



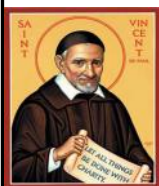
Oratory of St. Francis de Sales
Roman Catholic Parish
Archdiocese of Southwark

Parish Newsletter 14th December 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

[sfdhartley](https://www.instagram.com/sfdhartley) [sfdhartley](https://www.tiktok.com/@sfdhartley)

<https://tinyurl.com/vc7w838m>

St. Francis de Sales Live Stream: www.churchservices.tv/hartley

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Gaudete Sunday (YEAR A) New Mass Book page 88

	MASS INTENTIONS	THE CHURCH IS OPEN
SAT 13th December VIGIL MASS 5:30pm	Int. Patrick Begley R.I.P.	Tuesday-Friday 8:30am-3:00pm Saturday 10:00am-6:30pm Sunday 7:45am-12noon
SUN 14th December 8:30am	Int. Maureen Smith R.I.P. Int. Isaac, for an increase in Actual Grace	WEEKDAY MASSES Tuesday - Friday 8:45am: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer. 9:30am: Mass
SUN 14th December 10:15am 3:00pm	Int. Natalya, celebrated 9th Birthday on 12th December Carol Service	First Friday Adoration is suspended due to the ongoing works. Eucharistic Adoration Divine Mercy Prayer & Benediction
MON 15th December	Private Mass	WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30pm Sunday 8:30am and 10.15am
TUES 16th December 9:30am 1:30pm	Feria Int. Laura Amor R.I.P. Funeral Mass for Patricia Kathleen Hills	CONFESSIONS Tues-Fri 8:50-9:20am Sat 4:30pm-5:15pm or by appointment
WED 17th December 9:30a	Feria Int. Colin Mackenzie and Colin Mileham R.I.P.	
THUR 18th December 9:30am	Feria Int. John Bunney R.I.P.	
FRI 19th December 9:30am	Feria Int. Our Sick and Housebound parishioners	
Sat 20th December From 12 noon	PARISH ADVENT RETREAT Talk, Prayer, Reflection, Penitential Service/Confession	
MASS INTENTIONS/BLESSINGS: Please use a Mass Intention envelope from the porch, fill in your details and return it to Fr Clement. An offering donation may be placed in the envelope, or use the Contactless machine or BACS to Nat West Bank St Francis de Sales 34143580 Sort 60-06-33, reference 'Mass Intention'. Please state if your intention is private, and kindly seek consent from other living persons before submitting an intention for them, thank you.		

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

Parish Priest: Fr Clement Eru CM

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

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PRIEST

DIRECTLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Tel: 07872572994

Parish Secretary: Jane Pemberton

Parish Council Chair: Chris Pieroni

Email: hartleypcc@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding representative: contact below

Email: hartleydbs@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. Please fill in a Parishioner Registration Form, available in the porch or on the parish website.

BAPTISM FOR BABIES AND INFANTS

Parents seeking Baptism for infants and young children, please first attend Mass and speak to Fr Clement. Parents must complete a Preparation Course of 2 sessions before Baptism can take place. **The next course will run on Saturdays 17th & 31st January 2026 from 2-4pm in the church meeting room.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: CHILDREN IN YrR-Yr3 **Sunday 21st December at 10:15am Mass.**

For Safeguarding purposes, the Meeting Room is not available for other use during this session, but will be free when the children return at the Offertory, our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you have never been baptized or baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to become Catholic or baptized Catholic but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, you are welcome to join the RCIA program, the process by which

people become Catholic. Please speak to Fr Clement as soon as possible for guidance.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROCESS

Couples are required to give 6 months notice of Marriage, whether it is taking place here or abroad. Couples wishing to marry should contact Fr. Clement as early as possible to start the process. Thank you.

ST FRANCIS DE SALES 200 CLUB

The December Draw will take place on Sunday 21st December after 8:30am Mass.

With 3 prizes, the largest being £160.00

You can become a member or take extra numbers in time for the Christmas Draw. Membership is open to anyone over 16 years old. For more, Contact Tina Shirley on 07789862902 or email Tina or Kate at stfrancisdesales200club@gmail.com

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

This Raffle will take place after 10.15am Mass on Sunday 21st December 2025.

Tickets are on sale now for prizes of Fantastic Hampers to suit all ages, £1 each or £5 a strip. Please pay by cash or use the Contactless Machine. All funds raised go to support our parish. If you wish to take part but are unable to buy tickets in person, please contact us and Tickets will be arranged. Please give generously. Good Luck

ADVENT FAMILY PACK from Celebrate Trust

Filled with engaging Advent activities to help families prepare for the Feast of the Nativity. Download from [Advent Family Pack](#) A donation is appreciated against costs.

TOGETHER IS BETTER COFFEE MORNING

The last coffee morning for this year will be on **Wednesday 17th December at 10 a.m.** On that day, we would like to offer a small hot breakfast instead of cake to welcome in the Christmas spirit and say thank you to all who attend. We look forward to seeing you.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO THE PARISH PRIEST.

Christmas Offering envelopes are available now in the porch for your personal gift offering. You may also use the Cashless machine or online banking to: Nat West Bank: St Francis de Sales, Account no. 34143580 SC 60-06-33. Please use the reference 'Christmas Offering' Thank you for your kindness and support.

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN 26th DECEMBER-ALTAR SERVERS PARISH MASS AT 10:00am

WINTERTIME 2026 – ALTAR SERVERS BREAK
Friday 2nd January-Sunday 4th January at Westminster Youth Ministry Retreat Centre. Please speak to Fr Clement if your child would be interested in attending. Thank you.

SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2026 AT 10:30am ST. FRANCIS DE SALES FEAST DAY MASS WITH BISHOP PAUL HENDRICKS CELEBRANT, FOLLOWED BY A PARISH CELEBRATION LUNCH.

On the weekend of 24/25th January, we will have our 5:30pm Mass on Saturday, then **ONE Parish Mass at 10:30am on Sunday 25th** when Bishop Paul will bless our new thatched roof.

If you should attend the Saturday Mass, please do come with your family to join us on Sunday for lunch. Everyone is welcome.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP NEW SESSION!

For children in School Year 4 - Year 6.

We're delighted to announce that our Parish Youth Group is resuming and dates will be announced soon for our meetings. We look forward to sharing this time of faith and friendship. **Registration forms for parents to sign** are available in the church porch or on the website <http://saintfrancisdesales.org.uk>

VINCENTIAN MARIAN YOUTH GROUP

For teenagers in School Year 7 - Year 13.

Faith • Friendship • Service

Registration forms for parents to sign are available in the church porch or on the parish website <http://saintfrancisdesales.org.uk>

This group is open to teenagers who want to

- ◇ Make new friends
- ◇ Deepen their relationship with God
- ◇ Be inspired by the values of St. Vincent de Paul and strengthen your devotion to Our Lady through joy, prayer, and service
- ◇ Be part of something new — faith, fun, and friendship all in one place!

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP for those aged 18-35

Please pick up a registration form in the church porch and return it to Fr Clement or the parish office. Meeting dates to be confirmed soon. Thank you to those who have signed up, we will be in touch soon.



DATES	MASS/SERVICE	TIMES
Sunday 14th December	Parish Carol Service	3:00pm
Wed 17th December	'Together is better' Coffee and Cake morning	10am-12
Thursday 18th December	Our Lady of Hartley School attending	9:30am
Saturday 20th December with Fr Charles Soyombo	Parish Advent Retreat: Talk, Prayer, Reflection Break for refreshments Penitential Service/Sacrament of Reconciliation Sacrament of Reconciliation	From 12 noon 1-1:15pm 1:15-2:15pm 4:30-5:15pm
Christmas and New Year Masses and Services.	Please see the sheet given with last weekend's newsletter, also on the church noticeboard.	

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

7th December 2025

Envelopes: £40.50

Loose cash: £78.20

Contactless: £160.33

2nd Collection: £127.75

November Standing Orders: £1,970.00

Thank you for your support.

2nd Collection this weekend:

Parish Needs

THATCH FUND

Donations received 7th December: £7.00

Thank you for all donations received to date which have enabled us to carry out the work to rethatch the roof.

Our ongoing weekly/monthly/annual commitment to the Thatch Fund is vital for the interim maintenance work which will happen midway to the next complete rethatching, in 15 years or so. Thank you

Donations can be made by:

- Cash via the church Thatch Fund Box
- Card/Contactless machine in the church
- Cheque to 'St Francis de Sales'
- Using white envelopes, available in church
- Weekly/Monthly Bank Standing Order or BACS donation at: **Nat West Bank.**

Account name: Roman Catholic Diocese of Southwark Diocesan Trust OR St Francis.

Account: 34363181 Sort Code 60-06-33.

- On our parish ***Justgiving*** page:
- **www.justgiving.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Hartley**

NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES -please collect.

All parishioners who are registered on the Parish Gift Aid Scheme have a box of envelopes waiting to be collected from the porch. For any Tax-payers who are not yet on the parish scheme, forms are in the porch or scan the QR code below to join.

SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY:

(i) Bank Monthly Standing Order to Nat

West Bank Account: 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 help us raise funds FREE by using *easyfundraising* when you shop online!

Over 7,000 brands will give small donations to registered charities, so you can raise funds for the parish, at no extra cost, whatever you're buying.

Sign up is FREE and easy! Please visit www.easyfundraising.co.uk Thank you!

Support our parish

Sign up to Gift-Aid & Planned Giving



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

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. CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050