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**

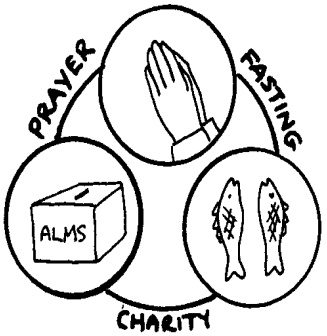
Fifth Sunday of Lent 22nd March 2026

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

As we approach Holy Week and the final days of Lent, we hear the well-known story of Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, whom Jesus raises from the dead. John's account of this miracle is one of the most dramatic accounts in any of the Gospels, save Jesus' own passion, death, and resurrection. We can only imagine the emotions coursing through Martha and Mary and their loved ones when Jesus stands at the tomb and dramatically cries: "Lazarus, come out!" On this final scrutiny Sunday, may we hear Jesus calling out to us as well, to come out of our tombs of sin and death and embrace new life in the resurrection. *From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2025 World Library Publications*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 22nd March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	9.15am Intentions of Alan Tan
Tuesday 24th March		7.30pm Marian Brzozowski RIP
Sunday 29th March	Palm Sunday	9.15am Intentions of Peter Oliver

Puckeridge

Sunday 22nd March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	11.00am The People of the Parish
Thursday 26th March		12.30pm
Sunday 29th April	Palm Sunday	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 £89.18 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £144.79; and for your Regular standing orders. Spiritans Appeal £258.12 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford £164.90.

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.

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

Baptism. This Sunday at 12.00pm at St Richard's baby Alba will be baptised by Deacon Paul. Please pray for her, and her parents and godparents, on this special day, and keep them in your prayers as they take up the responsibility of bringing Alba up in the practice of the faith.

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. All are invited to take part in the conversation and find out how they can help.

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.

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 at each, starting from St Richard's at 10.00am and ending at St Peter's.

Easter Flowers. You are invited to come and help our team to prepare the churches for the Easter services. Our team at St Richard's will be meeting at 9.00am on Saturday 4th April to clean the church and decorate it with flowers so it is ready for the service that evening.

Daffodils. We would like to thank our parishioners Maurice and Mary Henchey who kindly donated the daffodils that were given out on Mother's Day. Many of you will remember them and we ask you to keep them in your prayers.

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

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

