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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8th February 2026

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

Correspondence Address: 204 High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts, EN8 7DP **Email**: walthamcross@rcdow.org.uk
Waltham Cross Parish Office: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.00pm **Phone:** 01992 623156

During the long winter we become keenly aware of the value of sunshine. The sun rises later in the morning and sets earlier in the afternoon; quite often it's gray and cloudy all day. Today we hear Jesus tell his disciples that they are to shine their light for all to see, as a lamp on a lampstand does. This winter, may we spread Christ's light to the world, bringing joy and life to darkness and gloom.
Light binds together today's scripture readings. Isaiah preaches that when we share what we have with those in need, light will drive out the dark. In the psalm we sing that the one who acts with justice is a light in the darkness. Paul tells the Corinthians that the power of the Holy Spirit has enlightened their faith. In the Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples to let their light shine, so the world can see the good that they do. As we listen to the words of scripture, let us appreciate the metaphor of light in expressing what God asks us to do.

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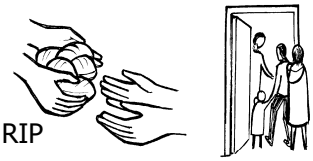
MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 8th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.15am Keith Bradley RIP
Sunday 15th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.15am Dick & Rene Philo RIP

Puckeridge

Sunday 8th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am John Wallace RIP
Sunday 15th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am Luca Cifaldi RIP



Please note: Fr John will be on holiday during February, so there will be no Weekday Mass in Buntingford or Puckeridge until Thursday, 5th March for Puckeridge and Tuesday, 10th March for Buntingford.

Prayer Intentions. During Ordinary Time: Winter: We are asked to pray: Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Unemployed.

For those who are ill: Alan Tan, **For those who have died recently:** Simon Phillips, Luca Cifaldi,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: John Wallace,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £80.73 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £102.10; and for your Regular standing orders.

Puckeridge Church Centenary. Centenary Working Group. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help prepare for the celebration of the centenary of St Thomas's Puckeridge in July. We will meet in the church after Mass on Sunday 15th February to start planning. More helpers would be very welcome.

Holy Hour. There will be an opportunity for quiet prayer between 5.00 and 6.00pm every Friday. Please come and join us for a few minutes to light a candle and say a prayer.

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

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.

Lister Hospital. John O'Neil is the Roman Catholic Chaplain at the Lister Hospital in Stevenage. He can be contacted on the following numbers: Mobile: 07876 526935 or Telephone: 01438 285518.

Baptism. Baby Harry will be baptised today during the 11.00am Mass at St Thomas's Puckeridge. Please pray for him and his family as they prepare for him to receive the Sacrament and take on the responsibility of bringing him up in the faith.

Centenary Working Group. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help prepare for the celebration of the centenary of St Thomas's Puckeridge in July. We will meet in the church after Mass on Sunday 15th February to start planning. More helpers would be very welcome.

'Come & See' Vocations Mornings 2026. If you are aware of any men who may be interested in the diaconate or priesthood, please to share this information with them. Sat 28 February, 10am-1.30pm - St Anselm's, Southhall - St Anselm's Rectory, The Green, Southall UB2 4BE Sat 14 March, 12 noon-3.30pm - St Bonaventure's Church Hall - 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF (A short walk from Welwyn Garden City Station.) Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and to register your attendance at one of the days, please contact: Canon Roger Taylor Vocations Promoter rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira – Assistant Director Permanent Diaconate 07977 599110 or titopereira@rcdow.org.uk.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2.30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email).

Westminster Diocese Justice & Peace Lecture 2026. The second annual Justice and Peace Lecture which will be given by Charles Wookey, formerly CEO of Blueprint for Business, and for the last three decades advisor on social and ethical issues to archbishops of Westminster and at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. He will speak on the topic ' Living out Catholic Social Teaching in Today's Britain'. A response will be given by the young scholar Dr Charles Bury of the University of Manchester. The lecture will take place at Farm Street Church of the Immaculate Conception, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH, on March 25 2026 at 7pm. Access to the church is from Farm Street or Mount Street. After the lecture in the church all are invited to a buffet reception in the Arrupe Hall. All are welcome. If you would like to attend please reply to justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk by March 1 2026.

The Installation of Archbishop Richard. The Cathedral will be open to all for the Solemn Vespers at 5.30pm on Friday 13 February. Both the Vespers and the Mass the next day, at 12.00 Noon, will be live-streamed via the Cathedral website www.westminstercathedral.org.uk. The video of the Mass of Installation will remain on the site to view on-demand.
All are welcome to attend the Vespers on the Friday evening. There is no need for tickets, just turn up and pray!
Archbishop Richard, is inviting us all to attend one of six Masses of Welcome that are being arranged across the diocese in the first few weeks of his ministry as Archbishop of Westminster. The Mass for our Deanery will be on Wednesday 11th March at Our Lady, Queen of Apostles, Woodhall Lane. Welwyn Garden City AL7 3TP at 6.30pm.

