SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Ps 65: 4***
All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Collect
Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,
both in heaven and on earth,
mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace on our times.
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: ***Isaiah 49:3, 5-6***

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him —
for I am honoured in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength —
he says:
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 40(39):2***

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the LORD,
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

You delight not in sacrifice and offering,
but in an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and sin offering.
Then I said, 'Behold, I have come.'

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

In the scroll of the book it stands written of me:
'I delight to do your will, O my God;
your instruction lies deep within me.'

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

Your uprightness I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O LORD.

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

Second reading: ***1 Corinthians 1:1-3***

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: ***John 1:14a, 12a***
Alleluia, alleluia.
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;
to all who did receive him,
he gave the authority to become children of God.
Alleluia.

Gospel: ***John 1:29-34***

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

Prayer over the Offerings
Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated
the work of our redemption is accomplished.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: ***Cf. Ps 22: 5***
You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Prayer after Communion
Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,
and in your kindness
make those you have nourished
by this one heavenly Bread
one in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 18th January 2026

THE SECOND 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 A
Weekay Mass Readings
Ordinary time week 2, Year 2
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2

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

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 18 Jan	**2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Dot Brady RIP
8.30am	Peter Drewett RIP
9.45am	Baptist Fernandes Intentions
11.15am	Errol Mark RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH & Fernandes Family Intentions
Mon 19 Jan	**Feria**
9:30am	Spencer Coomarewel RIP
Tues 20 Jan	**S. Sebastian**
9.30am	Michael Conroy RIP
Weds 21 Jan	**S. Agnes**
9.30am	Pat & Bernie Roche RIP
Thurs 22 Jan	**S. Vincent**
9.30am	Anne Neylon RIP
Fri 23 Jan	**Feria**
9.30am	Jack & Anna Douglas RIP
Sat 24 Jan	**S. Francis de Sales**
9:30am	Allan Noronha RIP
Sun 25 Jan	**3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Humphrey Liew RIP
8.30am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
9.45am	Joseph Konrath RIP
11.15am	Kathleen Halpin RIP
5.30pm	Donato Centra RIP

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel, John the Baptist sees Jesus approaching and cries out, giving witness about who Jesus is. In John's testimony he says that he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus. By this sign, John the Baptist knew that Jesus was the one who is to come after him. John the Baptist uses two titles for Jesus that are familiar to us. John calls Jesus the "Lamb of God" and the "Son of God." By using these titles, John the Baptist identifies Jesus' ultimate purpose: to redeem sinful humanity. John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus clearly distinguishes John's baptism from the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John baptizes with water; Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John also puts his practice of baptism in the context of Jesus' ministry. The purpose of John's baptism was to make Jesus known to Israel.

First reading: ***Isaiah 49:3, 5-6***
God's servant, Israel, will be made a light to the nations.

Second reading: ***1 Corinthians 1:1-3***
St. Paul greets the Church in Corinth.

Gospel: ***John 1:29-34***
John testifies that Jesus is the Lamb of God, God's own Son.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies."
S. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

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; 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, Noel Gill, Christopher Browne, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, John, 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, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Larry Sicat, Ramzan*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Joel Moro-Afful, Jovan Afful, Jeriah Afful Adu-Yeboah, Andre Richardson*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Mike Barrett, Hannah O'Leary*

RECENTLY MARRIED:- *Karlene & Alexis*

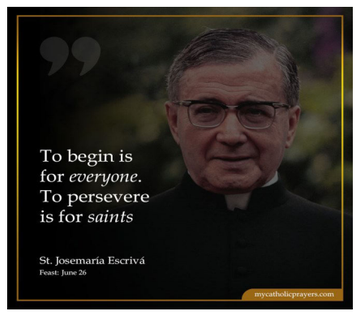
RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *Errol Mark (5th), Spencer Coomarewel*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Tyla Agnela Caiado 1st Birthday Intentions

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Byrne Family Intentions

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for January
For prayer with the Word of God
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



John calls Jesus the Lamb of God and thus signifies Jesus' mission as the One who redeems us from our sins. The blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12) delivered the Israelites in Egypt from slavery and death. The Lord Jesus freely offered up his life for us on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 Corinthians 5:7). The blood which he poured out for us on the cross cleanses, heals, and frees us from our slavery to sin, and from the "wages of sin which is death" (Romans 6:23) and the "destruction of both body and soul in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

It is significant that John was the son of Zachariah, a priest of Israel who participated in the daily sacrifice of a lamb in the temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29). John recognized that Jesus was the perfect unblemished lamb offered by the Father in heaven as the one and only sacrifice that could cancel the debt of sin, and free us from death and the destruction of body and soul in hell.

When John says he did not know Jesus (John 1:31,33) he was referring to the hidden reality of Jesus' divinity. But the Holy Spirit in that hour revealed to John Jesus' true nature, such that John bore witness that this is the Son of God. How can we be certain that Jesus is truly the Christ, the Son of the living God? The Holy Spirit makes the Lord Jesus Christ known to us through the gift of faith. God gives us his Spirit as our helper and guide who opens our hearts and minds to receive and comprehend the great mystery and plan of God to unite all things in his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:10).

Do you want to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ? Ask the Lord to pour his Holy Spirit upon you to deepen your faith, hope, and love for God and for the plan he has for your life.

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 underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

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

THIS WEEKEND and the following two weekends we will be looking at ourselves as a parish community, what time each of us has to give, what talents and also what treasure in our financial giving. Please do take this Sunday's leaflet home with you and reflect on all that is there and has been said at Mass.

FUNERAL MASS of Michael (Mike) Barrett on Friday 6th February at 11.00am followed by burial at Carpenders Park Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

GOOD NEWS. The redecorating of the children's room is now finished and I'm sure you will agree it is a fitting place for our young children and their families.

WELCOMERS - We are seeking **new volunteers** to join our team of helpers **welcoming people to Mass**. For further details or to express an interest please contact our Welcomers Coordinator, **Lucille Thomas**, at **lucille.thomas@gmail.com**. The commitment would involve welcoming approximately once a month.

A NEW ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER was announced just before Christmas. Pope Leo has appointed Bishop Richard Moth, at present bishop of Arundel and Brighton (in the south—Surrey & Sussex). He will formally take up his appointment on 14th February 2026. Please pray for him as he prepares to come to Westminster.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 1** of **Part 2** of the FHC Programme, on **Tuesday 27th January**, the children will be reflecting on what it means to be **Catholic Christians**. Please note the **entry point for** all the children at **Session 1** is the front door of the **Parish Centre**. Thank you for ensuring the children **arrive promptly** for the start of the session at **7pm**. Thank you for picking up the children from their usual Catechist Small Group pick-up points at the end of the session.

ALL THE DECORATIONS HAVE COME DOWN however, it might be a surprise that Christmastide doesn't formally end until 2nd February, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of Christ in the Temple or, more commonly, 'Candlemas'. All the churches in Rome, and in Catholic countries and homes, still keep the Crib up until Candlemas. You should have taken down the cards and decorations on twelfth night (Epiphany) but the Crib can stay until 2nd February as the focus of our family prayer and daily devotions.

SO THERE IS STILL TIME to visit our Crib. Do please take the opportunity to look at our beautiful crib, and maybe for a moment before it, offer a prayer. All Crib offerings (donations) made will be sent to the Catholic Children's Society, for their important work with children. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this cause.

HELPING WITH HOSPITALITY - Might you consider helping with **teas & coffees** after the **9.45am** Family Mass. For further details, or to express an interest, please contact Peter, our **Pastoral Assistant** at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.** The commitment would be no more than once a month.

CONFIRMATION 2026 - Thank you to all the prospective Confirmation Candidates, in Year 10 & above, and their Parents/Carers who joined us for the Confirmation Information Evening last week, **collecting all the documents** needed for **Registration**. At the **Confirmation Registration Evening**, on **Monday 26th January at 7.30pm** registration will only be possible for those who bring along the **correct documentation** (including photocopy of **baptism certificate & passport photo**). Please note that **26th January** is also the **deadline for applications** on this year's Programme. If you require any further information, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

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 **January's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 26th January 2026.**

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of February. Please contact the Parish Office.

SOUTH VALE PRE-SCHOOL admissions open for January 2026. We are now taking children from 18 months old. Funded places available. For more information, please contact us on Tel: 07745 860 794.

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S CLUB Lots of people and great fun too! Why not join them? All over 60's welcome—just turn up on Tuesday in the Café Bar in the Parish Centre at 1pm. Come along and bring a friend. You don't need to be Catholic!

SIGNING FORMS ETC. Please <u>always</u> 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.

