Holy Communion are invited to come with their children to a Meeting to introduce the Preparation Programme. It will take place after the 11.00 Mass at St Thomas's Puckeridge on Sunday 19th October.

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 we will be carrying out our final annual count of those attending Mass. The average attendance over these last four weeks will be reported to the diocese for the collection of parish statistics they carry out every year.

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
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Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal. We raised £346.22. Together, we are supporting local experts to get help to families and communities when they need it most. It's not too late to give online at cafod.org.uk.

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

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.

Stop Assisted Suicide - Further Action Needed. Sending a physical letter carries particular weight with Members of the House of Lords. Right To Life UK has created a simple tool that generates personalised letters to Peers, each focused on a specific area of concern. You can then print them, or copy them out by hand, sign, and post them. Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

Catholic Teaching Internships. Kickstart your career in a Catholic school with hands-on experience, mentorship, and growth opportunities. Make a difference in students' lives while developing your skill and faith. Open to Catholic undergraduates in the second-year of university. To sign up http://forms.office.com/e/8JHjSKziyV. And for more information please see the Noticeboards.

Thank you for your donations for the Harvest Celebration. The food has been taken to The Broxbourne Foodbank.

