



Oratory of St. Francis de Sales
Roman Catholic Parish
Archdiocese of Southwark

Parish Newsletter 27th August 2023

White Friars Church Road, Hartley, Kent DA3 8DW

Tel: 01474705361 Email hartley@rcaos.org.uk

Web: <http://saintfrancisdesales.org.uk>

StFrancisDeSalesHartley

sfdhartley **sfdhartley**

<https://tinyurl.com/vc7w838m>



This parish is served by the Spiritans

St. Francis de Sales Live Stream: www.churchservices.tvhartley

TWENTY- SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A Parish Mass Book page 122

RESTRUCTURING OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

This is just a reminder to let you all know that your Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is coming up to its third anniversary in October and as the maximum term for a PPC member is four years, we would like to begin the process of refreshing the PPC membership, without having to replace all members at the same time.

The role of the PPC is to advise and assist the Parish Priest.

We currently have existing members and particular roles.

The current roles have been condensed to meet the requirements for the parish, and will consist of the following:

- A. Parish Priest
- B. Chair
- C. Vice Chair
- D. Finance and Fundraising
- E. Safeguarding
- F. Health & Safety (including statutory maintenance)
- G. Building
- H. School Liaison
- I. Youth

The existing members will offer their resignation at the end of September and will be invited, along with all parishioners, to consider putting their names forward along with new volunteers for the above specific PPC roles.

Should you wish to apply, please email Father Alphonsus at alphonsusbeni@rcaos.org.uk with your name and any personal details you feel could assist Father Alphonsus.

The deadline for applications to be received is Sunday 10th September 2023.

From the names of the volunteers that Father Alphonsus receives, Father will choose a new PPC.

The new PPC will be announced at the Open-Air Mass on the 17th September 2023 and the new PPC will commence on the 1st October 2023.

We would encourage you all to consider these roles seriously as this is your parish and your Parish Pastoral Council. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Thanking you for your consideration in this matter.

THE CHURCH IS OPEN

Tue-Fri 8:45am-4:00pm

Sat 10:00am-6:30pm

Sun 7:45am-12noon

SUNDAY MASS

Sat 2nd September

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 3rd September

8:30am Int. Eileen

O'Sullivan R.I.P.

10:15am Int People of the Parish

WEEKDAY MASS

Tues 5th September

9:30am

Wed 6th September

9.30am

Thurs 7th September

9.30am Int. John and Sheila Tucker.

Friday 8th September

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast.

9.30am

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

TEXTS FOR THIS WEEK, TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY

Jeremiah 20: 7-9 The word of the Lord has meant insult for me.

Psalms: *For you my soul is thirsting O Lord, my God.*

Romans 12:1 Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice

Matthew 16: 21-27 If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.

Communion Antiphon *How great is the goodness Lord that you keep for those who fear you.*

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

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.

VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

If you or someone in your family is housebound and would like a priest to visit, please contact the parish office to arrange a visit.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass offered for yourself, someone else, or for any other intention, please take a brown Mass Offering envelope from the table in the porch, fill in the details and return it to the presbytery or to Fr Alphonsus directly. As Mass Intentions are made public, you must first seek permission from any living person before submitting the request. Thankyou for your support.

PARISH NOTICES

PATRICIA BROWN - REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of a beloved parishioner, Pat Brown, who died on 21st August 2023. Her Requiem Mass will take place here on Wednesday 13th September at 10.30am.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Eileen Farragher**, a former parishioner who died recently.

ST FRANCIS DE SALES 200 CLUB

Membership for the 200 Club is open to anyone over 16yrs. Necessary forms etc can be found in the church porch or on the parish website. **To all Current members**, please renew payment by 12th September to continue your membership.

August Draw Winners: 1st prize £50 no.109 Mary Cracknell. 2nd prize £25 no.17 William Rons.

'RIDE & STRIDE': SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2023

Sponsored walk to raise funds for the upkeep of local ancient churches. Please join us or sponsor a walker. For more, email carolwilton0@gmail.com

CATHOLIC WELCOME CIRCLE MEETING

The CWC September meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be on 11th October at 2pm.

PARISH OPEN-AIR MASS AND PICNIC

We will have our annual open-air Mass on **Sunday 17th September at 11.00am** on the back playground in Our Lady of Hartley School, Stack Lane - using the front entrance gate. Please note the date and time on your calendar. **It will be the only parish Mass celebrated that weekend** - there will not be a 5.30pm Mass on Saturday 16th nor 8.30am Mass on Sunday 17th. Offertory and 2nd Collections will be taken at the Mass, as usual.

After the Mass, weather permitting, we will serve refreshments on the school field and we invite everyone to bring along a picnic lunch so that we can all enjoy spending some time together as a community. **Volunteers will be needed to help set up the playground for Mass**, we have a sign-up sheet available and another to help us gauge numbers for the seating arrangements. We look forward to seeing you there and please invite your family and friends to join you.

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 then register on the Parish Database.** Forms are available in the porch, or on the parish website. Please consider how you can support the parish with your talents, skills and resources and submit a **'Sharing my Time & Talents'** leaflet, also found in the porch area.

PARISH DATABASE - ARE YOU REGISTERED?

All parishioners were asked in October 2020 to submit a Parish Registration form to update the parish database. **If you did not submit this at the time, please do so now, as a matter of importance** - you/your family may not show up in the parish records as being registered parishioners. This is important especially if you wish to enrol children for parish Sacramental programs. We are also required to submit updated parish statistics annually to the Diocese. Thanks for your support.

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

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

SVP - WORKING NATIONALLY WITH 'CASH4COINS'

'Working with Cash4Coins, a currency service for charities, the SVP can benefit from all foreign or obsolete currency received. Please drop your coins/notes in the Cash4Coins box in the meeting room.'

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We have a small, friendly group whose members can visit to chat or just to lend a listening ear. Speak to Fr. Alphonsus and he will put you in touch. All matters are held in strictest confidence.

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

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. All Sacramental programmes are lead by the parish. Families wishing to enrol adults or children on any Sacramental programme must be registered parishioners, attending Mass regularly.

BAPTISM FOR BABIES AND INFANTS

Parents of infants and those seeking Baptism, please attend weekend Mass and speak with Fr. Alphonsus afterwards to register for the Baptism Course.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – FOR CHILDREN IN YR TO Y2

Children's Liturgy will resume in September.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Parents of children starting school year 3 or above in September 2023, who are registered parishioners of this parish and attend Mass regularly, will be able to meet with Fr Alphonsus to discuss their child's enrolment onto the Sacramental program for 2024. Subsequent to the meeting, parents will be given an enrolment form to complete. **Appointments can be booked now via the parish office, up to the closing date of Tuesday 12th September 2023.**

Preparation classes will take place in term-time on Friday afternoons from 3.30-4.30pm in the church. A meeting with all parents will be scheduled in September, in advance of the program starting.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

Any young person starting school year 8 or above in September 2023 and attending Mass regularly, is invited, along with their parents, to meet with Fr Alphonsus to discuss enrolment onto the program. **Appointments can be made now through the parish office up to 12th September 2023.**

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 2024.

Journey in Faith: 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 have received the Sacraments of Initiation and would be interested in learning more about the Faith, you are also welcome to join the programme. *Enquiry forms are available in church or on the parish website. Please speak with Fr Alphonsus to discuss anything about RCIA.*

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Any adult who does not receive Communion please do speak with the parish priest for guidance.

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

KNOWING YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH MORE DEEPLY.

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) will begin in mid-September 2023 and **The Archbishop's Certificate 2023/25** will start 7th October 2023. The CCRS course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, and applicable. *Leaflets on both are available in the church porch.*

ANNUAL SERVICE OF REFLECTION AND PRAYER

In partnership with the Archdiocese of Southwark, 'LOUDfence & Survivors Voices warmly invite you to 'A Service of Acknowledgement, Reflection and Prayer for those that have been harmed by Abuse' **on Wednesday 27th September 2023 at 6.30pm in St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, with our Archbishop John Wilson presiding.** Please see the church notice board for further details. Thankyou.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS 27th August 2023

Envelopes: £30.50 Loose Plate: £30.00

Contactless: £11.00 Online banking: £442.50

2nd Collection: £81.00

Thatch Fund: £39.00

Thank you for your contributions to the parish.

**This week's 2nd Collection Sunday 3rd September:
Health and Safety Costs**

THATCH FUND

Funding raised £39,328.43 of Target £55,000.00

Thankyou for your continued support! Please keep depositing your £1 weekly donation in the Thatch Fund Box at the back of the church OR use the Contactless machine in the porch. You can also set up a £4 monthly/£52 annual, Bank Standing Order at: **Nat West Bank. Account name St Francis. Account number 34363181 Sort code 60-06-33.** If you are a UK tax payer, please submit a Gift Aid declaration form - **online** (follow directions below) or **hard copy** (on the shelf in the church porch) If you already use the parish Gift Aid scheme, *please* note your GA number against any donation. If you do not know your GA number, please contact the parish office for assistance.

You can also donate via our parish Justgiving page at 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 done so, please consider setting up a Monthly Bank Standing Order. This is most helpful to the parish for budgeting and planning future projects.

**Are you a UK Taxpayer?
Please consider joining the
Parish Gift-Aid Scheme.**

**Simply scan the QR code
with your phone and fill in
the form or visit the web
link.**

**Please contact the parish
office for any assistance.
Thankyou.**

SUPPORT OUR PARISH
**Sign up to
Gift Aid &
Planned Giving**



Scan QR code
or visit: forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/

Our parish is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO registered charity number 1173050

Other ways to support the parish financially are:

- (i) Weekly Gift Aid Envelopes (via Parish office)
- (ii) Through *Givealittle* on the parish website
- (iii) Using the Contactless Machine in the church
- (iv) Cash, or Cheque payable to **RCAS Hartley**
- (v) Using the One-off Donation white envelope
- (vi) Online transactions to Nat West Bank.

Account: St Francis. Acc: 34143580 S.C. 60-06-33

'EASYFUNDRAISING' - DO YOU SHOP ONLINE?

Please use **easyfundraising** when you shop online! Over 7,000 brands will give back small donations to registered charities, so you can raise funds for the parish no matter what you're buying. **It is easy & FREE to sign up.**

Please visit www.easyfundraising.co.uk

Thankyou for all your support!

PARISH GROUP MEETINGS

YOUTH GROUP

Leaders meet regularly to plan events for young parishioners. Contact: Laura Bourne through the parish office hartley@rcaos.org.uk

ADULT CHOIR

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

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

Third Wednesday each month at 7:00pm in the meeting Room. We welcome any new members.
Contact: William Rons williamrons@hotmail.com

CATHOLIC WELCOME CIRCLE (CWC)

Second Wednesday of the month in the Meeting Room 2:00pm. Contact: Margaret Walsh.
Apologies, our September meeting is cancelled.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Meets with the parish priest to arrange visits.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

Monthly meetings arranged by the SVP group.
Contact can be made through the parish office.

CATENIANS (Meopham Circle)

First Wednesday each month at 7.30pm at Hartley Country Club. Contact Les Bober on 07811 407386 or Steve Lewis, on 07305 360305 if you would like to learn more about us.

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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