




**PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
*Creaving Together in Love*



**The Spiritans**  
British Province  
Congregation of the Holy Spirit

*One Heart  
One Spirit*

St Paul's Presbytery 103 Maison Dieu Road, Dover CT16 1RU  
 St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham CT3 3EZ  
 Parish Priest: Fr Leo Illah CSSp 01304 206766, [leoillah@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:leoillah@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Asst: Fr Godwin Alkali CSSp 01304 206766 [godwinalkali@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:godwinalkali@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Asst: Fr Jamie Houghton 07955 242324 [jameshoughton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:jameshoughton@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Deacon Barry Barton: 07715 546938 [barrybarton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:barrybarton@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Parish Secretary: 07936 573155 [dover@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dover@rcaos.org.uk)  
 St Finbarr's: [aylesham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:aylesham@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Dover SVP Conference: 07596 544109  
 Parish website: [www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk](http://www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk)  
 Parish Giving: [www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/](http://www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/)  
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: [www.churchservices.tv/dover](http://www.churchservices.tv/dover)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsavle7499/streams>



## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 16th February 2025.

Year C – Missal Pg. 859 Order of the Mass-Missal Pg. 470

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DEAR FR. GODWIN- FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>.

### SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

*To support the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice  
in our schools, parishes and in wider society.*

**PRIEST CORNER:** This weekend, we want to celebrate and thank God for the life and ministry of Fr. Godwin among us. It has been a great blessing to have Fr. Godwin and as he celebrates his birthday, we assure him of our love and prayers. Wishing him many more amazing years. Happy Birthday! Fr. Leo

### THE BEATITUDES OF JESUS; THE NEW WAY.

If the poor, the hungry, the sorrowful, and the hated are all blessed, then why should anyone attempt to help them improve their lot? The answer is that there is a difference between choosing poverty and being plunged



into it without one's choice. Poverty chosen for the sake of the Kingdom of God is different from poverty caused or inflicted on others due to greed. We must also learn to know the meaning of what it means to be poor in the Spirit as instructed by Jesus.

On this Sunday, we are invited to respond to the challenges of the Beatitudes in our daily lives. Millions are starving, persecuted, homeless, and hopeless and the only way the promises of the Beatitudes can become a reality for them is through the efforts of people like you and me. That is why we are told that we will be judged on the basis of our acts of mercy and charity (Mt 25:31-46). St. Teresa of Calcutta, and her

Missionaries of Charity have accepted this challenge and demonstrate that we can "live the Beatitudes" in the modern world. Hence, let us remember that each time we reach out to help the needy, the sick, and the oppressed, we share with them a foretaste of the promises of the Beatitudes here and now. Just as the apostles were called to minister to society's 'untouchables', all Christians are called to minister to the 'untouchables', the discriminated against, and the marginalized in our own modern society.

### NEXT WEEKEND CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION



The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have one for parishes. You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF) or scan QR code. You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri 020 7960 2504 or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today at the back of Church. Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



**MINISTRY OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY:** Do you feel called to proclaim the word of God as a Reader (Lector) at Mass in any of our Churches? We have scheduled a training session for all new Lectors and a refresh training for existing readers. We shall have some videos to guide us; refreshment will also be served.

**ST FINBARR'S: 22nd February; 11am - 12:30pm.**

**Esiri: [pgsesiri@gmail.com](mailto:pgsesiri@gmail.com); Jeremy: [jeremycrowe@btinternet.com](mailto:jeremycrowe@btinternet.com); Please come.**

**HEALING AND ANNOINTING SERVICE LAST WEEK:** We would like to thank all those who were able to join the healing and anointing service last Sunday. Despite the rough weather, many were able to attend and to pray for all our parishioners who are sick. If you have missed the service, you can click on the following link to download the prayers which you can pray it over yourself and your family for healing and peace. The next healing and anointing service will be at St. Finbarr's Church on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, 2025. God bless.

<https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/HEALING-SERVICE-AND-ANNOINTING-OF-THE-SICK.pdf>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:** **Ellen Rosina Gibbs** (Rose), her funeral will take place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February at St Paul's Church, 10.30am. We also announce the Passing of **Ann McCallum** who died on 26<sup>th</sup> January. She and her family are very active members of St. Finbarr Church. Her funeral will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> February; Mass will be at 11am. Also, **David Nuttall** of Dover whose funeral service is at Hawkinge Crematorium on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am; **Timothy Sean Ward** of Aylesham, whose funeral service will be at Aylesham Cemetery on 18<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm; **Thomas Keith** whose funeral service will take place at St James's Cemetery on 19<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm; and **Danielle Francoise Sutton** of Dover, widow of Terry. Danielle's funeral will take place at Barham Crematorium on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm. May their Souls rest in peace. Amen. Fr Leo.

**ST JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP** The next meeting of the St Jude's Prayer Group will be on the 17th of February at 2pm in the Parish Hall. Any new members will be welcome to join us.

**ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY.** The next Rosary and Bible Study meeting at St Paul's will be on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Deacon Barry.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE:** If you are interested in going on a parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje in the Autumn this year, please let Mary in the parish office know, email [dover@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dover@rcaos.org.uk) or message 07936 573155. God bless, Fr Leo.

**DOVER STREET PASTORS ARE HOLDING A QUIZ NIGHT Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February.** Doors open 7pm for 7.30 pm start Raffle and interval games too! £3 per person with tables of 6 (accompanied children welcome) Teas, coffees and soft drinks on sale Please bring your own food (alcohol permitted) Venue: St Mary's Church Parish Centre, Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BY To book, please email: [dover@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:dover@streetpastors.org.uk)



**FLAME:** Calling all young people (16-35) to join us in attending Flame 2025, a Catholic youth event at Wembley Arena, starring Bear Grylls and others, on **March 15th, 2025**. Cost will be £30 (incl. travel). Please contact Jack 07710 430893 on WhatsApp to register. Fr. Leo and Fr. Godwin will be travelling with the young people on this event. Parents who will like to attend should also indicate.

Parish of The Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal		
	February/March 2025	
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Saturday 9.30am (Not this week)	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Sunday 9.30am (Not this week)	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
RCIA Course	Every Monday 7pm	St Paul's, Dover
Adult SYCAMORE Course	Every Wednesday 7pm	St Paul's, Dover
SYCAMORE Course for Young Adults	Every Sunday 6pm	St Paul's, Dover
Winter Soup Kitchen	Every Sunday 4pm – 6pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Lector's training (Old & New readers)	Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 11am-12:30pm.	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Sacristan & Altar Server Training	Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar after 11am Mass	St Paul's, Dover
Sacristan & Altar Server Training	Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar after 11.15 Mass	St Finbarr's, Aylesham

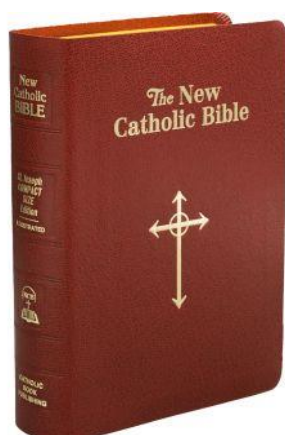
## ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY AT THE FRIARS AYLESFORD 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025

Led by Archbishop John Wilson, we will gather as an Archdiocese at The Friars, Aylesford for a day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun. There will be lots of activities, for children as well as for adults. This will be the centre-piece event of the 2025 Jubilee in the Archdiocese of Southwark. There will also be a walking pilgrimage from St George's Cathedral in Southwark to The Friars (2-6 June 2025). **The event itself is free.** You can find out more about the event, including how to join the walking pilgrimage, and the wider Jubilee Year plans in the Archdiocese at [rcaos.org.uk/jubilee2025](http://rcaos.org.uk/jubilee2025).

### CATECHISM ON THE HOLY BIBLE

#### Why has the Catholic Bible seven more books than the Protestant Bible?

The term *Catholic Bible* can be understood in two ways. More generally, it can refer to a Christian Bible that includes the whole 73-book canon recognized by the Catholic Church, including some of the deuterocanonical books (and parts of books) of the Old Testament which are in the Greek Septuagint collection, but which are not present in the Hebrew Masoretic Text collection. The current official version of the Catholic Bible is the *Nova Vulgata* which is also called the **New Latin Vulgate**.



The Bible at the time of Jesus was called the Hebrew Bible. It consisted of only Old Testament books. The original was in Hebrew language. When the majority of the Jews living outside Palestine started speaking Greek, a group of seventy experts were sent to Alexandria to translate the Hebrew Bible into Greek, as requested by the emperor. The Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible was called the Septuagint Bible. But it contained 46 books. The seven additional books were 1) Judith, 2) Baruch, 3) Sirach (Ecclesiastes), 4) Wisdom, 5) Tobit, and 6) Maccabees I & 7) Maccabees II. Besides, there were some additions to Esther (Vulgate Esther 10:4-16:24) and additions to Daniel: (Prayer of Azariah and Song of the Three Holy Children, Bel and the Dragon). Since Jesus and the apostles used the Septuagint Bible, the Pharisees who finalized the official list (canon) of the Hebrew Bible books in AD 90, called the additional books in the Septuagint Bible “apocrypha” meaning not-inspired or Deuterocanonical books. But the recent discovery of fragments of three Deuterocanonical books among the Dead Sea scrolls found at Qumran proves that they were part of the ancient Hebrew Bible. Since the early Church spread mostly among Greek speaking Jews and gentiles, it accepted Septuagint as its Bible. That is why out of the approximately 340 New Testament references to the Old Testament 300 are from the Septuagint. At the Council of Rome in 382 AD, the Church finalized a canon of 46 Old Testament books (including the Deuterocanonical books) and 27 in the New Testament. This decision was ratified and confirmed by the councils at Hippo (393), Carthage (397, 419), II Nicea (787), Florence (1442), and Trent (1546). All Christians believed the 46 books of the Old Testament as inspired books until Martin Luther in the 16<sup>th</sup> century discarded the Deuterocanonical books as uninspired because they were not found in the Hebrew Bible finalized in the first century AD by the anti Christian Jews. But they were retained at the end of the protestant bibles (King James Version) until the Edinburgh Committee of the British Foreign Bible Society excised them in 1825. The Catholic Church considers them inspired and integral part of the Bible. (Fr. Anthony)

#### **Please Pray for those who are unwell:**

**St Finbarr's:** Audrey Stitt, Elisabet Sulianti, Gabriela le Bohec, Charlie Golden, Tina Isaacs, Ray Deverson, Lucy Purbrick, Amanda Dennis, Jadon Michael Kalp, Denise Mastro, Tara Conklin & Jamie Chitwood.

**St Paul's:** Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, David Meadows, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, Chris Quinn, Mary Pressnell, Gaby Anaya Amor, Fr John Ryan, Pat Evans, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, Clare Quigley, Gail White, Neil Stevens, John & Joyce Nix, Bailey Turner, Peggy Merrell, Ryan Whittall, Iris (Tilly) Ball, Jean Ann Dowle, Norman Woolhouse, Ted Peel, Christopher Browne, Angela, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Madison Woodall, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Cathy Huntley, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

#### **Please Pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:**

**St Finbarr's:** Jim McIntyre, Sandra Tyson, Andre Camus, Cambell McIntyre, Frank Lennon.

**St Paul's:** Keith Munro, Gwen Mitchinson, Josee Carr, James Patrick Gillan, Oinne Burrows, Charles Jones, Paula Mary Greenwood, Francis Foy, May Kilkenny, Stephanie King, John Dominic Gillan, Susan Roy, James Lannigan, Valerie Russell, Rosa Corry, Marie Slater, Michael Sanderson, William James Becks.

<b>EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S</b>			
<b>SAINT CLAUDE DE LA COLUMBIERE</b>	<b>Saturday 15th February</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Syro Malabar Mass</b>
<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>Sunday 16th February</b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>NO First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Mass for William Blanchard 'F'</b>
	<b>Wednesday 19th February</b>	<b>10.15am</b>	<b>Mass for Ann McCallum RIP</b>
<b>THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE</b>	<b>Saturday 22nd February</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Syro Malabar Mass</b>
	<b>Sunday 23rd February</b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>NO First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Mass for G/E Father Jamie (Anne &amp; Jeremy)</b>
<b>EVENTS THIS WEEK AT PAUL'S</b>			
<b>SAINT CLAUDE DE LA COLUMBIERE</b>	<b>Saturday 15th February</b>	<b>10am 11am 5pm 6pm</b>	<b>No First Holy Communion preparation (Half Term) Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E Ros &amp; Rob (Lizzie) Lector's Training (Old &amp; New Readers) 11am-12.30pm Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Celestina Freitas RIP (Jose)</b>
<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>Sunday 16th February</b>	<b>9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm</b>	<b>Mass for Father Godwin's Birthday (Keith &amp; Theresa) Coffee after Mass Mass for Tony Neve RIP (Oliver O'Connor) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults</b>
<b>THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER</b>	<b>Monday 17th February</b>	<b>10am 7pm</b>	<b>Mass for Father Godwin's Birthday (Theresa) The RCIA course in the Upper Hall</b>
<b>BLESSED JOHN PIBUSH</b>	<b>Tuesday 18th February</b>	<b>10am 10.30am 1pm</b>	<b>Mass for Andrew Bell RIP (Maureen Bisset) Funeral Service for David Nuttall at Hawkinge Cemetery Funeral Service for Timothy Sean Ward at Aylesham Cemetery</b>
	<b>Wednesday 19th February</b>	<b>10am 12pm 5.30pm 7pm</b>	<b>Mass for Christine O'Reilly RIP (Keith &amp; Theresa) Funeral Service for Thomas Keith at St. James Cemetery. Exposition and Holy Rosary (to 6.30pm) The Adult Sycamore Course in the hall</b>
	<b>Thursday 20th February</b>	<b>9.30am 10am 10.30am</b>	<b>Holy Rosary in the church Mass for Catherine Dobbyn RIP (Matthew Sykes) Bible Study in the hall</b>
<b>SAINT PETER DAMIAN</b>	<b>Friday 21st February</b>	<b>10am 10.30am</b>	<b>NO MASS Funeral Service for Ellen Rosina Gibbs RIP</b>
<b>THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE</b>	<b>Saturday 22nd February</b>	<b>10am 5pm 6pm</b>	<b>NO First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Sr Margaret Canny RIP (Keith &amp; Theresa &amp; Laura Ann) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for The Speedy Recovery of Father Jamie (Keith &amp; Theresa)</b>
<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>Sunday 23rd February</b>	<b>9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm</b>	<b>Mass for Deacon Barry's 22<sup>nd</sup> Diaconate Ordination Coffee after Mass Mass for Father Andrew's 1<sup>st</sup> Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults</b>

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL**

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's [ayleshams2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:ayleshams2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Keith Wells for St Paul's [doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Zoroaster Bordios for St Paul's [doverse2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:doverse2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: [dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk)  
 Newsletter items received after 6pm Thursday may not be included that week. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles.  
 A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

# READINGS FOR SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2025

**First reading**                      **Jeremiah 17:5-8**  
*'Cursed is the man who trusts in man; blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord.'*

Thus says the Lord: 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

'Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.'

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**Ps 1:1-2. 3. 4, 6. R Psalm 40(39):5a**  
**Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.**

1. Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the path with sinners, nor abides in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord, and who ponders his law day and night.

2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

3. Not so are the wicked, not so! For they, like winnowed chaff, shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

**Second reading**    **1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20**  
*'If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile.'*

Brothers and Sisters: If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Gospel Acclamation**    **Luke 6:23ab**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia.**

**Gospel**                                      **Luke 6:17, 20-26**  
*'Blessed are you who are poor. Woe to you who are rich.'*

At that time: Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.'

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

**My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.**