



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

Parish Newsletter 22nd October 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

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A WORLD MISSION DAY Mass Book page 143

For World Mission Sunday in 2023, Pope Francis has chosen the theme: 'Hearts on fire, feet on the move' (cf. Luke 24:13-35). Reflecting on the disciples' encounter with Jesus on the journey to Emmaus in Luke's Gospel, the Holy Father writes that 'their encounter with Christ in the Word and in the breaking of bread sparked in them the enthusiastic desire to set out again towards Jerusalem and proclaim that the Lord had truly risen. Their hearts burned within them, their eyes were opened, and their feet set out on the way.'

Pope Francis reminds us that wherever we are in the world, 'the primary and principal resource of mission are those persons who have come to know the Risen Christ in the Scriptures and in the Eucharist, who carry his fire in their heart and his light in their gaze. They can bear witness to the life that never dies, even in the most difficult of situations and in the darkest of moments.'

Unlike the Pharisees in today's Gospel, we are called to open our hearts and minds to the living words of Jesus Christ. We are urged to return to the world all that belongs to the world: our deep-seated prejudices, false assumptions and irrational fears, our worship of society's current 'idols', along with unhealthy desires and cravings for all that is passing and ultimately meaningless; and to give to God our unconditional commitment to his will.

Today, we are called to reflect on our own call to mission and to embrace a missionary spirit every moment of every day. Your prayers and donations today will make a difference; every penny, pound, and prayer you contribute to World Mission Sunday helps missionaries continue their vital work.

Our 2nd Collection this weekend will go to support the work of Missio. Thankyou. Please visit Missio's website missio.org.uk for further information.

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING - GRAVESEND DEANERY MASS

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has announced a day of prayer and fasting for an end to the Israel-Hamas war, to be observed on Friday 27 October.

The Holy Father will preside over a vigil in St Peter's Square at 6pm (5pm UK). He is desirous that faithful around the world join with him in prayer at that hour "in a spirit of penance to implore peace in our time, peace in this world". **Please join parishioners and Clergy of the Gravesend Deanery for Mass of The Solemnity of Our Lady, Queen of Palestine and all the Holy Land, at St. John the Evangelist, Parrock St, Gravesend, DA121EN, at 5pm next Friday 27th.**

THE CHURCH IS OPEN:

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

Sat 10:00am-6:30pm

Sun 7:45am-12noon

SUNDAY MASS

Sat 21st October

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Int. Wellbeing of Jane Freeman

Sunday 22nd October

8:30am Int. People of the Parish

10.15am Mary Cecilia Rons R.I.P. Anniversary

WEEKDAY MASS

Tues 24th October

9:30am

Wed 25th October

9.30am

Thurs 26th October

9.30am

Friday 27th October

No Mass at 9.30am.

5.00pm: Gravesend

Deanery Mass at St.

John the Evangelist RC Church, Gravesend.

CONFESSIONS

Tues-Fri 8:40-9:20am

Saturday 4:30-5:20pm

or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: TUES, WEDS, 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: hartleysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

TEXTS FOR THIS WEEK TWENTY- NINTH SUNDAY

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.

Res Psalm: *Give the Lord glory and power.*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope.

Matthew 22: 15-21 Giveback to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.

Communion Antiphon: *Behold the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.*

FOR DAILY PRAYERS AND DAILY MASS READINGS

ONLINE, VISIT <https://www.universalis.com>

October is the Month of the Rosary. For some guidance on praying the Rosary, please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/praying-the-rosary>

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 Fr Alphonsus or the parish office to arrange a visit.

PARISH NOTICES

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED NEXT WEEK FROM MON 23rd - FRI 27th OCTOBER.

For any urgent matters, please can you contact Fr Alphonsus directly on his mobile or by email (both are on the front page of this newsletter) **Please note, there will not be a newsletter next weekend**

FR ALPHONSUS ON RETREAT AND VISITING PRIEST

Fr Alphonsus will be away from the parish from Saturday 28th October until Friday 3rd November. Fr Pascoal Gomes CSSp, will be staying in the parish to celebrate Masses while Fr Alphonsus is away. We wish Fr Alphonsus safe and pleasant travels and we welcome Fr Pascoal to Hartley and into our parish family next weekend.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Will take place on Wednesday 25th October. If there are any matters you would like discussed, email Chris Pieroni at hartleypcc@rcaos.org.uk

NOVEMBER IS THE 'MONTH OF HOLY SOULS'.

In November, the Church asks us to remember and pray for all the Faithful Departed.

If you would like a loved one to be remembered during this month, please take one of the NOVEMBER HOLY SOULS envelopes in the church porch and fill in the details. Return the envelope to the presbytery at White Friars, or bring it when you come to Mass, by the end of October please. All names will be listed in our Remembrance Book which is placed by the Altar during the month of November. Where an offering is made, Mass will be offered for the intention of those named. If you would like a specific date, please add this and we will try to accommodate your request. Thankyou.

THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS on Wednesday 1st November is a Holyday of Obligation to attend Mass, for all Catholics. Our Mass will be at 9.30am

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (All Souls' Day) on Wednesday 2nd November. Our Mass will be at 9.30am

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2023 MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED THE WEEKEND OF 12th NOVEMBER .

We are also invited to attend the Remembrance Day Service at Hartley War Memorial on Sunday 12th November at 3pm to pray as one community for those who gave their lives in service during the World Wars.

MASS FOR ALL DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 25th November at 12 noon, Mass will be offered for all our deceased parishioners and all those named in our Remembrance Book. We would like you to bring photos of your loved ones who have died and place them in front of the Altar as we continue to remember them and pray for them. Please do not place photographs of anyone not related to you in front of the altar without first seeking consent from their immediate family or relative. Thankyou for your consideration.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

"PROMOTING RACIAL AND CULTURAL INCLUSION IN OUR PARISHES, SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES"

A day Seminar will be held at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, 9.30am to 4.00pm, on Saturday 28 October 2023. **Registration is free** Scan the QR code from the poster on the church noticeboard. For further information, please contact: racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk

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.** Registration 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?

If you did not submit a Parish Database Form in 2020, at please do so now - you/your family may not otherwise show up in the parish records as being parishioners. This is important especially if you wish to enrol for Sacramental programs.

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 Fr Alphonsus directly. As Mass Intentions are made public, please seek consent from any living person before submitting the request. Thankyou.

ST FRANCIS DE SALES 200 CLUB

Membership for the 200 Club is open to anyone over 16yrs. All necessary information and forms etc can be found in the church porch or on the parish website. Speak to Tina or Kate for more. Thankyou.

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.'

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

'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/>

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.

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-Y2

On Sunday at the 10.15am Mass. Please bring your child into the Meeting Room before the start of Mass. In compliance with Safeguarding Guidelines, parents are not allowed to remain in the meeting during this time, nor is the meeting room free for any other use. Thankyou for your co-operation.

SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION and EUCHARIST - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024.

Please note, our Preparation Classes will resume after the term break on Friday 5th November. Please ensure the children bring their Unit 2 work with them to class. Thankyou

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

Any young person starting school year 8 or above in September 2023 and attending Mass regularly, is invited, to meet with Fr Alphonsus to discuss enrolment onto the program.

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 program, 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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS 15th October 2023

Envelopes: £ 47.50 Loose Plate: £42.53

Contactless: £35.00 Online banking: £358.50

2nd Collection: £41.72

Thatch Fund: £52.70

Thank you for your contributions to the parish.

Please check that your GA Envelope number & the correct date are written clearly on your envelope. Thankyou

**This week's 2nd Collection Sunday 22nd October:
Missio- World Mission Sunday Collection**

THATCH FUND

Funding raised £39,763.11 of our 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 transaction to Nat West Bank Account
St Francis de Sales 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. All young parishioners are welcome members. 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.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Please contact the parish priest to arrange a visit.

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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