



This parish is served by the Spiritans

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A Mass Book A Vol 1 page 136**

**THE RITE OF ELECTION**

On Saturday 25th February at 12.30 pm, the Archdiocese of Southwark will be holding the annual Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion in St George's Cathedral. The service will be celebrated by Archbishop Wilson and facilitated by the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis.

This service marks a decisive step in the faith journey of many people who will have been preparing for a number of months for the Sacraments of Initiation, that is Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

During the service, the Church 'elects' catechumens and candidates and recognises them as being ready to receive the Sacraments, which are outward signs of inward grace, at the next major celebration; most often at Easter.

Those wishing to join Rite of Election are welcome in person, but we ask that everyone is seated by 12.10 pm. The service will also be live-streamed for those who wish to attend on a remote basis: <https://bit.ly/RiteofElection23>

**Please pray for our six parishioners who will be elected this year, that they will be filled with grace this Easter as they venture forth on their spiritual path to a life in Christ.**

**RADIO MARIA, ENGLAND – A CHRISTIAN VOICE IN YOUR HOME**

Radio Maria, a Catholic radio station, has recently set up a new studio in London. The 24hr broadcast includes talk shows about life as a Catholic, daily catecheses, live prayer, a truly delightful and eclectic selection of music – and much more!

Available on DAB+ radio in Greater London (Radio Maria England), the Radio Maria Play app for smartphones and tablets, the live-player on [www.radiomariaengland.uk](http://www.radiomariaengland.uk) and the Amazon Alexa device. Podcasts are available through Anchor, Spotify, Google and other podcast providers. Get in touch on [info@radiomariaengland.uk](mailto:info@radiomariaengland.uk) or 0300 302 1251.

Whether you find encouragement praying with others on-air or tuning into a conversation between the faithful and interesting guests who can bring you new insights and help you feel less alone in your faith, Radio Maria is an invaluable Christian voice wherever you may be.

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN**

**Tues-Fri** 8.45am-4.00pm

**Sat** 10.00am-6.30pm

**Sun** 7.45am-12noon

**SUNDAY MASS**

**Sat 11th February**

**5.30pm**

Int

**Sun 12th February**

**8.30am**

Int. People of the Parish

**10.15am**

Int.

**WEEKDAY MASS**

**Tues 14th**

**9.30am**

**Ss Cyril and Methodius**

Int

**Wed 15th**

**9.30am**

Int

**Thurs 16th**

**9.30am**

Int

**Fri 17th**

**9.30am**

Int.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:hartleypcc@rcaos.org.uk)

**Safeguarding representative:** Judith Stephens

**Email:** [hartleysg2safeguard@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:hartleysg2safeguard@rcaos.org.uk)

## TEXTS FOR SUNDAY MASS

### **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Ecclesiasticus 15: 15-20** He never commanded anyone to be godless

**PSALM RES.** *They are happy who follow God's law.*

**1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-10** God predestined wisdom to be for our glory before the ages began.

**MATTHEW 5 17-37** You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; but I say this to you.

## TEXTS FOR NEXT SUNDAY MASS

### **SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18** You must love your neighbour, as yourself

**PSALM RES.** *The Lord is compassion and love*

**1 Corinthians 3: 16-23** All are your servants, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God

**MATTHEW 5: 38-48** Love your enemies

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

### **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.*

## PARISH NOTICES

### **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 porch area of the church or on the parish website. Please speak to Tina Shirley or Kate Whittaker for assistance.

### **STEWARDING AT WEEKEND MASS**

We are looking for volunteers to go on a rota to act as steward for the weekend Masses, especially the 10.15 Sunday Mass. You would need to arrive at least 20 minutes before the start of the Mass. All duties will be explained and you will work with another steward. Please speak with Fr Alphonsus if you would be interested in helping. Thankyou

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7.30-8.30pm**

There will be Stations of the Cross on the Friday evenings of Lent commencing Friday February 24th. The Stations will be led by various members of the Parish, and will start at 7.30pm

### **PRAYER BREAKFAST**

The next Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday 18th February starting at 9 o'clock in the Parish Meeting Room. For catering purposes please let Carol know if you will be joining us [carolwilton0@gmail.com](mailto:carolwilton0@gmail.com)

### **PARISH BARN DANCE CEILIDH ON SATURDAY 4th MARCH 2023, with live music from the Aqueducts**

This parish social will take place in New Ash Green Village Hall from 7.30pm-10.30pm. Bring your family and friends. **For tickets & further information please contact Kate 0785431948 or Anna 07703475720. Thankyou.**

### **THE HART MAGAZINE**

Father Alphonsus has written the main article in the February edition of The Hart. Copies of The Hart will be found in the Meeting Room. Please see Carol for further details.

### **'EASYFUNDRAISING' - DO YOU SHOP ONLINE?**

**Please use [easyfundraising](#) every time you shop online!** Over 7,000 brands will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying.

A huge Thankyou to those of you who are using Easyfundraising– we received a cheque for £135.13 this week, for donations raised up to Dec 31st 2022. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet.

**It's easy and FREE! You can get started by clicking:** [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oratoryofsaintfrancisdesalesutm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-en-n2](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oratoryofsaintfrancisdesalesutm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n2) **Or Visit [www.easyfundraising.co.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.co.uk) for more.**

## 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.**

## **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.

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY – FOR CHILDREN IN YR TO Y2**

The next Children's Liturgy will be on **Sunday 25th February**. Please bring your child into the Meeting Room before 10.15am Mass begins.

## **SACRAMENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - 2023 PROGRAMME**

Preparation Classes take place on Fridays during term time, 3.30-4.30pm in the church meeting room

## **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) 2023.**

Lessons take place on Saturday mornings in the church meeting room, unless otherwise notified.

## **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 introduce yourself to the parish priest and register yourself/your family on the Parish Registration Database.** Forms are available in the porch, or on the parish website to complete and return. Please consider how you can support the parish community with your time, talents and resources.

### **OUR LADY OF HARTLEY RC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

For the latest information and school news, visit us at [www.ourladyhartley.kent.sch.uk](http://www.ourladyhartley.kent.sch.uk)  
Birkin Cleaning Company have a job vacancy at Our Lady of hartley: 2 hours per day Mon-Fri 3.30-5.30pm. Please contact Melanie James at Birkin on 07702019443 or [melaniejames@birkingroup.co.uk](mailto:melaniejames@birkingroup.co.uk).

### **DONATION BOX FOR GRAVESEND FOODBANK**

Non perishable items can be left in one of the Food Bank Boxes, in the Meeting Room or in the porch.

### **'SEEKING SANCTUARY' - support for migrants**

Donations of warm clothing and toiletries, can be

placed into the blue box in the Meeting Room. Please visit <https://seekingsanctuary.weebly.com/>

## **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 wishing to be married should speak to Fr Alphonsus as early as possible to begin the process.

## **DIOCESAN NOTICES**

### **'SHARING THE CHURCH'S STORY'**

**On Saturday 11th February between 10am - 5pm at the QEII centre (London).** Catholic Voices, the Word on Fire Institute, and the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, will be hosting a one-day conference called 'Sharing the Church's Story'. The vision of the conference is to bring people together in person for an experience of profound personal renewal and to be equipped for mission. Bishop Robert Barron will be the keynote speaker. All are welcome. Find out more <https://www.sharingthechurchstory.com/>

### **ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK LENT RETREAT 2023 - 'RENEWED IN HOPE'**

Make some space to develop your relationship with God this Lent. Sign up for the Diocesan Lent Retreat "Renewed in Hope". Every week you will receive an email with links to a 20-minute video in which Archbishop John will introduce the theme and the reading, you will also receive materials to use in your own prayer and reflection. Just sign up here <http://eepurl.com/hVT7Dv> Set aside what space you can and join us in being Renewed in Hope

### **CYMFED FLAME: SATURDAY 4th MARCH 2023**

At the OVO Wembley Arena, an inspirational day of worship, top-rated speakers, fantastic music and the chance to join together in prayer, for Year 9 (14 years) through to university age. Visit The Catholic Youth Ministry Federation website [cymfed.org.uk](http://cymfed.org.uk).

**EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF BISHOP-ELECT PHILIP MOGER**  
By Archbishop John Wilson on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 12.30 pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark. All are welcome and the Cathedral asks that those wishing to attend should be seated by midday, in good time for the Ordination. For those unable to attend in person, it will be possible to join the service via live-stream: <https://youtu.be/6hqaJ3Qp80> All are welcome. Light refreshments will be available after the service. Please keep the Bishop-Elect in your prayers as he approaches this important new chapter in his ministry.

### **THE UNIVERSE Catholic Weekly Newspaper**

Call Michelle on 07436617650 to order your Digital 4 weeks FREE introductory offer or email her at [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

### **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. Please speak to Fr. Alphonsus and he will put you in touch with us. Meetings/visits are held in strict confidence.

#### **YOUTH GROUP**

Meetings take place in the meeting room. Contact: Laura Bourne through the office.

#### **ADULT CHOIR**

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

#### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)**

Contact us confidentially via 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](mailto:williamrons@hotmail.com)

#### **CATHOLIC WELCOME CIRCLE (CWC)**

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

Contact: Margaret Walsh.

#### **CATENIANS (Meopham Circle)**

First Wednesday each month at 7.30pm at Hartley Country Club. Contact: Les Bober, Membership Officer 07811407386/Steve Lewis, Secretary, 07305 360305.

### **OFFERTORY COLLECTION 5th FEBRUARY 2023**

**Envelopes: £85.00 £ Loose Plate: £50.40**

**Contactless Card: £72.00**

**2nd Collection 5th February CARJ: £72.60**

**Standing Orders for January 2023: £2,204.50**

*Thankyou all for your support to the parish*

**Our 2nd Collection this weekend: CAFOD**

**Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal**

**You may also donate directly at [cafod.org.uk](https://www.cafod.org.uk)**

### **THATCH FUND**

**Our funding stands at £36,456.59 of the £45,000.00 Target to reach in 2023.**

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](https://www.justgiving.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Hartley)

### **'PLANNED GIVING' and GIFT-AIDED DONATIONS**

**The parish relies on contributions to maintain the church building and presbytery, supporting the priest in his ministry which is the Church's Mission.**

**If you have not already, please consider setting up a Monthly Bank Standing Order.** This is most helpful to the parish for budgeting and planning projects for the future – it is non-binding and you may cancel at any time.

Other ways to contribute are: (i) Weekly Gift Aid Envelopes (ii) Use the Contactless Machine in the church (iii) Cash or Cheque payable to RCAS Hartley (iv) One-off Donation envelopes (v) Online transactions to Nat West Bank, Account: RCAS Hartley. Acc 34143580 sort code: 60-06-33

If you are a taxpayer, all donations, however you choose to make them, can be Gift-Aided at no cost to you by joining the Gift Aid Scheme– for every £1 you contribute, an extra 25p can be claimed back for the parish

**Bank Standing-Order and Parish Gift-Aid Scheme** information can be found on the parish website [www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk](https://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk) Hard copies are on the shelf in the porch. Thankyou

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the parish secretary: [hartley@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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.

CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050