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-Seventh Sunday of the Year 4th October 2026

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

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Waltham Cross Parish Office: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.00pm **Phone:** 01992 623156

As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, let us give God thanks for second chances. All of us fail sometimes, maybe quite often. But this does not mean that we are condemned forever, unable to overcome our faults and past sins. We are constantly invited to repent, seek forgiveness, and change our behaviour. Saint Paul, who knew a thing or two about doing all this, calls upon us to reject selfishness and instead look out for the interests of others. Let us pray today for a change of heart that will lead us to more closely follow the road to God's kingdom.

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MASS AND SERVICE TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 4th October	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year	9.15am Sheila & Vernon Keith RIP
Tuesday 6th October		7.00pm
Sunday 11th October	Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 4th October	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year	11.00am People of the Parish
Friday 9th October		12.30pm
Sunday 11th October	Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year	11.00am People of the Parish

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, Maurice Piggott,
For those who have died recently: Bob Jackson, Denise Rogers, Audrey Mondey,
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's Offertory collection, which came to £146.38 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £110.65; and for your Regular Standing Orders

The Holy Rosary. The month of October is a time of special dedication to the Virgin Mary so please join us each week to pray the rosary before Sunday Mass from 8.45am at St Richard's and from 10.30am at St Thomas's.

Flowers. Please leave only fresh flowers or real plants at the statue of Mary in the car park. Remove all plastic wrapping and place them in the water from the water butt near the garage. When the flowers are dead, please remove them and put them in the bin provided.

CAFOD Family Fast Day. Thank you for taking part in this year's Fast Day last Friday. The money raised by your fast will help to fund solar-powered water systems, access to safe drinking water, and sustainable food-growing initiatives. Please hand in your envelope, or a cash donation in the second collection at the end of Mass.

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. Today marks the end of the Season of Creation and we are having a collection of non-perishable food for the local food bank. Please place your gifts of non-perishable food for the local food bank in front of the Altar and make a special effort to join us in Benson Hall after Mass for our annual Harvest Brunch.

Prayer Group. You are invited to join people from our parish, and from the other Christian communities in Buntingford, for a time of informal prayer in the Lady Chapel once a month on a Sunday evening. We plan to meet for the first time at 7.00pm on Sunday 18th October to reflect on scripture, offer prayers, and sing some contemporary hymns. All are welcome. Please talk to Deacon Paul for more details.

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 has returned at the new time and date of 10.00am on Wednesday mornings 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 takes place at St Thomas' before the weekday Mass each week. It will run from 11.50 to 12.20.

Praying with The Scriptures. Saturday 24th October 2:00-5:00pm Westminster Cathedral Hall. Join us for an inspiring and prayerful workshop on the holy reading of Scripture, as Archbishop Richard Moth leads us deeper into the practice of Lectio Divina. To ensure your place please email evangelisation@rcdow.org.uk

Come & See Vocations Morning. Saturday 17th Oct, 10.30-1.30 at Ealing Abbey. If you have ever wondered whether God might be calling you to serve the Church as a Priest or Permanent Deacon, come and learn more about the Priesthood and Permanent Diaconate. To register contact Canon Roger Taylor, Vocations Promoter vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk.

