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 Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time 19th October 2025

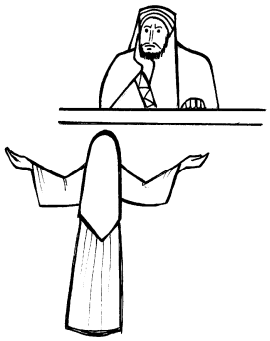
Parochial Administrator: Fr John Cunningham **Parish Deacon**: Rev Deacon Paul O'Connor

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Many athletes can tell you how important stamina is to their success. In the closing minutes of a game, it can often come down to who still has the energy to do their best. Often our faith requires stamina as well. Beaten down by tragedies and disappointments, is our faith strong enough to enable us to persist in loving God and loving neighbour, to pursue justice and peace, to continue to build the kingdom? May hope, which we celebrate this Jubilee Year, sustain our stamina to the end of our days.
The first reading transports us back to Moses' time, to a battle in which Moses' stamina was gravely tested. In the second reading, Paul encourages Timothy to be persistent in spreading the Good News. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of praying persistently, to keep their faith while continually petitioning God for justice. May we take to heart the words we sing in the psalm today: "Our help is from the Lord."

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 19th October	**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am Chris Peirce
Tuesday 21st October		7.30pm
Sunday 26th October	**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 19th October	**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am Salvatore Abela RIP
Sunday 26th October	**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	11.00am People of the Parish

There will be no Mass on Thursday 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, **For those who have died recently:** Chris Peirce, Anna Gizzi,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £37.40 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £129.72; 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.

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.

The Marian Garden. To honour Mary in her special month of October we will be blessing the Marian Garden behind the church after Mass next Sunday and saying the Angelus prayer together.

Holy Hour. 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.

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 at the back of the Church. We will contact those who sign up to work out a suitable date.

Celebration of Christmas. There will be a Christmas Carol Concert led by singers and musicians from St Edmund's College at St Richard's at 7.00pm on Friday 12th December with readings and reflections. After the concert there will be mince pies and mulled wine in Benson Hall. Tickets will cost £3.00 and will be available from Buntingford Live. All money raised will go to support the work of Home Start.

November Holy Souls. November is traditionally the month in which we pray for the Holy Souls. Purple Sheets for the November Dead List and envelopes are available at the entrances to the Church. Please return them both to the Sacristy or Church and the lists of names will be placed in the Book of the Dead, which will be on the Sanctuary during each Mass in November. Mass will be celebrated for the Holy Souls each week and the Annual Mass for all those from the Parishes who have died in the last year will be celebrated at 8.00pm on Friday 14th November in St Richard's Church in Buntingford.

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.

Counting the Congregation. Our average Mass attendance during the count was 62 at St Richard's Buntingford and 34 at St Thomas's Puckeridge. These numbers will be shared with the diocese as part of our annual return of parish statistics.

Seeds of Hope Evangelisation Day– Saturday 1st November in Potters Bar. Many people have an ache in their heart for those around them who no longer believe or no longer come to Church, at the same time we are hearing of the quiet revival that is stirring the faith of young adults. At our Seeds of Hope Day, we will explore how to help people become friends with Jesus. It will be interactive with times of prayer, conversation, workshops and resources to take away. All parishioners are welcome. To find out more and book please visit: https://forms.monday.com/forms/ef6f2ffb75d89388496a0eabea7f1abc?r=euc1&text0=

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.

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.

