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-Fourth Sunday of the Year 13th September 2026

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

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We are reminded today of how important it is to forgive one another. When Peter asks Jesus how many times he needs to forgive someone, Jesus tells him not seven times, but seventy-seven times. He is essentially saying that there is no limit that should be put on forgiveness. After all, the Lord forgives us all constantly. And we need it! It's the least we can do to forgive someone who has hurt us. Let us call to mind our own sins and our own need for forgiveness even as we consider those to whom we should offer that same gift.

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MASS AND SERVICE TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 13th September	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year	9.15am Intentions of Colin & Rina Horgan
Tuesday 15th September		7.00pm
Sunday 20th September	Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year	9.15am Adam Potter RIP

Puckeridge

Sunday 13th September	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year	11.00am People of the Parish
Monday 14th September		2.00pm The New School Year
Friday 18th September		12.30pm
Sunday 20th September	Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year	11.00am People of the Parish

The Beginning of Term Mass for St Thomas of Canterbury School will be celebrated on Monday, 14th September, at 2.00pm in St Thomas' Church. Everyone is welcome.

Prayer Intentions. During Ordinary Time: Autumn: We are asked to pray: 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, Denise Rogers, **For those who have died recently:** Bob Jackson, Adam Potter, Nancy Jones, Pauline Ginn,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's Offertory collection, which came to £106.50 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £62.60; and for your August Standing Orders £232.00 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford £485.00; Online Donations £235.00.

The Photos of the Centenary Mass taken by the Diocese' Photographer can be viewed at:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicwestminster/albums/72177720334550711

First Communion. Today we welcome eight children to start a programme of preparation to receive their First Holy Communion in May 2027. The sessions will take place each Sunday after the 11.00am Mass at St Thomas's. Please pray for the children, their parents, and their catechists as they begin this journey.

Baptism. We look forward to welcoming baby Arthur into our Catholic community when he is baptised at 12.00pm on Sunday 20th September. Please pray for him and his family as they prepare for one of the most important days in young Arthur's life.

Home Mission Sunday. On Sunday 20th September we pray for the work of evangelisation and to support this vital work in our diocese through a second collection. We all share in this work and should look for ways in which we can do our part in sharing the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus Christ in our homes, in our work, and in our friendships.

Mass Count. From Sunday 20th September until Sunday 11th October we are conducting our Annual Mass Count so that we can report to the diocese the average number of people who attend Mass at our two churches. Please make a special effort to attend Mass on these four Sundays so that the count is a fair reflection of the strength of our congregations.

Harvest Festival. To mark the end of the Season of Creation we have our annual Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October. Please save the date and remember to bring gifts of non-perishable food to share with the local food bank. You should also make a special effort to join us in Benson Hall after Mass that day for our annual Harvest Brunch.

Visiting the Sick and Housebound. Please contact the parish office if you know someone who is sick or housebound and would appreciate a visit from the parish. We have volunteers who have been approved for such visits and could take communion to them.

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.

Holy Hour. After being suspended for the summer, the Holy Hour at St Richard's returns at 10.00am on Wednesday 9th September in a new format. It will take place every Wednesday and be followed by coffee in Benson Hall. The Holy Hour will include morning prayer, a time of silence, and Benediction. Feel free to pop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole hour.

The Holy Half Hour will return at St Thomas' before the weekday Mass each week. It will run from 11.50 to 12.20.

The Upper Room Leadership Programme equips Catholics to lead and inspire the next generation through faith, formation, practical training and ministry experience. The programme ends with a youth ministry qualification and pilgrimage to Lourdes with expectation for you to serve and lead in your parish! To learn more please visit https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/

Luminescence. Please visit this magnificent light show at Westminster Cathedral with a live choir and orchestra and narration by Hugh Bonneville. It is an opportunity to learn about the history of the Cathedral and admire its architecture in a new way. Details on the poster in the porch.

Season of Creation 1st September to 4th October. The Season of Creation was established by Pope Francis. The aim of the season is to encourage us to pray for our common home. This season's theme is 'Living Water'. Reflecting on the forthcoming season, Pope Leo XIV centred on these words from Isaiah "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks" (Is 2:4). The Holy Father's message highlights the connection between armed conflict and environmental degradation. We are called to immerse ourselves in the water, actively safeguarding and working for the renewal of creation so that environmental healing and human well-being may flourish together. As we enter the Season of Creation, let us pray that all peoples have enough water for their needs and let us thank God for our access to clean water.

