



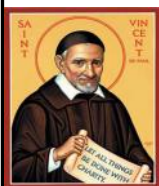
Oratory of St. Francis de Sales  
Roman Catholic Parish  
Archdiocese of Southwark

Parish Newsletter 21st December 2025

White Friars Church Road, Hartley, Kent DA3 8DW

Tel: 01474705361 Email [hartley@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:hartley@rcaos.org.uk)

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



This parish is served by the Vincentians

[f StFrancisDeSalesHartley](https://www.facebook.com/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.tvhartley](http://www.churchservices.tvhartley)

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A) New Mass Book page 91

	MASS INTENTIONS	THE CHURCH IS OPEN
SAT 20th December VIGIL MASS 5:30pm	<b>12 NOON ADVENT RETREAT &amp; PENITENTIAL SERVICE</b> Int. Deceased members of the McGirr family	Tuesday -Friday 8:30am-3:00pm Saturday 10:00am-6:30pm Sunday 7:45am-12noon
SUN 21st December 8:30am	Int. Ricardo Gray R.I.P.	<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b> Tuesday - Friday 8:45am: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer. 9:30am: Mass Please note changes to Mass times and Opening times during the Christmas Season.
SUN 21st December 10:15am	Int. Barbara Moran, Cornelius & Catherine Moran R.I.P.	First Friday Adoration is suspended due to the ongoing works.
MON 22nd December	Private Mass	<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b> Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30pm Sunday 8:30am and 10.15am
TUES 23rd December 9:30am	Feria Int. Deceased Collison & Kwasniewski family members.	<b>CONFESSIONS</b> Tues-Fri 8:50-9:20am Sat 4:30pm-5:15pm or by appointment
WED 24th December 9:30am 4:00pm 4:30pm Mass 7:00pm 7:30pm Mass 11:30pm 12 Midnight Mass	Christmas Eve Morning Prayer of the Church— NO MORNING MASS CHILDREN'S VIGIL MASS OF THE NATIVITY Carols Int. George Fox 3rd Birthday Int. People of the Parish. SECOND VIGIL MASS OF THE NATIVITY Carols Int. All our Sick and Housebound parishioners MASS DURING THE NIGHT—MIDNIGHT MASS Carols Int. For Peace, in our families and throughout the world	
THUR 25th December 10:00am	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – CHRISTMAS DAY Int. Celebrant's Intention	
FRI 26th December 10:00am	ST. STEPHEN, DEACON, THE FIRST MARTYR, FEAST Int. Altar Servers and their families Int. Ava Chaney-Russell 9th Birthday Int. Anne Inman Birthday Int. Fr. Clement Birthday	

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)

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

Safeguarding representative: contact below

Email: [hartleydbs@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto: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.

### **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, Account name: St Francis de Sales, Account no. 34143580 SC 60-06-33. Please use the reference 'Christmas Offering' Thank you for your kindness and support.

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

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

**With 3 prizes £160.00, £120 and £80**

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

### **ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

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

Tickets will be on sale up until the time of the Draw. Prizes of Fantastic Hampers to suit all ages, tickets are £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 before Sunday, please contact us and Tickets will be arranged. Please give generously. Good Luck!

## ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON'S 2025 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

In his annual Christmas message, Archbishop John Wilson said: "The beautiful truth of Christmas is that because of God in Christ we are never lost. God chose to be near us, to stay close to us always, to draw us to himself, always. In his endless mercy, the Lord Jesus chose to love us, so we could know and believe that "God is love" (1 John 4:16). In turn, all the Lord Jesus asks of us is to not be afraid and to say yes to him, to draw close to him, to love him". To watch and read the full message, scan the QR Code or click [rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage2025](http://rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage2025)



**FRIDAY 26th DECEMBER: MASS AT 10:00am**  
**Feast of St Stephen, Deacon, the first Martyr**  
**Mass for Parish Altar Servers and their family**  
 Fr Clement will also celebrate his birthday on 26th December, and everyone is warmly invited to join the celebrations afterwards.

**SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2026 AT 10:30am**  
**St. Francis de Sales Feast Day Mass with**  
**Bishop Paul Hendricks celebrating, 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 will be attending Mass on the Saturday

evening, please do come with your family to join us on Sunday for lunch. Everyone is welcome.

### PARISH YOUTH GROUP

**For children in School Year 4 - Year 6.**

We look forward to restarting sessions soon and sharing this time of faith friendship and community with our young parishioners.

**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
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 attached to the newsletter. and also on the church noticeboard.	
Wed 31st December	Prayer & Reflection with Mass at 12 midnight	11:00pm
Tuesday 6th January	Feast of the Epiphany, A Holy Day of Obligation	9:30am



## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

7th December 2025

Envelopes: £39.50

Loose cash: £108.64

Contactless: £92.00

2nd Collection: £137.79

Carol Service SVP Collection: £231.95

*Thank you for your support.*

2nd Collection this weekend:

Parish Needs

**THATCH FUND**

**Donations received 14th December: £5.80**

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](http://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](http://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/](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