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**

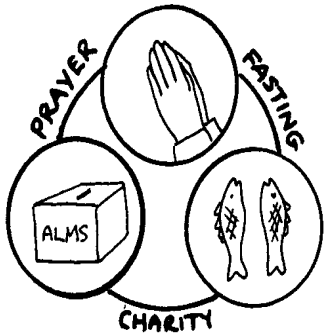
Fourth Sunday of Lent 15th March 2026

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

In the Gospel today, we hear Jesus declare that he is the light of the world. Later, Saint Paul writes that we should live as children of light. How appropriate on this second scrutiny Sunday, when we are called to take an honest look at ourselves to see our weaknesses and sinful tendencies, that, we are reminded how important it is to shine a light on our character and expose it to the light of day. "Live as children of light," Paul writes, "for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth." Let us ask God for forgiveness and guidance so that we can go forth shining with the light of Christ. *From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2025 World Library Publications*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 15th March	Fourth Sunday of Lent	9.15am Barbara Hickford RIP
Tuesday 17th March		7.30pm
Sunday 22nd March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	9.15am Marian Brzozowski RIP

Puckeridge

Sunday 15th March	Fourth Sunday of Lent	11.00am Intentions of Alan Tan
Thursday 19th March		12.30pm
Sunday 22nd March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	11.00am The People of the Parish

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:**
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Barbara Hickford, Maria Brzozowski,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's offertory collection, which came to £64.85 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £151.79; and for your Regular standing orders

MISSION APPEAL – THE SPIRITANS 15th MARCH 2026

This weekend we welcome Fr Moses Enehizena from the Spiritans.

Founded in 1703, The Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers) are a Roman Catholic Religious Congregation dedicated to sharing hope and love worldwide. For over 300 years, our mission has been clear: to evangelize the poor and the needy, pursue justice, foster peace, care for creation, inspired by Luke 4:18 and advance God's kingdom here on earth. Today, more than 3,000 Spiritans from all continents bring this mission to life in over 60 countries, serving where the need is greatest – hospitals, parishes, prisons, schools, and refugee communities. We also support integral development for young people and work for justice globally. As Pope Francis reminded us in May 2023, we serve "in simplicity of life, respecting peoples and cultures," embracing the most abandoned with fraternity and prayer. Your support and prayers keep our mission alive. Together, we carry the Spiritan light to the world's darkest corners. There will be a second collection after all the Masses this weekend.

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. At St Richard's **d**uring 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.

At St Thomas' the Stations of the Cross will follow the 12.30 Mass each Thursday.

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.

Mother's Day. We would like to thank all the mothers and grandmothers in our parish for all the work you do for your children and grandchildren, and for all the love you show them. Please take a daffodil at the end of Mass as a token of our appreciation.

Seeds of Hope Day. Saturday 21 March, Potters Bar. Come and be renewed in faith, prayer and mission. Join us for a day of inspiration, reflection and encouragement, as we rediscover the joy of sharing Christ's love. Grow in confidence to share your faith with others in your life. To find out more please visit: rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/seeds-of-hope/

Baptism. This Sunday at St Richard's we start the Mass with a special welcome for baby Alba and her parents. Alba will be baptised by Deacon Paul at 12.00pm on Sunday 22nd March. Please pray for her, and her parents and godparents, as they prepare for this special day.

Centenary Group Meeting. To prepare for our celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the church in Puckeridge, there will be a meeting at St Thomas's after 11.00 Mass on Sunday 29th March.

Passover Supper. Please join members of the other Christian communities in Buntingford as we start Holy Week with a special Passover Supper led by Rabbi Irit Shillor to help us understand the Jewish background to Easter. Please bring a meal to share - vegetarian or fish - and join us at 6.30pm on Monday 30th March.

Learn to Pray. Faith Series Online starting on Tuesday 31 March. Would you like to grow in confidence and consistency in daily prayer? Our Learn to Pray course offers practical guidance to deepen your relationship with Jesus. Journey with others as you build simple, sustainable habits of prayer. All are welcome. This is series is particularly good for new Catholics and those rekindling their faith. To find out more please visit: rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/learn-to-pray

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).

St Thomas School – Foundation Governor Needed. St Thomas Catholic School is seeking practising Catholics to serve as a Foundation Governor. If you are interested please contact St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School, High Street, Puckeridge, Herts SG11 1RZ, Tel: 01920 821450.

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

Walk of Witness. The Christian communities in Buntingford will walk through the streets of the town on Good Friday 3rd April to bear witness to the crucifixion of Our Lord. We will visit the three churches in town for a short service in each, starting from St Richard's at 10.00am and ending at St Peter's.

Dates and Times and Places for your Diary - The Easter Triduum

Maundy Thursday	The Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Richard's	6.00pm
Good Friday	The Celebration of the Lord's Passion	St Richard's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday	The Easter Vigil	St Richard's	8.00pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	St Richard's	9.15am
	Mass	St Thomas's	11.00am

