SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Ps 118: 137, 124***
You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Collect
O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Wisdom 9:13-18b***

What human being can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthy tent burdens the mind full of thoughts. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and people were taught what pleases you.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 90(89)***

O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

You turn man back to dust,
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night.

O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades.

O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O LORD! How long?
Show pity to your servants.

O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands.
O give success to the work of our hands.

O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.

Second reading: ***Philemon 9b-10, 12-17***

Beloved: I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus — I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother — especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

Gospel Acclamation

Allelula, allelula.
Let your face shine forth on your servant,
and teach me your decrees.
Allelula.

Gospel: ***Luke 14:25-33***

At that time: Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.'

Prayer over the Offerings
O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: ***Cf. Ps 41: 2-3***
Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Prayer after Communion
Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 7th September 2025

23RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year C

Weekay Mass Readings
Volume 3 week 23year 1

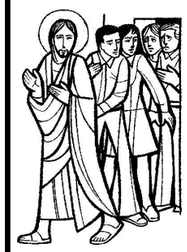
Divine Office
Psater Week 3 week 23

For children, download a weekly sheet: http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 7 Sept	**23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
6.15pm SAT	John Brady RIP
8.30am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
9.45am	Dee Kelly Loader RIP
11.15am	George & Valerie Pires Tksgiving
5.30pm	Jennifer C Otico RIP
Mon 8 Sept	**THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tues 9 Sept	**Ferla**
9.30am	Mr A Manvelpillai RIP
Weds 10 Sept	**Ferla**
9.30am	Joan Boyle RIP
Thurs 11 Sept	**Ferla**
9.30am	Jerusha Afonso Thanksgiving
Fri 12 Sept	**Ferla**
9.30am	Patrick (Patsy) Fitzsimons RIP
Sat 13 Sept	**S. John Chrysostom**
9.30am	Ann Minogue RIP
Sun 14 Sept	**THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**
6.15pm SAT	Roger & Steffi (Anniversary)
8.30am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
9.45am	Baptist Fernandes Intentions
11.15am	Peter Sammon RIP
5.30pm	Genowefa & Hieronim Cendrowicz RIP

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people gathered at the table about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him doing something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to be a disciple and enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many, even some of the guests at the table, reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. Jesus explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes "hating" one's father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second.

First Reading: ***Wisdom 9:13-18b***
Knowledge alone has limits. We also need wisdom to understand the ways of God.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 90:3-4,5-6,12-13,14-17***
God's power has no boundaries; it is not limited by space and time.

Second Reading: ***Philemon 9-10, 12-17***
St. Paul encourages one of his converts to consider his former slave a brother in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading: ***Luke 14:25-33***
Jesus teaches about the demands of discipleship.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"When God is with us, we don't have to be afraid of anything"
S.Pier Giorgio Frassati

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: *(awaiting appointment)*
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary: Mrs. Mary Walsh sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Tel 07751804978
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr. Mike; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.
HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*
DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.
ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, John, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Catherine Corcoran, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Dwayne Harvey Pereira*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Daphne Doherty*

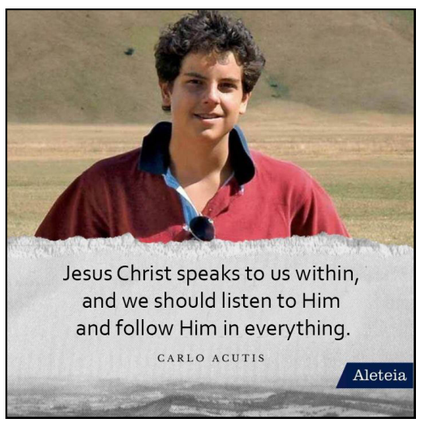
RECENTLY MARRIED:- *Conor Costello & Aoife Sexton*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *John Brady*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Joaquim Colaco & Family Intentions

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory Of Mr & Mrs Mariyam Pillai

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for September
For our relationship with all of creation
Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.



We might ask as to why does Jesus say we must 'hate' our families and even ourselves? The expression 'to hate' often meant to 'prefer less'. Jesus used strong language to make clear that nothing should take precedence or first place over God. Jesus tells his would-be disciples that they, too, must count the cost if they want to succeed as his disciples. Jesus assures success for those willing to pay the price. All it cost is everything we have—the entirety of our lives and all we possess! What does Jesus have to offer that's worth giving up everything else? More than we can imagine! Jesus offers the gift of an abundant joy-filled life and the promise of everlasting peace and happiness with God forever.

It's natural to ask what will it require or cost before a commitment to invest in something of great value. Jesus was utterly honest and spared no words to tell his disciples that it would cost them dearly to follow after him and to invest in his heavenly kingdom. There can be no room for compromise or concession with God and his kingdom. We either give our lives over to him entirely or we keep them for ourselves. St Paul writing in his First Letter to the Corinthians reminds us, *"We are not our own. We were bought with a price"*. That price is the cross.

The love of God compels us to choose who or what will be first in our lives. To place any relationship or any possession above God is a form of idolatry. Jesus challenges his disciples to examine what they love first and foremost. Jesus' way to glory and power is opposite the world's way of glory, power, and success. The choice is ours, but the Lord does not leave us alone if we choose to follow him. Does the love of Christ compel you to put God first in all you do?

NEWS UPDATE

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church.

THE SVP will be serving Bacon & Egg rolls after the Sunday morning Masses today. All proceeds go towards their good work with the less advantaged in our parish.

COFFEE/TEA & Refreshments resume THIS SUNDAY after the 9.45am & 11.15am mass in the café/bar. Do come along.

CHILDRENS LITURGY at the 9.45am Mass restarts today.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday–Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, urgent matters can be directed to the Presbytery.

HARROW DEANERY JUBILEE PILGRIMGE to St Gregory the Great, South Ruislip
447 Victoria Road, HA4 EG (one of the designated Diocesan Pilgrimage Churches) **SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2025 3.00pm** Gather at St Gregory's then exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with opportunity for confessions **3.50pm** – Benediction ++ Break ++ **4.10pm** – Talk on the Sacrament of the Sick **4.20pm** - Opportunity for Sacrament of the Sick or intercessory prayer **5.00pm** Conclude

SYCAMORE is an informal course about the Catholic faith and its relevance to life today. At the next session in the Café Bar on **Thursday 18th September at 7.30pm** we will be reflecting on the **Power of Prayer**. All are welcome!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – The **Enrolment Evening** for this year's **First Holy Communion Programme** is taking place in the **Parish Centre** on **Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 7pm for Parents/ Carers ONLY. Children are NOT permitted to attend.** To avoid any disappointment on the night, please ensure you make **childcare arrangements well in advance.** Thank you for carefully completing the Enrolment Form and bringing it along, together with a copy of your child's **Baptism Certificate** & **£30 contribution**.

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S GROUP will be back on Tuesday 9th September at 1pm. in the Café Bar. All welcome—come along and bring a friend. You don't need to be Catholic!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING Friday 26th September, 10am to 12:30pm, in the Bar/Cafe. Raffle & cake stall. All very welcome. Come along and support this very worthy cause.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING - Children who have made their First Holy Communion and would like to serve, along with those wishing to refresh or refine their skills, are welcome to join us for this year's introduction to Altar Serving taking place at the Parish on **Saturday 13th September at 11am**.

CONFIRMATION CATECHIST TRAINING - We are delighted that Mary Crowley will be joining us to facilitate **two training sessions** taking place in the Café Bar on **29th September & 6th October** at **7.30pm**.

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **this month's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 22nd September.**

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND There are still some spaces available for the **Marriage Encounter Weekend** taking place here at **St. George's** on **Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th September 2025.** This special weekend is a chance to reflect, reconnect, and grow closer as a couple—no matter how long you've been married. It offers a unique opportunity to deepen your love and strengthen your married commitment.
For more information and to book please go to www.wwme.org.uk

JUBILEE DAY FOR CATECHISTS - A day for Catechists from Parishes in North London with Canon Shaun Lennard (Episcopal Vicar for North London) will be taking place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, NW10 9AX on **Saturday 11th October**. To book your place please contact Peter at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk by Tuesday 30th September 2025**. Further information at: https://rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/jubilee-days-for-catechists-2025/

THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA National Tour of the relcs of St. Columba, St Andrew and St Margaret will be at St George's on Thursday 25th September at the 9:30am Mass.

THE VATICAN has announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis' canonisation will be held **this Sunday**, alongside Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. This follows the initial postponement on the announcement of Pope Francis' death. The canonisation of these two young saints, one from the early twentieth century, the other the first twenty-first century saint, is an occasion of great joy. There will be a Eucharistic Festival on Saturday 11th October with Cardinal Vincent Nichols in Westminster Cathedral including Veneration of a Relic of the newly canonised St Carlo Acutis.

ASSISTED SUICIDE UPDATE! The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12th September. Right To Life UK has launched an Easy Action tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!

CONFIRMATION 2026 - Young people in **Year 10 & above**, who are **registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish**. are welcome to join our **Confirmation Preparation Programme in 2026.** Young people wishing to be confirmed must attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer on **Monday 12th January at 7.30pm**. For further information, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

NEW YEAR YOUTH EVENT IN PARIS - The 48th **European Youth Meeting** with the Taizé community, **for young people aged 18-35**, will take place in Paris and the Île-de-France region from **28 December 2025 to 1 January 2026**. An opportunity to grow in faith with tens of thousands of young adults from around the world. Information can be found at https://www.taize.fr/en/paris-2025-26. To express an interest please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

SCHOOL FORM SIGNING will take place in the autumn on specific dates. We will publish the dates shortly. Please wait until the times and do not come beforehand.

SIGNING FORMS ETC. Please always make an appointment via the Parish Office if you want school forms, passport forms or pension forms countersigned/witnessed by the clergy. Please also know if you want an English passport witnessed or naturalisation form signed, we must have known you for a minimum of 3 years.



SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH devoted to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows became a standard devotion in the Church around the 14th century. It was revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden that devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary's seven sorrows would bring great graces. The devotion consists in praying seven Hail Marys whilst also meditating on the seven sorrows of Mary which are:
1. The prophecy of Simeon (Lk. 2:34-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Mt. 2:13-21)
3. The loss of Jesus for three days (Lk. 2:41-50)
4. The carrying of the cross (Jn. 19:17)
5. The crucifixion of Jesus (Jn. 19:18-30)
6. Jesus taken down from the cross (Jn. 19:39-40)
7. Jesus laid in the tomb (Jn. 19:39-42)

Blessed Mary, in a unique way, willingly suffered alongside her Divine Son, as he gave his life to save the world, feeling the sorrow of his passion and death as only a mother can. This devotion is offered during Lent, but especially during September with the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on the 15th - the day after the celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.