

Our Parish Liturgy . . . . .

This Week (11 A)

|                           |                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DIVINE OFFICE             | WEEK 3                                                                                                                      |
| ENTRANCE HYMN             | 18.00 852<br>09.00 852<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                                   |
| PENITENTIAL ACT           | Spoken                                                                                                                      |
| GLORIA                    | 18.00 Missal Tone<br>09.00 Missal Tone<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                   |
| FIRST READING             | Exodus 19:2-6a<br><i>'You shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'</i>                                       |
| PSALM RESPONSE            | <i>We are his people, the sheep of his flock.</i>                                                                           |
| SECOND READING            | Romans 5:6-11<br><i>'If we were reconciled by the death of the Son, much more shall we be saved by his life.'</i>           |
| GOSPEL ACCLAMATION        | Alleluia, alleluia!<br><i>The kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel. Alleluia!</i>                    |
| GOSPEL READING            | Matthew 9:36-10:8<br><i>'Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and sent them out.'</i>                                   |
| PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | 18.00 608<br>09.00 608<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                                   |
| SANCTUS                   | 18.00 Missal Tone<br>09.00 Missal Tone<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                   |
| MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION      | 18.00 Missal Tone<br>09.00 Missal Tone<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                   |
| GREAT AMEN                | 18.00 Missal Tone<br>09.00 Missal Tone<br>11.00 Spoken                                                                      |
| OUR FATHER                | 18.00 Spoken<br>09.00 Spoken<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                             |
| AGNUS DEI                 | 18.00 Missal Tone<br>09.00 Missal Tone<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                   |
| COMMUNION ANTIPHON        | <i>There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.</i> |
| THANKSGIVING              | 18.00 871<br>09.00 871<br>11.00 Musicians                                                                                   |

|                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RECESSION                                                                                                                                                                    | 18.00 751<br>09.00 751<br>11.00 Musicians                                                        |
| Next Week (12 A)                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                  |
| DIVINE OFFICE                                                                                                                                                                | WEEK 4                                                                                           |
| FIRST READING                                                                                                                                                                | Jeremiah 20:10-13<br><i>'He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.'</i> |
| PSALM RESPONSE                                                                                                                                                               | <i>In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.</i>                                                   |
| SECOND READING                                                                                                                                                               | Romans 5:12-15<br><i>'The free gift is not like the trespass.'</i>                               |
| GOSPEL READING                                                                                                                                                               | Matthew 19:26b-27a<br><i>'Do not fear those who kill the body.'</i>                              |
| Music and text of Antiphons from <i>Psallite</i> , © 2005 Collegeville Composers Group. Published by Liturgical Press, MN56321.<br>Used with Permission. One Licence No.0199 |                                                                                                  |

MARRIAGE MATTERS

In his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis offers a profound insight into the joy of Christian marriage and reminds us of its place at the very heart of the Church's life. Christian marriage, he observes, 'is a sign of how much Christ loved his Church in the covenant sealed on the cross, yet it also makes that love present in the communion of the spouses. By becoming one flesh, they embody the espousal of our human nature by the Son of God.'

As we know, the Holy Scriptures feed and nourish our faith and help us to grow in our relationship with God and one another. It is for this reason that these scriptural reflections are offered. They should help enable married couples to focus on the richness of God's Word that we hear proclaimed each Sunday of the Year and to experience the deep joy of God's love expressed in the great Sacrament of Marriage.

THINK OF ALL THE BLESSINGS



Priests offer sacrifice, and are 'mediators' between God and humans. Jesus was a Priest and a 'mediator', sacrificing Himself on the Cross and pleading, "Father forgive them". Baptism made us 'sharers' in Christ's Priesthood. At Mass, as a Priestly people, we join in His sacrifice and pray for ourselves and others. So, 'serve the Lord with gladness', counting our blessings.

Parish Priest  
Rev Fr Daryl George JCL  
Sacred Heart Presbytery  
25 Between Streets  
COBHAM  
Surrey  
KT11 1AA

(01932) 862518  
cobham@abdiocese.org.uk  
sacredheartcobham.org.uk

THIS WEEK:

BIBLE READING PLAN

Mo 2 Chr.6-7, Ps. 136  
Tu Ps. 134, 146-150  
We 1 Kgs. 9; 2 Chr. 8  
Th Prov. 25-29  
Fr Eccles. 1-12

Financial News . .

Weekend of 07/06/26

1<sup>st</sup> Plate £ 461:07  
Standing Orders £ 755:00  
Contactless £ 205:00  
1<sup>st</sup> Total £ 1,421:07  
2<sup>nd</sup> None

Thankyou for your continuing generosity to your Parish.

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection . . .

This Weekend 14/06/26

Buildings Maintenance

Gift Aid Members are able to make this collection tax efficient using our Parish envelope.

Next Weekend 21/06/26

Day For Life

Gift Aid Members are not able to make this collection tax efficient.

Bite Size . . .

Have you had a kindness shown?  
Pass it on;  
'Twas not given for thee alone,  
Pass it on;  
Let it travel down the years,  
Let it wipe another's tears,  
'Til in Heaven the deed appears -  
Pass it on.

Henry Burton



Sacred Heart Parish Newsletter

for the Roman Catholic community  
of Cobham, Oxshott,  
& Stoke D'Abernion



part of the Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust, a Registered Charity No. 252878

Volume 07 Issue 29

14<sup>th</sup> June 2026 : 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A

Expanding his reach . . . . .

Jesus is in the prime of his public ministry here as he sends the twelve apostles out to expand his work. People have been flocking to him as his reputation as a healer and great teacher grows, and he can no longer personally minister to everyone who needs his help.



"You have seen how I treated the Egyptians and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my treasured possession among all peoples."

Sheepish Question:

How does my church keep God's covenant?

Upon seeing the crowds of people harassed and helpless (remember that the Jewish people lived under the brutal occupation of the Romans) Jesus knows he needs others to extend his reach. He tells his twelve apostles to pray for more helpers, even as he sends them out to continue his work. Notice that Jesus gives them the power to do everything he has been doing: proclaim the good news that the reign of God is near, cure the sick, cast out demons, and even raise the dead! Clearly, Jesus wasn't selfish about keeping power for himself. In telling the apostles to pray for more labourers for the harvest, he suggests that

others beyond their circle of twelve will be given the power to do what he was asking them to do too. At this point, Jesus tells the apostles to focus on ministering to the community of the Jews, not expanding into Samaritan territory or Gentile (non-Jewish) territory. Of course, as a life-long Jew, that seemed the expected place for Jesus and his Jewish friends to start. (That is where the Jew Paul began, too.) Later in the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, we will read stories of Jesus, the apostles, Paul, and later followers expanding their ministry and reach into Samaritan and Gentile communities.



Questions of the week

- Does it ever occur to you that Jesus might be asking you to do some of the same things he asked his twelve apostles to do? What might it look like for you to proclaim the good news, heal the sick, or cast out demons today?
- Some people are called to work within and minister to the community they were born into, while others are called to move outside to a different community. What about you?

Before Mass - Talk to God During Mass - Listen to God After Mass - Talk to your friends

## Parish Office . . . . .

**Normal Office Hours :** Monday to Friday 09.30 - 12.30.

**Parish Secretary :** Sarah Cox (01932) 860244  
cobham@abdiocese.org.uk

**Newsletter Editorial :** Items for possible inclusion in the Parish Newsletter (if there is room) need to be received (in writing please) at the Parish Office by midday on Wednesday.

**Gift Aid Organiser :** Dan Meehan (01372) 456416  
ga.cobham@abdiocese.org.uk

**Safeguarding Rep. :** Mark Hillas 07436 571060  
sg1.cobham@abdiocese.org.uk

## General Parish Information . . . . .

**Parishioner Registration :** Every household within the Parish is requested to complete a 'Parishioner Registration/Census' form so that our Parish records may be kept up to date. These forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and should be completed fully before being returned to the Parish Office.

Should you move address within the Parish at any time please complete a new form and write 'AMENDMENT' across the top of the form. Thank you.

**Hospital :** If you are going into hospital as a 'planned admission' you are strongly encouraged to make contact with Fr Daryl well beforehand so that, if appropriate, the Sacrament of the Sick can be celebrated beforehand.

**Infant Baptism :** Infant Baptisms are intended for the children of practising parishioners only and are celebrated on five occasions during the year after parents and godparents have completed a course of preparation. There can be no celebration without this important course. The dates of the courses for the current year can be found in the application form available from the Parish Office. Baptisms do not take place during the seasons of Advent or Lent.

**Sacramental Preparation :** Notice of the availability of Application Forms for preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be made via the Parish Newsletter between the school Summer Half Term and 31<sup>st</sup> August each year. Possible candidates for Confirmation should respond to the announcements made via the Parish Newsletter at the beginning of the Autumn school term.

Parishioners are advised that it is very difficult to imagine that any family or individual who is not regularly practising the Faith as members of our community could possibly be ready to celebrate a Sacrament of the Church.

**Marriage Preparation :** Marriages are celebrated by appointment with the Parish Priest. It should be remembered that in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton twelve months minimum notice is required before a marriage may take place; this is a requirement of the Church for all marriages that involve a Roman Catholic (even if they are not taking place in the Catholic Church). It is also necessary that one of the parties must have a meaningful connection with the Parish. Marriages do not take place during the seasons of Advent or Lent.

**Parish Car Park :** All Parishioners attending Mass and using our Car Park need to make sure that they have fully completed our 'Parishioner Registration/Census Form' (available from the Parish Office) before using the Car Park; this ensures that your current vehicle registration is lodged in the system. Registering only needs to be done once (unless you change your car or if you use another car in the family that is not registered on the system).

**Important :** if you are not registered on the system and you use the car park you will receive a parking notice. Registered Parishioners and pre-registered visitors are able to park whilst they attend our Masses/liturgies without fear of a charge notice. (Car Park queries - parking@shpcobham.com)

**NOTE :** the Car Park does not use QR codes any found are **scams!**



## Church Mouse (cub reporter). . .

The musings of one of God's smallest creatures on events in and around the Parish over the past seven days . . . .

A busy week around The Presbytery as things were being finalised for the celebration of First Eucharist and Fr D was away with all the diocesan clergy on a two day in-service meeting . . . . .

On Monday morning Fr D had an appointment at the garage before he picked up Fr Tony to take him along to the Clergy In-Service session for this year. Lots of talks and discussion sessions which had him come home on Tuesday afternoon exhausted!

On Wednesday after Morning Prayer and Mass Fr D started work on this week's newsletter, knowing that time was going to be tight in the latter part of the week. He also received an email from the lighting engineers agreeing to come on the week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July to complete the 'second phase of the new lighting system in the church; they expect these works to take the best part of the week.

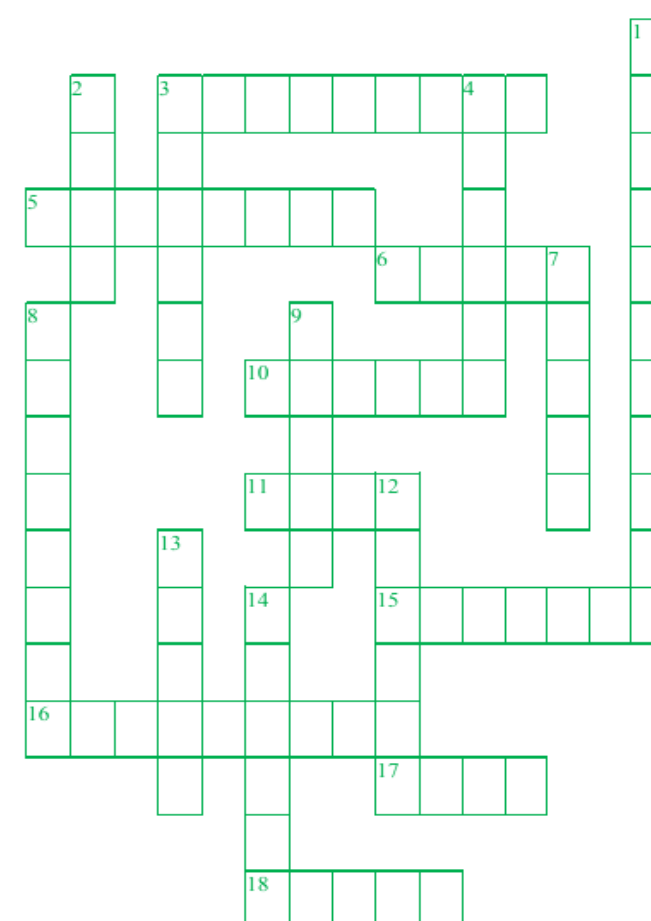
After Morning Prayer and Mass on Thursday Fr D checked in with Sarah in the Office before going off in the car to the diocesan offices in Crawley where he signed several decrees, including the publishing of the sentences for two cases he recently judged (there will now be fifteen days in which an appeal may be made before the sentences become final). In the evening Fr D met with the parents of a child who will be baptised next Sunday (21<sup>st</sup>) after the 11.00am Mass.

Following Morning Prayer and Mass for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, our patronal feast day, on Friday Fr D finished the intercessions and notices for the coming weekend before picking up Fr Tony for a Deanery Clergy social lunch in Ewell. He thinks that this will be the last Deanery Clergy meeting until September.

On Saturday morning Fr D met with parents and their children for the rehearsal of First Eucharist Day - taking the children through what was going to happen at the Sunday 11.00 Mass . . . . .



## CHILDREN'S CROSSWORD 11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY YEAR A



ACROSS 3. Jesus gave this to the disciples

5. One of the twelve apostles

6. One of the twelve apostles

10. Complete the expression: cleanse the . . . .

11. Complete the expression: raise the . . . .

15. One of the twelve apostles

16. Jesus did not want the disciples to go to these towns

17. Complete the expression: cure the . . . .

18. Jesus did not want the disciples to go to these territories

DOWN 1. One of the twelve apostles

2. One of the twelve apostles

3. One of the twelve apostles

4. One of the twelve apostles

7. One of the twelve apostles

8. Complete the expression: the harvest is abundant but the . . . . are few

9. One of the twelve apostles

12. Complete the expression: drive out . . . .

13. One of the twelve apostles

14. One of the twelve apostles

HE SENT THEM OUT

Matthew 9:36-10:8

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus’ heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant but the labourers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out labourers for his harvest.” Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon from Cana, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him. Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, “Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”

Other Readings: Exodus 19:2-6; Psalm 99:1-3, 5; Romans 5:6-11

LECTIO:

The Gospel of Matthew does not include the story of the calling of the Twelve perhaps because he assumed that this event was known to his readers. Here is the only time that the Twelve are called Apostles, which means “those who are sent.” Matthew wrote for a community that included many believers of Jewish background. The naming of the twelve apostles echoed the twelve tribes of Israel and established the new Israel. Because of the number of Jewish Christians in Matthew’s community, it is not surprising that he describes the mission of the apostles as “gathering the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” This may also reflect an original Jewish-Christian refusal to include the Gentiles in the mission of the Church. Matthew used two images to indicate that discipleship always implies mission: people are like sheep without a shepherd and like a harvest that needs labourers to get the work done.



MEDITATIO:

- ◆ Discipleship involves mission.
- ◆ The disciples’ mission continues that of Jesus in preaching the coming of the Reign of God and healing the sick.
- ◆ As Jesus calls and gifts us freely, the gifts we have received are likewise to be given freely.

CONTEMPLATIO:

Do I give of myself freely without expecting rewards or recognition?  
Do I see myself as a disciple or as a “volunteer”?  
Is my heart “moved to compassion” when I see people in need around me?  
What do I usually do?

Suggested reading: Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraphs 543; 1509; 2121; 2443; 2611.

| Day  | Date                  | Time                                            | Service / Intention                                              | Donor            |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Sat. | 13 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | Immaculate Heart of Mary                                         |                  |
|      |                       |                                                 | <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>                               |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 18.00 Anna Mayer                                                 | A. Sadler        |
| Sun. | 14 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | <b>11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A</b>           |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 09.00 The Edwards Family                                         | K. Edwards       |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 11.00 For the Parishioners                                       |                  |
| Mon. | 15 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | St Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor                             |                  |
|      |                       |                                                 | <b>No Service Today</b> Mass 10.00 at Weybridge                  |                  |
| Tue. | 16 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | St Richard of Chichester, Bishop [Diocesan Saint]                |                  |
|      |                       | 09.00                                           | Morning Prayer of the Church                                     | [p.p. 191 & 493] |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed          | 09.30 Candida Pimenta †                                          | L. Kolber        |
|      |                       |                                                 | 10.00 - 11.00 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament for Private Prayer |                  |
| Wed. | 17 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | Ferial Weekday                                                   |                  |
|      |                       |                                                 | PLEASE NOTE : No Morning Prayer Today                            |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed          | 09.30 <b>Requiem Mass For Andrew Peyton †</b>                    |                  |
| Thu. | 18 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | Ferial Weekday                                                   |                  |
|      |                       | 09.15                                           | Morning Prayer of the Church                                     | [p.p. 210 & 493] |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed          | 09.30 Maeve Allen †                                              | J. & E Yates     |
| Fri. | 19 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | Ferial Weekday (Day of Abstinence)                               |                  |
|      |                       | 09.15                                           | Morning Prayer of the Church                                     | [p.p. 220 & 493] |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed          | 09.30 Lynn Le Huray †                                            | D. & P. Meehan   |
| Sat. | 20 <sup>th</sup> June |                                                 | St Alban, Protomartyr of England                                 |                  |
|      |                       | 17.00 - 17.30                                   | <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>                               |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 18.00 Luigi Solaro †                                             | A. Dale          |
| Sun. | 21 <sup>st</sup> June |                                                 | <b>12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A</b>           |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 09.00 For the Parishioners                                       |                  |
|      |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded | 11.00 Douglas & Gina Fox †                                       | D. & S Wilson    |

Mass may be offered for both the living and the dead and also for most other intentions. We do our best to try and accommodate specific dates but this can be especially difficult on weekends and at less than three months notice. ‘Mass Intentions’ are published in the Parish Newsletter on the weekend before they are celebrated although sometimes a Requiem Mass will ‘bump’ an intention to a later date.

St Richard of Chichester . . . . .

Born at Wyche, Worcestershire, Richard was orphaned while a young lad, he managed to regain his fortune which had been mismanaged by others, and was educated at Oxford, Paris, and Bologna. He earned a doctorate in law from the University of Bologna and was appointed chancellor of Oxford in 1235. After accompanying Edmund Rich into retirement at the abbey of Pontigny, France, he departed the community upon Edmund’s death, taught at the Dominican house in Orkans, and was ordained there in 1243. Upon going

home to England, he was named chancellor to St Boniface of Savoy. When King Henry III appointed Ralph Neville to the see of Chichester in 1244, Boniface declared the nomination invalid and named Richard to the post, an act which caused an uproar in the kingdom. Finally, in Pope Innocent IV decided in Richard’s favour, but Richard was prevented from entering his palace by the machinations, of Henry. Only after the king was threatened with being excommunicated was he able to take up his duties. He

insisted upon strict discipline among the clergy, aided the poor, and denounced the corruption and vices of the contemporary Church as well as the royal court. His death came at Dover, in a home for poor priests, whilst he was delivering a plea for a crusade. Richard was canonized in 1262, and his tomb became a popular shrine noted for its miracles up until the Reformation.

| DATE / MASS                                     | WELCOME MINISTERS               | READERS      | EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  | REPOSITORY AFTER MASS   |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>SATURDAY<br/>12 A<br/>20/06/26<br/>18.00</b> | Still Required;<br>please offer | J. Granström | N/A at present           | P. Hunt<br>A. Essien    |
| <b>SUNDAY<br/>12 A<br/>21/06/26<br/>09.00</b>   | Still Required;<br>please offer | A. Gilroy    | D. McEvoy<br>G. Fisher   | B. Harris<br>M. Jethwa  |
| <b>SUNDAY<br/>12 A<br/>21/06/26<br/>11.00</b>   | Still Required;<br>please offer | A. Cowper    | P. Mascolo<br>D. Yearley | I. Heims<br>S. Williams |

**PLEASE REMEMBER :** If you are unable to complete your particular ministry then it is **your responsibility** to arrange cover with another minister. In this way our Sunday Liturgies will run in a smooth and prayerful way.



**OUR PARISH  
SUPPORTS THE  
COBHAM AREA  
FOODBANK**

**UPDATED LIST OF  
WANTED ITEMS**



Are you able to help local people in crisis by purchasing items on the list below and placing them in the Foodbank's collection point in the narthex when you come to Mass at the weekend? Thank You!

- |                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ⇒ UHT Fruit Juice                    | ⇒ Rice 500g                        |
| ⇒ UHT Semi-Skimmed Milk              | ⇒ Tinned Meat                      |
| ⇒ Fruit Squash                       | ⇒ Tinned Custard                   |
| ⇒ Hot Chocolate                      | ⇒ Marmite                          |
| ⇒ Tinned Vegetables & Potatoes       | ⇒ Children's Cereal                |
| ⇒ Jam                                | ⇒ Tomato Ketchup                   |
| ⇒ Deodorant (for men & women)        | ⇒ Antibacterial Multipurpose Spray |
| ⇒ Sugar 500g                         | ⇒ Toilet Rolls                     |
| ⇒ Hair Shampoo & Conditioner         | ⇒ Sanitary Pads                    |
| ⇒ Laundry Powder / Liquid / Capsules | ⇒ Liquid Hand Soap                 |

## Prayers Please . . . . .



### FOR THOSE UNWELL AT THIS TIME:

Sr Anne Bayley, Norma Begley, Fr Tony Bridson, Maggie Dongray, Tom Delbridge, Jonica Fox, Fiona Frank, Maureen Garner, baby Naomi Hunt, Michael Nutter, Fr Sebastian Paul, Pascal Smyth, Anne Sproul and John Wilkey.

### ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:

Sr Mary Agnes †  
David Roberts †  
Cerise Dewar †  
Fr Edward Maxwell †  
Fr Etienne Robo †  
Fr Colman Quinn †  
Fr Henry Hill †  
Fr Trevor Welland †

### HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION:

... let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

For those who are unwell.....

those who have died recently....

those whose anniversaries occur....

the Holy Father's Prayer Intention....

### THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lynn Le Huray †

## NEW 2026-7 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES APPLICATIONS FORMS

Our new season of Sacramental Applications are now available.



⇒ **Infant Baptism Applications** can be obtained from the Parish Office (during the normal office hours - please remember that baptism is for Registered Parishioners only who are regularly attending our Sunday and Holy Day Masses). These should be completed and returned to the Parish Office a minimum of two weeks before the chosen course.



⇒ **First Reconciliation/First Eucharist Applications** can be obtained (by parents only - not friends or grandparents) from the sacristy after Sunday Mass. Please Note: it is very hard to imagine that someone who is not already a regular member of our worshipping community could possibly be ready to celebrate either of these important sacraments at this time. These too should be completed and returned to The Presbytery by 18.00 on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026 (no late applications can be accepted, sorry).

⇒ **Confirmation Applications** are not available yet as the diocese has not given a date for the Confirmation Mass next year so Fr D cannot produce an appropriate schedule for the course. Once he has a date he will make details known.



## IMPORTANT NEWS REGARDING ADMISSIONS TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND THE CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

Parishioners may be aware that the Diocesan Education Service has updated its model Admission Policies to bring them in line with the National Catholic Education Service and to ensure compliance with the mandatory School Admission Code which all Admission Authorities are legally required to follow.

Our schools will still prioritise Catholic applicants and a certificate of Baptism will still be used to identify this. As schools adopt these new models, the requirement to seek a parish priest's signature on the Supplementary Information Forms' (SIFs) will be removed. However, in any case where a school is oversubscribed with Catholic applicants, it will be necessary to rank further the Catholic applicants. To do this a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' (CCP) will be used which affirms that *'this child and his/her family are known to me and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the child is from a practising Catholic family'*. (The Guidance from the Diocese, following the National Catholic Education Service model, states that *for the purposes of the Certificate of Catholic Practice, a person is a practising Catholic if they observe the Church's precept of attending Mass on Sundays and holidays of obligation.*) This certificate will be needed for those applying from this autumn for a place at St Andrew's for Admission in September 2027, and going forward.

Initially, in moving to a new system, the onus will be on parish clergy to make a judgement on these matters. However, Deanery clergy and the Diocesan Education Service are working on a form for use in coming years whereby families can indicate and celebrate their participation at Mass; indeed families should regard the change as a reminder of the need to be engaged with the life of the local Church, that is, the parish – not simply because they desire a school place for their child but because it is first and foremost their faith community, because worshipping God and being fed by Christ in word and Sacrament is what we are about and because, as children of God, families want their children to be supported in their journey of faith.

All clergy are committed to supporting parishioners in the difficult task of parenting and the joyful task of sharing faith and are not oblivious to the challenges that families face. Please trust them in this new situation - but please do not put them in the awkward position of being asked to provide a certificate for someone they have hardly ever seen before.

## GIFT AID An occasional series -

£1

+

giftaid it

=

£1.25

### WHAT IS GIFT AID?

'Gift Aid' allows registered charities to claim 25p for every £1 given to, for example, Parish collections from HMRC.

So what is this 25p? Well, for each £1 of gross income it is the amount of tax (at standard rate) that has already been deducted before it was paid to you. As donations to charities (including our Parish) are not subject to tax, 25p on every £1 can be reclaimed on eligible donations.

Before donations or Offerings become eligible it is important that donors appreciate that only tax paid - taken by HMRC - can be reclaimed. More about this next time . . . . .