



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A | 4th October 2026

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Parish Clergy: Fr Tristan Cranfield (tristan.cranfield@abdiocese.org.uk)

Deacon Tom Murray (tom.murray@abdiocese.org.uk)

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Holy Mass Open to Parishioners and Live-streamed

3rd October – Saturday, The Blessed Martyrs of Sussex (Memorial)

10:00am Mass - Ambi Kochikkat RIP and Paulose Vithayathil RIP

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

3:30 pm - Silent Prayer

(Meet upstairs in the Parish Hall for refreshments, input then into the Church for silent prayer)

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Tony Judd RIP

4th October – Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 am Mass - Helen Daly RIP

11:15 am Mass - Georg Kuon RIP

(Followed by Parish Shared Lunch in the Parish Hall)

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

NO ITALIAN MASS

5th October – Monday, St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin (Memorial)

12:00 noon Mass - Hannah O'Donoghue RIP

6th October – Tuesday, St Bruno, Priest (Memorial)

NO MASS

10:30 am to 3:00 pm – Adoration

(Pray for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan)

7th October – Wednesday, Our Lady of the Rosary (Memorial)

NO MASS

(12:00 noon - Mass at Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, West Grinstead)

6:00 pm - Polish Adoration

7:00 pm - Polish Mass

8th October – Thursday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 27

12:00 noon Mass - Yvonne Frisby RIP

9th October – Friday, St John Henry Newman, Priest, Doctor (Feast)

12:00 noon Mass - Geoff RIP

Followed by Confession

7:00 pm - Rosary & Adoration

10th October – Saturday, Our Lady on Saturday

10:00am Mass - Helen Daly RIP

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - For the Intention of the Hampson Family

11th October – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 am Mass - Devassy Kallrackal RIP and Paulose Vithayathil RIP

11:15 am Mass - Pro Populo

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

NO ITALIAN MASS

Useful Contacts

Horsham Parish Office
01403-253667 - Mon-Fri | 9:00 am - 2:30 pm
Sue Smith | Cozette Rice

Safeguarding
Michelle Downey - sg1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk
Adeline Hawkes - sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Health & Safety
hst.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Hall Hire
Please inquire at the Parish Office

Baptism Team
horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Chair of Parish Finance
David Innes | stjohnsfin@gmail.com
SVP PresidentA010810@svp.org.uk
07765778413

Bereavement Support
Please email stjhorsham@gmail.com
or get in touch with the Parish Office.

St John's Primary School
Finula Farr | 01403-265447

St Robert Southwell Primary School
Helen Connor | 01403252357

St. Wilfrid's Catholic Comprehensive, Crawley
Andrew Clarke | 01293 421 421

Our parish relies on
your generous donations,
please click or scan here
to donate.



Last Week's Collection

£2,810.42

(£1,060.42 Offertory;
£1,750 Standing Orders).

Second Collection

£1,906.79

Thank You
You could add 25p to every £1
you give by joining Gift Aid.

PLEASE NOTE: VIDEO RECORDING IS NOT ALLOWED DURING MASS WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION.

FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENT - PLEASE SEND BY WEDNESDAY 5:00 PM TO

horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

EXPLORING THE MINISTRY OF A BISHOP AS WE PREPARE FOR FR STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL ORDINATION

In the first of three reflections our Formation & Spirituality Adviser, Deacon Jon Harman, explores the ministry of a bishop.

"For many of us", he writes, "the word 'bishop' immediately recalls a familiar figure at the altar, wearing a mitre and carrying a crozier. But the ministry of a bishop is about much more than the visible signs of his office. At its heart, it is a ministry of service, responsibility, and care for God's people.

"The Bible often uses the image of a shepherd to describe those entrusted with caring for God's people. A shepherd knows his flock, watches over it, guides it and seeks its good: this is a useful image for understanding the ministry of a Bishop.

"A bishop is not simply the person 'in charge' of a diocese. Through episcopal ordination, when he is ordained as a bishop, he receives the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and is entrusted with a particular ministry among the people of God: he is called to teach, to sanctify (make holy) and to shepherd the people of the diocese entrusted to his care.

"The bishop's ministry of teaching means proclaiming the Gospel and helping the people of all ages and backgrounds to grow in their understanding of the Catholic faith. His ministry of sanctifying is expressed particularly through the celebration of the sacraments and the life of prayer and worship of the Church. The ministry of shepherding means accompanying God's people, encouraging them in faith and seeking to strengthen the communion of the whole diocese.

"The ministry of a bishop also connects us with the Church's beginnings. Bishops are successors of the Apostles, continuing the ministry that Christ entrusted to them, which has been handed on through the Church across the generations. This means a bishop's ministry is never an isolated one: he serves in communion with the priests and deacons of the diocese and with all the baptised - lay people as well as those who exercise ordained and religious life ministry. Each person has a part to play in the life and mission of the Church.

"Likewise, a diocese is not an independent Church, existing on its own. A bishop serves his 'particular Church' in communion with the Pope and with bishops throughout the universal Church. The diocese is part of something much larger: the one Catholic Church gathered around Christ.

So, as we look towards welcoming Bishop Stephen, we are not simply preparing to welcome a new diocesan leader: we are preparing to welcome someone who has been called to this very specific ministry among us."

Bishop-elect Stephen will be installed as the sixth Bishop of our Diocese at Arundel Cathedral on Monday 19 October. Space within Arundel Cathedral is limited, with attendance at the Mass of Episcopal Ordination by invitation only. People across our parishes and schools are warmly encouraged to join the celebration at 12 noon online, by watching the Cathedral's livestream.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY – CAFOD's Family Fast Day was on Friday 2nd October. We hope you managed to go without one meal on the day! Please put the money saved, plus any other donations, into the envelopes that are on the benches (there are more envelopes at the back of the church). You can also scan the QR code on the envelopes to pay online or go to cafod.org.uk or use the church payment terminal. Please hand the envelopes in at the second collection at any Mass on the weekend 3rd - 4th October. 86% of CAFOD funds come from the 2 Family Fast Day Appeals so these appeals support a lot of vulnerable people around the world. Many thanks!

MASS OF WELCOME FOR BISHOP STEPHEN – SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER AT WORTH ABBEY - Following his Ordination, Bishop Stephen will celebrate a Mass of Welcome followed by a reception, at Worth Abbey on Saturday 24 October at 11.30am. He invites people from across the Diocese to attend this Mass, to meet him and give thanks. Free coach travel is being arranged as parking is restricted at the Abbey - please enquire at your local parish office to register your interest.

WE WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER - We're asking all parishioners to complete a simple registration form so that we can keep our parish records **accurate, up to date and secure**. Your details will also help us manage our new car park system effectively, making sure spaces remain available for those who are genuinely using the church and parish facilities. This registration form registers you for parish parking. **You must complete the form to continue using the church car park**. Please scan the QR code on the pew stickers, pick up a leaflet from the Narthex or head straight to our website to register.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE CARDINAL HUME CENTRE - A special Mass to mark the 40th anniversary of the Cardinal Hume Centre will be celebrated at Westminster Cathedral on Tuesday 13 October at 5.30pm. Cardinal Vincent Nichols will preside, joined by Bishop James Curry and Dom Robert Igo OSB. The Mass is open to the public, and parishioners from the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton are warmly invited to attend in thanksgiving for the life and legacy of Cardinal Basil Hume and the Centre's 40 years of service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MASS FOR THE BEREAVED – On **Saturday 7th November at 10:00am**, we will be holding our annual Mass for the Bereaved, when we remember all those who have died and offer prayers and support for the bereaved of our community. During the Mass, the names of those who have died over the last 12 months will be read out and there will be an opportunity to light votive candles for all those we love who have died. The Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall, hosted by the SVP. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like the name of anyone who has died in the last 12 months to be added to our list. All are most warmly welcomed to this Mass.

CHURCH FIRST AID TRAINING AT THE ST PHILIP HOWARD CENTRE, CRAWLEY ON SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER. COST £60 - If you are involved in leading a group in your Parish (particularly Sacramental Preparation and would like to complete a first aid course tailored specifically for your needs, then please contact lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk who will send you information about the training taking place at the St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley on 24 October. Basic life support training will be offered, as well as how to respond to allergic reactions and other life-threatening situations. Certificate valid for 3 years.

2027 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME – We are pleased to be able to open applications for next year's formation for **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** (school Year 3 and above). To register your interest, please speak to Fr Tristan or Deacon Tom after any Mass and they will be able to give you an Application Form in person; **these will not be available from the Parish Office or from the website**. Please return your completed Application Form, together with the necessary supporting documents, by the **closing date of Friday 13th November 2026**. We are unable to accept late applications, so please get your paperwork into the Parish Office as soon as possible.

PARISH SHARED LUNCH, SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER - We're delighted to be holding a Parish Shared Lunch on **Sunday 4th October**, to celebrate Fr Xavier's visit and his forthcoming 66th birthday on 18th October. We know it's short notice, but we do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us. As always, please bring a savoury or sweet dish to share. An Indian-themed menu would be lovely, though of course it isn't essential, all contributions are welcome! **When:** 12:30pm / **Where:** Church Hall

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS COUNT – will take place during the Offertory collection at all weekend Masses from Saturday 19th September to Sunday 11th October inclusive.

PARISH CINEMA NIGHTS - Wednesday 14th October/Friday 23rd October. Time: 5pm - 8pm. We're thrilled to offer an exclusive early preview of *The Chosen, Season 6, Episode 1*, alongside a screening of *King of Kings* for children, 2 free screenings running side by side, so the whole family can join us without worrying about childcare. Adults can watch *The Chosen* downstairs in the Hall (13yrs+); children enjoy *King of Kings* upstairs in the large Meeting Room (PG, 7+, DBS-checked supervision). Popcorn provided! Sign up at: <https://www.stjohnshorsham.com/event-page>

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING – **Saturday 17 October 10-3pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley – cost £40** - Thanks to the support of Mental Health England, we are able to offer this "Mental Health Awareness" training, to explore the realities, symptoms and impact of living with these many debilitating conditions. One of the challenges that we are experiencing in our modern world is the growing number of people, of all ages, experiencing the darkness and challenge of various mental health conditions. The training is being highly subsidised and tickets are just £40 per delegate (usual price £120). If you have any questions about this training do not hesitate to contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage and Family Life Adviser at E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. To book your place go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events.

THE NATIONAL BOARD OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NBCW) – The latest Newsletter from our Diocesan link for the NBCW is displayed in the Narthex. A more detailed account of the newsletter can be found as a blog at [October 2026 Newsletter](#).

LIVE SIMPLY “Live simply so others may simply live”

THE SEASON OF CREATION CLOSES TODAY SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH.

But the river keeps flowing. - For weeks, Living Water has connected communities around the world through prayer, action and stories of hope. From rivers and forests to churches and city streets, each gathering has become another stream joining a much larger river.

And that river is still growing. - From communities preparing gardens in Angola and joining public conversations in Brazil, to solidarity with migrants in Ireland, Franciscan prayer in England, care for coral reefs in Papua New Guinea, and young people advocating for creation in Kenya, Living Water is taking many forms.

Different places. Different actions. One river. - As we celebrate St. Francis and approach the close of the Season of Creation, we are reminded that the season may end, but our journey of ecological conversion continues.

Where will Living Water flow through you? More about the Season of Creation: <https://laudatosimovement.org>

Email livesimply_stjohnshorsham@yahoo.com with your Live Simply questions and ideas.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

THE COLLECT
Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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. **Amen**

FIRST READING (Prophet Isaiah 5:1-7)
Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
R: The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots. **R**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself. **R**

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Bring us back, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. **R**

SECOND READING (Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9)
Brothers and Sisters: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia. I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide. Alleluia.

GOSPEL (Matthew 21:33-43)
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.” And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’
They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.’
Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes”? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.’

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LET US PRAY FOR

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK INCLUDING
Baby Zoë Daly-Ford, Patrick Connors, Paul Wycliffe, Charlotte Curson, Edwina Slater, Tony Sefton, Baby Ruby, Sheila Pike, Bill Hughes, Geraldine Garvley, Ashley Elliott, Robin Sherfield, Pat Danielian, Anne Mullarky, Vilma Marshall, Carolyn Whitefield, Zoe Keane, Mark Wiesner, Brian Harris, Shane Campbell, Laura Rawlinson (Walshe), Grace Khushi, Amanda Molloy, Jarad Nunns, Gina Partridge, Margaret Georgeson, Jan Davies, Alan Frendo-Cumbo, and Katrina Sharpe.

WE PRAY FOR
Benon Herbasz RIP, Shelia Budgen RIP and ALL HOLY SOULS.

COLLECTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEKEND’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY
(not eligible for Diocesan Gift Aid envelopes).

NEXT WEEKEND’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR PRISONERS’ SUNDAY
(not eligible for Diocesan gift aid envelopes).

COFFEE AFTER 9:15 AM MASS HOST

NO COFFEE AFTER MASS.
PARISH SHARED LUNCH AT 12:30PM IN THE PARISH HALL.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Reading 1 - Prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalm - Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R. 6cd
Reading 2 - Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14