



This parish is served by the Spiritans

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A 'Peace Sunday' Mass Book Vol 1 page 125

REFLECTION ON THE MEANING OF ORDINARY TIME IN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Because the term ordinary in English most often means something that's not special or distinctive, many people think that Ordinary Time refers to parts of the calendar of the Catholic Church that are unimportant. Even though the season of Ordinary Time makes up most of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church, the fact that Ordinary Time refers to those periods that fall outside of the major liturgical seasons reinforces this impression. Yet Ordinary Time is far from unimportant or uninteresting.

Why Is Ordinary Time Called Ordinary? Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" not because it is common but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The Latin word ordinalis, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word ordo, from which we get the English word order. Thus, the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time, in fact, represent the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

It's appropriate, therefore, that the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (which is actually the first Sunday celebrated in Ordinary Time) always features either John the Baptist's acknowledgment of Christ as the Lamb of God or Christ's first miracle—the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana.

Thus, for Catholics, Ordinary Time is the part of the year in which Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. There's nothing "ordinary" about that!

Why Is Green the Colour of Ordinary Time? Likewise, the normal liturgical colour for Ordinary Time—for those days when there is no special feast—is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations.

When Is Ordinary Time? Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent →

THE CHURCH IS OPEN

Tues-Fri 8.45am-4.00pm

Sat 10.00am-6.30pm

Sun 7.45am-12noon

SUNDAY MASS

Sat 14th January

5.30pm: Int: For Peace

Sun 15th January

08.30am: Int: People

of the Parish

10.15am: Wellbeing of

Brigid Whitaker

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues 17th: 9.30am

Wed 18th: 9.30am

Int: Richard Rons R.I.P.

Thurs 19th: 9.30am

Fri 20th: 9.30am

NEXT SUNDAY MASS

Sat 21st January

5.30pm: Vigil Mass

Int: Nerina Tidey R.I.P.

Sun 22nd: Int: People

of the parish

8.30am: Int: Miss

Rachel Wheeldon R.I.P.

10.15am: Jacqueline

Rons. R.I.P.

CONFESSIONS

Tues-Fri 8.40 -9.20am

Sat 4.30-5.20pm

or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: TUES, THURS, FRI 10.00am-2.00pm - Tel 01474705361

Parish Priest: Fr Alphonsus Beni CSSp

Email: alphonsusbeni@rcaos.org.uk (**Day off: Mon**)

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PRIEST

DIRECTLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Tel: 07500262446

Parish Secretary: Jane Pemberton

Parish Council Chair: Chris Pieroni

Email: hartleypcc@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding representative: Judith Stephens

Email: hartleysg2safeguard@rcaos.org.uk

Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Ordinary Time thus encompasses two different periods in the Church's calendar, since the Christmas season immediately follows Advent, and the Easter season immediately follows Lent.

The Church year begins with Advent, followed immediately by the Christmas season. Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after the first Sunday after January 6, the traditional date of the Feast of the Epiphany and the end of the liturgical season of Christmas. This first period of Ordinary Time runs until Ash Wednesday when the liturgical season of Lent begins. Both Lent and the Easter season fall outside of Ordinary Time, which resumes again on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday, the end of the Easter season. This second period of Ordinary Time runs until the First Sunday of Advent when the liturgical year begins again.

Why Is There No First Sunday in Ordinary Time? In most years, the Sunday after January 6 is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In countries such as the United States, however, where the celebration of Epiphany is transferred to Sunday if that Sunday is January 7 or 8, Epiphany is celebrated instead. As feasts of our Lord, both the Baptism of the Lord and Epiphany displace a Sunday in Ordinary Time. Thus, the first Sunday in the period of Ordinary Time is the Sunday that falls after the first week of Ordinary Time, which makes it the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Why Is There No Ordinary Time in the Traditional Calendar? Ordinary Time is a feature of the current (post-Vatican II) liturgical calendar. In the traditional Catholic calendar used before 1970 and still used in the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass, as well as in the calendars of the Eastern Catholic Churches, the Sundays of Ordinary Time are referred to as the Sundays After Epiphany and the Sundays After Pentecost.

How Many Sundays Are There in Ordinary Time? In any given year, there are either 33 or 34 Sundays in Ordinary Time. Because Easter is a moveable feast, and thus the Lent and Easter seasons "float" from year to year, the number of Sundays in each period of Ordinary Time vary from the other period as well as from year to year.

PARISH NOTICES

CANCELLATION OF INDUCTION MASS AND CELEBRATION, SATURDAY JANUARY 28th.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are not able to hold the Induction Mass and Celebration. **Therefore, our evening Mass on Saturday 28th will be at our usual time of 5.30pm .**

We will celebrate Mass for The Feast of our Patron Saint Francis de Sales, at the 10.15am Mass on Sunday 29th January, and will have refreshments in the school hall after Mass - all parishioners and visitors are warmly invited to come and join us.

URGENT: PARISH SAFEGUARDING VOLUNTEER

If you could assist Judith Stephens in the area of Parish Safeguarding and would like to discuss the role, please speak with Fr Alphonsus for guidance.

SERVICE TO MARK CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK.

Wednesday 18th January 2pm at St Peter and Paul, Ash, followed by Afternoon Tea. All are warmly invited to this annual service. Please contact Carol for more details carolwilton0@gmail.com.

CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES

Parishioners are asked to first check the **SACRAMENTS** section on the parish website for general information on the programmes. Please speak with Fr Alphonsus for any further advice. Sacramental programmes for school-aged children are lead by the parish. **Families wishing to enrol adults or children for Sacramental programmes must be registered parishioners, attending Mass.**

SACRAMENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - 2023 PROGRAMME

Applications are now closed for enrolment.

PLEASE NOTE The start date for preparation classes will **NOT** be on Friday 20th January; **parents will be advised in due time. Thankyou.**

BAPTISM FOR BABIES AND INFANTS

Parents of infants and those seeking Baptism, please attend a weekend Mass and speak with Fr. Alphonsus afterwards to register for the Baptism course. **If you have not yet registered your family on the parish database, you need to complete and submit a Parish Registration Form, thankyou.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – FOR CHILDREN IN YR TO Y2

Will take place at the 10.15am Mass Sunday 15th January 2023. Please bring your child into the meeting room before Mass starts.

CONFIRMATION IN 2023

Confirmation preparation classes take place on Tuesdays during term time in the church meeting room 6.30-8.00pm, unless otherwise notified.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Any adult who does not receive Communion, please do speak with Fr Alphonsus for guidance.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? If you have never been baptized, if you were baptized in another Christian denomination and would like to become Catholic, or if you were baptized Catholic, but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, you are welcome to join the RCIA programme, the process by which adults become Catholic. Likewise, if you are Catholic and interested in learning more about the Faith, you are welcome to join. **Lessons take place on Saturday mornings in the church meeting room.**

REGULAR NOTICES

PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome all new parishioners to St Francis de Sales, Hartley. We want you to feel at home in the parish. **The first thing to do is to register yourself/ your family on the Parish Registration Database.** Parish Registration Forms are available in the porch, or on the parish website to complete and return.

TO SUPPORT THE RUNNING COSTS OF THE PARISH PLEASE CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING

(i) Set up a Bank Standing Order (ii) Use Weekly Envelopes (iii) Cash or Cheque payable to RCAS Hartley (iv) use One-off Donation envelopes with Gift-Aid option (v) Use Contactless Machine in the porch. Make any Online donations to Nat West Account: RCAS Hartley. Acc no: 34143580 sort code: 60-06-33 If you are a taxpayer, please join the Gift Aid Scheme, as 25p in every £1 can be claimed back by the parish, at no extra cost to you. Thankyou.

ST FRANCIS DE SALES 200 CLUB

Membership for the 200 club is open. To become a member, you will find information and forms in the church porch or on the parish website. Thankyou

OUR LADY OF HARTLEY RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

For the latest information and school news, visit us at www.ourladyhartley.kent.sch.uk

DONATION BOX FOR GRAVESEND FOODBANK

Non perishable items can be left in the Food Bank Box in the Meeting Room or in the porch. Thankyou

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

'We are a small group of people who offer confidential support through phone calls, house visits, accompanying to local medical/dental appointments. We also offer confidential financial support to families. Contact via the parish office'.

VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

If you or someone in your family is housebound and would like a priest to visit, please do contact Father Alphonsus directly to arrange a time. Thankyou

MARRIAGE PAPERWORK PROCESS

You are required to give 6 MONTHS NOTICE of MARRIAGE – whether it is taking place HERE or ABROAD. Couples or individuals should speak to a Priest VERY EARLY IN THE PROCESS . Thank you.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

At St. George's Cathedral: Mass of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of Bishop Patrick Lynch Wednesday 18 January 2023 6:00 pm

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of Mgr Matthew Dickens in his role as Vicar General Saturday 28 January 2023 at 12:30 pm

Both Masses will be followed by a Reception in Amigo Hall.

CYMFED FLAME: AN INVITATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE ON SATURDAY 4th MARCH 2023

FLAME is the biggest Catholic youth event in the UK, with 10,000 taking part in 2019. The Archdiocese hopes to bring 500 young people to this special event in 2023, which is open to all those in Year 9 (14 years) through to university age. On Saturday 4th March, the CYMFED Flame Congress is returning to London after a significant break due to the pandemic.

The Southwark Diocesan Youth Service is thrilled to invite all young people to join them once again for an inspirational day of worship, top-rated speakers, fantastic music and the chance to join together in prayer.

To book your tickets (either as an individual or group) please use these links: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/store/p/flame2023>

TEXTS FOR SUNDAY MASS

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6 I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth

PSALM response *Here I am Lord! I come to do your will*

1 Corinthians 1: 1-3 May God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace

John 1: 29-34 Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world

FOR DAILY PRAYERS AND MASS READINGS ONLINE,
VISIT <https://www.universalis.com/>

PARISH GROUP MEETINGS

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We have a small, friendly group whose members can visit to chat or just to lend a listening ear. Contact Fr. Alphonsus and he will put you in touch with us.

YOUTH GROUP

Leaders' meetings take place in the meeting room. Contact: Laura Bourne through the parish office.

ADULT CHOIR

Thursdays at 7:30pm in the church. New members are welcome. Contact: Yvonne at yhegarty@talktalk.net

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

Contact us confidentially through the parish office.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

Third Wednesday each month at 7:00pm in the church meeting room. New members welcome.

Contact: William Rons williamrons@hotmail.com

CATHOLIC WELCOME CIRCLE (CWC)

Second Wednesday of the month in the church meeting room at 2:00pm unless stated otherwise.

NB. Our next meeting will be in February 2023.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. We now place before you all the sick and housebound of our parish. As they share in this Eucharist with us, we pray that they may come to know the depth of your love for them and, the joy, the peace, and healing of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION 8th JANUARY 2023

Envelopes: £42.50 Loose Plate: £83.50

Contactless: £60.00

White Flower Appeal 8th January: £71.50

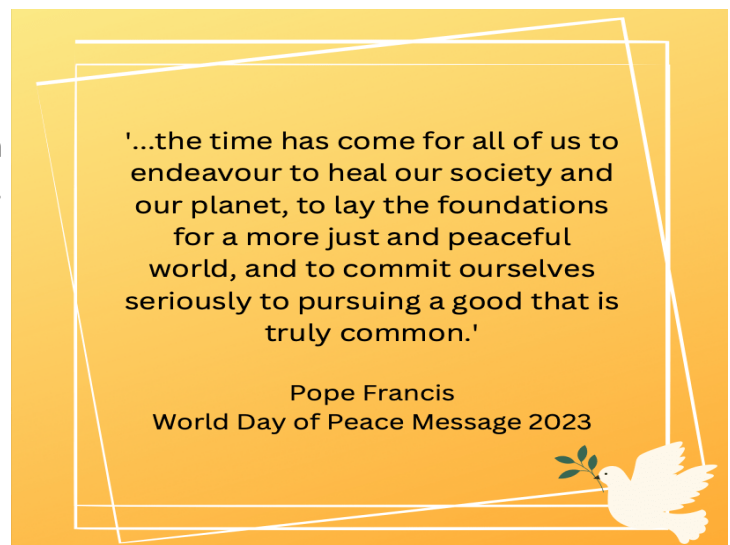
Thankyou all for your support to the parish

'Christmas Crib' Donations 2022: £57.50

2nd Collection this weekend 15th January:

Peace Sunday Collection for Pax Christi

Peace Sunday is promoted with the support of the International Affairs Department of the Catholic Bishops' Conference England and Wales. Please take a Peace Sunday Prayer Card today, and unite our prayer for peace with the Church.



You can also donate directly to Pax Christi, at <https://paxchristi.org.uk/about-us/support-us/donation/>

THATCH FUND

Our funding stands at **£35,985.50** of the **£45,000.00** Target to reach in 2023. Thankyou for your **£1 weekly donation.**

You may deposit your £1 in one of the Thatch Fund Boxes at the back of the church OR set up a £4 monthly/ £52 annual standing order at:

Nat West RCAS Hartley Acc 34363181 Sort Code 60-06-33. If you are a tax payer using the parish Gift Aid scheme, please note your GA number to your donation. Or go to our JustGiving page:

www.justgiving.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Hartley

Thankyou to each and every one for your continued commitment and support in raising these funds.

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the parish secretary: hartley@rcaos.org.uk. **Newsletter items received after 11:00am Thursday may not be included that week.**

Editor reserves the right to edit articles. A parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark.

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