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**

Christ the King

22nd November 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

Today we celebrate Jesus Christ as king over the entire world, but not the kind of king that we think of when we think of kings throughout history. Christ's kingship is everlasting. He rules over the kingdom that is both among us and beyond us. Moreover, as today's scripture emphasizes, he rules his people as a shepherd tends his sheep, guiding us, rescuing us, comforting us, and choosing us to remain with him in the kingdom. He is our king and we are his flock.

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MASS AND SERVICE TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Buntingford

Sunday 22nd November	Christ The King	9.15am Julian Robarts RIP
Tuesday 24th November		7.00pm Holy Souls
Sunday 29th November	First Sunday of Advent	9.15am Intentions of Colin and Rina Horgan

Puckeridge

Sunday 22nd November	Christ The King	11.00am Holy Souls
Thursday 26th November		12.30pm
Sunday 29th November	First Sunday of Advent	11.00am Holy Souls

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, Sheila Stephenson, Jean Berkeley,
For those who have died recently:
For those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for last week's Offertory collection, which came to £116.50 at Puckeridge, and £127.70 at Buntingford and for your Regular Standing Orders
And for your donations to the Sick and Retired Priests Collection: £137.40 at Puckeridge and £142.47 at Buntingford

Baptism this Sunday. We look forward to welcoming Sadie into our Catholic community when she is baptised at 12.00pm today. Please pray for her parents and godparents as they take up the responsibility of bringing her up in the practice of the faith.

Holy Hour. The Holy Hour at St Richard's is celebrated each week at 10.00am on Wednesday morning and includes the Church's official Morning Prayer, a time of silence, and Benediction. Feel free to pop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole hour.
There is a Holy Half Hour, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, at St Thomas' before the weekday Mass each week. It starts at 11.50am

Lights of Love. On Friday 27th November there will be a Christmas market in Buntingford and the shops will be open late until 8.00pm. St Richard's will be open throughout the event. Please pop in for a few quiet moments on a busy night and take the opportunity to reflect, light a candle, and offer a prayer.

Christmas Tree Festival. The annual Christmas Tree Festival takes place at St Mary's Aspenden on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th December. It would be good to have a tree to represent St Richard's and/or St Thomas's at the festival. If you would like to volunteer to create a tree for us, please speak to Deacon Paul.

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 with contemporary hymns, scripture reading and reflection. We meet again at 7.00pm on Sunday 22nd November.

Celebration of Christmas. From 6.00pm on Friday 11th December at St Richard's students from St Edmund's College will lead us in a selection of Christmas songs, carols, and readings. After the concert a glass of wine and mince pie will be served in Benson Hall. Please use the QR code on the poster in the porch at St Richard's to reserve your place.

Christmas Cards and Gifts. On the way out of the church please collect one of the brochures for Christmas cards and gifts sent to us by the Catholic Children's Society and CAFOD. Please support these charities by buying some of your cards and gifts from them.

Donate a Christmas Dinner. The local food bank has invited us to give a Christmas hamper to a local person or family by donating non-perishable foods from the list provided. It is not too early to start collecting. Please see the poster in the porch and cross off from the list the item you wish to donate. Start bringing your donations next week.

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.

CAFOD Volunteer. Could you inspire the next generation and gain valuable experience of presenting to young people at the same time? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for volunteers to visit local schools to present assemblies and workshops. Full training and support provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or contact Westminster's CAFOD representative Chris Driscoll at cdriscoll@cafod.org,uk or call 07776 493162.

Sick and Retired Priests Collection. Thank you to everyone who donated to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund collection last weekend. Your generosity means our sick and retired priests will receive the care and support they need. If you haven't had the chance to make your donation, there is still time. You will find envelopes at the back of the church or you can donate online through the Diocese website – look out for the 'QR Code' on the envelopes and poster. Please do consider giving on a regular basis, assuring the care of our priests in their old age, or at a time of illness. This fun is a priority of the Church, and it provides us a chance to come together and say 'Thank you' to the priests who have served us. May God bless you for your kindness.

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.

Fr Stephen Coker recently celebrated the 30th Anniversary of his Ordination with a special Mass and a meal. There is a card for parishioners to sign at the back of St Thomas's this week. We will give the card and a small gift to Fr Stephen after the 9.15 Mass next week.



