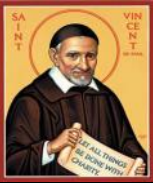




Oratory of St. Francis de Sales  
Roman Catholic Parish  
Archdiocese of Southwark

Parish Newsletter 12th January 2025  
White Friars Church Road, Hartley, Kent DA3 8DW  
Tel: 01474705361 Email hartley@rcaos.org.uk  
Web: <http://saintfrancisdesales.org.uk>



This parish is served by the Vincentians

[f](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisDeSalesHartley) StFrancisDeSalesHartley  
[i](https://www.instagram.com/sfdhartley) sfdhartley [y](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv7w838m) sfdhartley

<https://tinyurl.com/vc7w838m>

St. Francis de Sales Live Stream: [www.churchservices.tvhartley](http://www.churchservices.tvhartley)

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (YEAR C)** New Parish Mass Book Vol 1 page 118

	MASS INTENTIONS	THE CHURCH IS OPEN
SAT 11th January VIGIL 5:30pm	Int. Tony Creasy R.I.P.	Tuesday - Friday 8:45am-3:00pm Saturday 10:00am-6:30pm Sunday 7:45am-12noon
SUN 12th January 8:30am	Int. Ann & Kenneth, Thanksgiving	WEEKDAY MASSES Tuesday - Friday 8:45am: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer. 9:30am: Mass
SUN 10:15am	Int. People of the Parish End of the Season of Christmas	First Fridays of month Eucharistic Adoration 10:30pm – 3:00pm 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Prayer & Benediction
MON 13th January	FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME Private Mass	WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30pm
TUES 14th January 9:30am	Feria Int: Holy Souls	Sunday 8:30am and 10.15am
WED 15th January 9:30am	Feria Int: Anonymous Intention.	CONFESSIONS Tues-Fri 8:50-9:20am Sat 4:30pm-5:20pm or by appointment
THUR 16th January 9:30am	Feria Int.	
FRI 17th January 9:30am	Saint Anthony, Abbot Int: Sick and Housebound parishioners	
<p><b>MASS INTENTIONS:</b> To have prayers and Mass offered for your intention please use a Mass Intention envelope from the porch and return it to Fr Clement. An offering donation can be placed in the envelope, or given by using the 'Mass Intention' option on the Contactless machine or by BACS payment to Nat West Parish Account St Francis de Sales 34143580 Sort 60-06-33, reference 'Mass Intention'. As our Mass is livestreamed, please make it known if you wish your intention to be private or seek please consent from living persons before submitting an intention for them. Thank you.</p>		

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY 10.00am - 2.00pm**

Parish Priest: Fr Clement Eru CM  
Email: [clementeru@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:clementeru@rcaos.org.uk) (Day off: Mon)

Parish Secretary: Jane Pemberton  
Parish Council Chair: Chris Pieroni

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PRIEST  
DIRECTLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

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

Tel: 07872572994

Safeguarding representative: Judith Stephens

Email: [hartleysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:hartleysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

For Daily Prayers and Mass Readings online, visit <https://www.universalis.com>

### **VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND**

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

#### **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, peace, and healing of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*

### **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 Fr Clement and register on the Parish Database. Forms are available in the porch/on the parish website.

### **CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES**

Parishioners are asked to first check the SACRAMENTS section on the parish website for general information, then speak with Fr Clement for any further advice. Those wishing to enrol for Sacramental programs should be registered parishioners.

### **BAPTISM FOR BABIES AND INFANTS**

Parents of infants and those seeking Baptism, please attend Sunday Mass and ask Fr Clement for a Baptism Application form and Mass Attendance form. Thank you.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY: 12th JANUARY 2025**

For children aged 4-7years on Sunday during 10.15am Mass. Please bring your child into the Mass for blessing before going with leaders to the Meeting Room.

### **HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION CLASS**

Monday 13th January 2025 at 3:30pm.

### **REQUIESCAT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our beloved parishioner Tony Creasy who died on 1st January 2025. Wynne would like to pass on the family's gratitude for all the messages of condolence they have received.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of beloved parishioner Alan James Weller, who died on 6th January 2025.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.*

### **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES**

The next lesson will be on Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 7:00pm in the church.

### **PARISH YOUTH GROUP – PLEASE REGISTER**

Forms are in the church porch or on the website <http://saintfrancisdesales.org.uk>

### **TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

Help is needed to take down the Christmas decorations **on Monday 13th January from 10:00am**. If you can volunteer some time that morning please let Tina Shirley know.

### **PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2024**

Congratulations to all the lucky winners of the Raffle. The lucky numbers were as follows: 508, 926,496, 709, 938, 894 and 22. Hope you all enjoyed your prizes. Many thanks to all those who took part.

### **ST FRANCIS DE SALES 200 CLUB**

December Draw: 1st Prize no.12 T Gordon £160, 2nd Prize no.18 S McMonagle £100 3rd Prize no.20 T Johnston £80. 200 Club information is in the church porch or on the parish website. Contact Tina 07789862902 Email [stfrancisdesales200club@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisdesales200club@gmail.com)

### **NEW MASS BOOKS: REMAINING COSTS**

The remaining Parish Mass Books needed for our use during Mass, at a cost of £5.00 each, are 120 books for Year B Vol2. Total cost: £600. Donations can be made in the usual way by Cash, Cheque, Cashless, Direct Debit to the parish account St Francis de Sales Account 34143580 Sort Code 60-06-33

## **ST. FRANCIS DE SALES FEAST DAY/THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL/THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION DAY OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION.**

*A brief history of the Congregation from its Constitutions and Statutes.*

St. Vincent de Paul was born in the village of Pouy in 1581. As a boy he lived among the poor and experienced the conditions under which they lived. In 1600 he became a priest. For a time, he sought to escape from the poverty of his origins, but with the help of spiritual directors he felt himself called to deeper holiness and, through the events of his life, was finally led by divine providence to a firm determination to dedicate himself to the salvation of the poor. While he was exercising his ministry in Gannes and, on the 25th of January 1617, in Folleville, he saw that the evangelization of the poor was an urgent need. He himself held that this was the origin of his vocation, and of the Congregation of the Mission.

In 1617 Madame de Gondi asked Monsieur Vincent to preach in her properties on general confession. The Feast of The Conversion of Saint Paul, January 25<sup>th</sup>, was the opportunity to preach such a sermon in the village of Folleville in northern France. The response was incredible. In the next days, Vincent de Paul and his associates preached in nearby churches and crowds of peasant parishioners lined up for confessions. They even asked Jesus from Amiens to come and help them.

This first mission sermon, as he called it, St. Vincent regarded as the beginning of the Company of the Priests of the Mission. However, there was no formal institution founded until April 17, 1625, when the legal contract was signed to found the Congregation of the Mission.

These two dates, 1617 and 1625, are the principal milestones in the history of the Little Company, as St. Vincent used to call it. In 2025 we will celebrate the 400year anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Mission. Preparations began last year. This year, we are moving to another step of the pre-celebration of the Jubilee, in which the theme is: "Put on the Spirit of Jesus Christ" AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE.

### **What is the relationship between St. Francis de Sales and Vincent de Paul?**

In 1618 or 1619, Vincent de Paul met Francis de Sales in Paris. Vincent was profoundly influenced by Francis' writings especially An Introduction to the Devout Life, and Treatise on the Love of God, the spirituality of Francis de Sales. Vincent de Paul had him as his confessor.

### **What is 25th January to the Vincentians?**

25<sup>th</sup> of January is the feast of the conversion of St. Paul. It is also the foundation day of the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians)

Providentially, the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians) arrived and are serving the parish of St. Francis de Sales, making it the double celebration of the parish feast day and foundation day.

*I invite every parishioner to join in this celebration as we mark it as 'Pilgrims of hope'*

**To Celebrate our Parish Feast day and Foundation day, we will have one parish Mass on the weekend of Sunday 26th January at 10:00am. After the Mass, everyone is invited to gather as one community for brunch in Our Lady of Hartley school hall.**

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

### 5th January 2025

Envelopes £35.50 Loose cash £106.20  
Contactless £119.00 2nd Collection £106.21

**Christmas Offering 2024: £2,299.14**

### 29th December 2024

Envelopes £55.00 Loose cash £94.42  
Contactless £70.50 2nd Collection £88.95

### 22nd December 2024

Envelopes £40.00 Loose cash £55.40  
Contactless £86.55 2nd Collection £115.63

**Bank Standing Orders in Dec 2024: £2,271.00**

*Thank you, your support is much appreciated.*

### 2nd Collection this weekend: Parish Needs

Kindly check that your GA number, the date, and whether 1st or name of 2nd Collection, are noted correctly on envelopes, thank you.

## THATCH FUND

**AMOUNT RAISED as of 31st December 2024:**

**£45, 208.37**

**TARGET AMOUNT £55,000.00 MINIMUM**

Your committed support is greatly appreciated to help meet our Thatch Fund target.

**Donations/£1 per week commitment can be:**

- Given in cash via the church Thatch Fund Box
- Given via Contactless machine in the church
- Given by Cheque to 'St Francis de Sales'
- Placed in white envelopes available in church
- Given by a £4 monthly/£52 annual Bank Standing Order OR any other amount by BACS donation at: **Nat West Bank Account name St Francis. Account no. 34363181 SC 60-06-33.**
- Online, on our parish *Justgiving* page: [www.justgiving.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Hartley](http://www.justgiving.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Hartley)

## GIFT AID ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE.

For Tax Year 6th April 2024 - 5th April 2025 for all donors of 1st/2nd/Special Collections who are registered on the Parish Gift Aid Scheme. Please ask after weekend Mass for your envelopes or contact the parish office.

**One-Off donations** can also be made using the white envelopes in the porch thankyou. Please add your details to Gift Aid the donation.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT THE PARISH FINANCIALLY

**(i) Bank Monthly Standing Order to Nat West Bank Account.**

Account name: St Francis de Sales  
Account no: 34143580 Sort Code 60-06-33.

**(ii) Weekly Gift Aid Envelopes** (please contact the parish office to sign up)

**(iii) Via Givealittle** on the parish website

**(iv) Use the Contactless Machine** in the porch or *handsfree* at collection

**(v) Cheque payable to RCAS Hartley**

**(vi) Use the One-off Donation envelopes**

## DO YOU SHOP ONLINE?

Please use *easyfundraising* when you shop online! Over 7,000 brands will give small donations to registered charities, so you can raise funds for the parish, whatever you're buying. **Sign up is FREE!**

Support our parish

**Sign up to Gift-Aid & Planned Giving**



**Scan the QR code or visit:**  
[forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/](http://forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/)

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