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 First Sunday of Lent 22nd February 2026

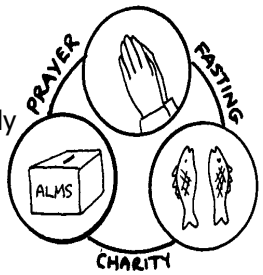
Parochial Administrator: Fr John Cunningham **Parish Deacon**: Rev Deacon Paul O'Connor

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 forty-day journey through the desert that we make each Lent, again and again we will find ourselves tempted to do the wrong thing, to overindulge, to lie, to take the easy way out. Fortunately, the Holy Spirit accompanies us to guide us along the right path and lead us back after we lose our way. We recall that filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was able to resist temptation on his journey, even when the devil offered him the whole world. May we be strengthened regularly by his Body and Blood while on our holy pilgrimage.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 22nd February	First Sunday of Lent	9.15am The People of the Parish
Sunday 1st March	Second Sunday of Lent	9.15am Intentions of the Wainwright Family

Puckeridge

Sunday 22nd February	First Sunday of Lent	11.00am Bernie Taylor RIP
Sunday 1st March	Second Sunday of Lent	11.00am The People of the Parish

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 Lent: We are asked to pray: Europe, Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

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, Barbara Hickford,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £84.55 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £70.10; and for your Regular standing orders

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.

Stations of the Cross. During Lent our celebration of the Stations of the Cross will take the place of the Holy Hour each Friday from 5.00pm for about 40 minutes. Please join us as part of your efforts to mark the season of Lent.

A Day with Mary. A day of instruction, devotion, and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917 will take place from 10.00am to 5.30pm at Our Lady and St Michael Garston on Saturday 21 March. There are more details on the poster on the noticeboards.

'Come & See' Vocations Mornings 2026. For those who are interested in the permanent Diaconate or priesthood, there are information mornings on the following days: 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 Welcoming of Archbishop Richard. 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.

CAFOD Big Lent Walk: Fr Tony will be doing the Lent Walk for CAFOD this year and would be glad if you could sponsor him. Donations can be made through his fundraising page at https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fr-tonys-fundraising-page2026

Lights for Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who donated candles for the 'Lights for Ukraine'. We have now sent all the candles over to the Ukraine Community, and the collection is now closed.

