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-Ninth Sunday of the Year 18th 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

We gather as a faith community each Sunday to worship God by celebrating Mass and receiving the Eucharist. In doing so, we are coming here, as Jesus says in today's Gospel, "to repay to God what belongs to God." Praise and thanks belong to God for creating us, redeeming us, and making us holy. We make this day and this gathering holy with our presence. We then go forth to serve the Lord as his disciples, repaying God with our prayers, words, and actions.

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MASS AND SERVICE TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK



Buntingford

Sunday 18th October	Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year	9.15am People of the Parish
Tuesday 20th October		7.00pm
Sunday 25th October	Thirtieth Sunday of the Year	9.15am People of the Parish

Puckeridge

Sunday 18th October	Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year	11.00am People of the Parish
Thursday 22nd October		12.30pm
Sunday 25th October	Thirtieth 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: 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 £142.70 at Puckeridge; and at Buntingford; £124.80; and for your Regular Standing Orders

Funerals this week. The Funeral Mass for the late Denise Rogers will be celebrated on Monday 19th October, at 12pm. The Funeral Mass for the late Audrey Mondey will be celebrated on Monday 19th October, at 3.30pm.

Mass Count. Thank you to all those who helped us to count the congregation on the Sundays between September 20th and October 11th. The average attendance over the four weeks was 59 at St Richard's and 48 at St Thomas's. Let us all work together to encourage those who attend less regularly than they could to come to Mass each and every Sunday.

Prayer and Praise. Please join members of our parish, and guests from the other Christian communities in Buntingford, from 7.00pm this evening for an informal opportunity to sing some contemporary hymns, reflect on a reading from scripture, and offer prayers for our local community. See Deacon Paul for more details.

World Mission Sunday. This Sunday is World Mission Sunday. The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

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 today, 18th October to reflect on scripture, offer prayers, and sing some contemporary hymns. All are welcome. Please talk to Deacon Paul for more details.

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.

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. The Holy Hour at St Richard's is celebrated each week at 10.00am on Wednesday morning in a new format. It is followed by tea and 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.

RCIA. The Rite of Christian Initiation is a course for those who wish to explore the Catholic faith with a view to becoming Catholic next Easter Please pray for the people who are attending the Course here in Buntingford, which meets in the Presbytery after Mass on a Tuesday evening. and keep them in your prayers throughout the year.

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

St Ignatius College Alumni. Please join St Ignatius for a Fish & Chip Supper at the College on 20th November, 2026, 6.00-9.00pm, £20. This will be one of the final opportunities to visit the current school building before major building works start in 2027. Full details, and booking information are on the Poster on the Notice Board.

November Holy Souls. November is traditionally the month in which we pray for the Holy Souls. Purple Sheets for the November Dead List and envelopes are available at the entrances to the Churches. Please return them both, and the lists of names will be placed in the Book of the Dead, which will be on the Sanctuary during each Mass in November. Mass will be celebrated for the Holy Souls each week, and the Annual Mass for all those from the Parish who have died in the last year will be celebrated at 8.00pm on Friday 13th November.

