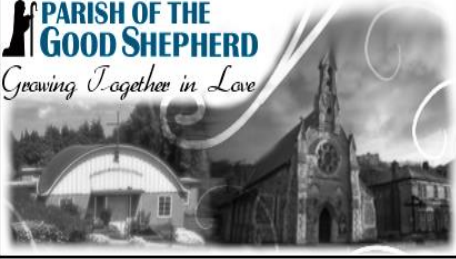



PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Weaving Together in Love



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
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 St Finbarr's: aylesham@rcaos.org.uk
 Dover SVP Conference: 07596 544109
 Parish website: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk
 Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsavle7499/streams>



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Sunday 2nd February 2025.

Year C – Missal Pg. 978

Order of the Mass-Missal Pg. 470

PRIEST CORNER: You will never truly feel connected to a Church until you begin to serve in it. Attending helps you grow spiritually but serving allows you to fulfill your God giving purpose.

Dear brothers and Sisters, following all the suggestions and plans to boost participation in the different Parish ministries, we shall adopt the promotion of **'one ministry per month.'** What it means is that we shall have a Sunday for ministry invites, followed by training every month for each of the Parish ministries. You should make sure that you are part of, at least, one ministry in the Parish. Be a lector, or a collector, a choir member, a welcomer, a flower arranger, a church cleaner, an altar server, a member of SVP, Youth groups, Alpha- Fides, St. Jude's, or St. Joseph's prayer group, etc. Or a member of at least one group in the Church. If you do not know where to belong, ask your priest and ask again until you are part of the community in service.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE. This is a combined feast, commemorating the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child in the Temple. Pope Benedict XVI affirms that *"Jesus enters the ancient temple; he who is the new Temple of God."*



There are several lessons we can learn from today's feast. The first is that Mary after her virginal birth had no need for ritual presentation and Jesus being God had no need to be dedicated to God in the temple. Yet Mary and Joseph aware of this, went ahead to fulfill the requirements of the Law and to introduce Jesus into the Jewish religion. This teaches us the need to fulfill the requirements of the law in our individual circumstances as Christians.

Are there religious laws and obligations you are yet to fulfill? This is a time to make up your mind to fulfill those obligations which may include contracting a marriage in the Catholic way, fulfilling your financial obligations in the Church, receiving the necessary sacraments, especially the sacrament of reconciliation, (Confession) etc.

Today's feast also invites us to look up to Christ the light of the world presented in the temple. Every Holy Mass in which we participate is our presentation. Although we were officially presented to God on the day of our Baptism, we present ourselves and our dear ones on the altar before God our Father through our Saviour Jesus Christ at every Holy Mass. Hence, we need to live our daily lives with the awareness, both that we are dedicated people consecrated to God, and that we are obliged to lead holy lives.

DOVER FAST TRACK PENCESTER ROAD UPDATE. A progress update newsletter is available on our website <https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/newsletters/> . A few copies are also available in the porch of St Paul's.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (WPCU) 2025: A huge thank you to all those parishioners who supported the Christians Together in Dover promoted WPCU by their attendance of one or more morning reflection and prayer sessions hosted at St Paul's and / or the Ecumenical Worship Service, River Parish Church, that brought the week to a conclusion, or; helped by welcoming Christian's from other denominations, prepared and served refreshments and 'set up' the hall. With 25 - 30 people attending daily and over 50 at the worship service the WPCU 2025, with Nicene theme 'Do you believe this?' as its theme the week has been a great success. Deacon Barry CTiD WPCU Co-Ordinator.

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH- FEBRUARY: Do you feel called to proclaim the word of God as a Lector/ Reader at Mass in any of our Churches? What are you waiting for? Why not step forward this year and fulfil your mission of proclaiming the word at Mass? Our Ministry for the Month of February is Lectors. 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 PAUL'S: 15th February 11am - 12:30pm. Contact Persons: Diane: dianefj@virginmedia.com; Ann: annfisher7575@gmail.com; ST FINBARR'S: 22nd February; 11am - 12:30pm. Esiri: pgsesiri@gmail.com ; Jeremy: jeremycrowe@btinternet.com ; Please come.

GENERAL HEALING AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Sunday 9th February 2025. The World Day of Prayer for the Sick 2025 takes place on Tuesday 11th February. The nearest Sunday on which to hold our General Healing Service and Anointing is **Sunday 9th February, 3pm, St Pauls Church, Dover.** All of us need healing, spiritually, emotionally, or physically. The planned service is an opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of the sick together. The service will be led by Fr. Leo, Fr Godwin, and Fr. Jamie. Please join us for this short service and pray for healing, either for yourself or for family loved ones. A second general healing service and anointing of the sick will be on **26th October 2025 at St Finbarr's, Aylesham.** God bless. Fr. Leo

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) 2025 GROUP St Paul's and St Finbarr's.

Please note that the admittance to the FHC Programme 2025 has now closed as from Saturday 18th January. I'm delighted to let everyone know we have 20 children who are now being prepared at St Pauls and 4 children at St Finbarr's. All the children, from both churches, will make their FHC on Sunday 22nd June, The Feast of Corpus Christi. Recruitment to the FHC Programme 2026 for both churches begins in December 2025. Deacon Barry and Carine Jarvie.

NECROLOGY: We announce the death of **Ellen Rosina Gibbs** (Rose); she will be buried on Friday 21st February 2025 at St Paul's Church, 10.30am Mass. We also announce the Passing of **Ann McCallum** who died on the 26th of January. She and her family are very active members of St. Finbarr Church. She will be buried on the 28th of February; Mass will be at 11am. May their Souls rest in peace. Amen

ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY. No recital of the rosary or meeting of the bible study group at St Pauls Church on Thursday 30th January or Thursday 6th February 2025 respectively. The next recital and meeting will be on Thursday 13th February. Deacon Barry



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.

FILM SHOW: Our Lady of Good Counsel parish in Hythe: Saturday 8th February at 6.00 pm in the hall, after the 5.00 pm Mass. 'The Old Curiosity Shop,' which is an adaptation of Charles Dickens story. See the poster in the porch.

SYNOD STUDY DAY AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH, BURGATE, CANTERBURY SATURDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 10.30 – 15.30

RECEIVING THE FRUITS OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY: A STUDY DAY WITH RENOWNED CATHOLIC COMMENTATOR AUSTEN IVEREIGH Author, Biographer of Pope

Francis, and Synod Delegate

Free of Charge – refreshments & light lunch included Online registration

<https://Canterbury-synod-day.eventbrite.co.uk>

Email/phone booking and queries: - Daphne Ellis daphnehellis@aol.com phone

07377 168174



DOVER STREET PASTORS ARE HOLDING A QUIZ NIGHT Friday 28th 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

Parish of The Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham
'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal

	February 2025	
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Saturday 9.30am	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Every Sunday 9.30am	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 15 th Feb 11am-12:30pm	St. Paul's, Dover
Lector's training (Old & New readers)	Sat 22 nd Feb 11am-12:30pm.	St. Finbarr's, Aylesham

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 2025 "Love One Another as I Have Loved You". **16th February 2025**, 10:00 AM, St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop John Wilson. View online: <https://youtube.com/live/OD0qTuRqDS0>

ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON has written a new book entitled **The Romero Rosary**. With introductory chapters about St Oscar Romero and the rosary, this beautiful and creative new book contains reflections on the traditional mysteries of the rosary (*Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory*) and the **NEW Romero Mysteries** (*Charity, Compassion and Mercy, & Justice and Peace*) - all illumined for reflection and prayer by the words of St Oscar Romero. The book is available from Pauline Bookshops and online at www.paulineuk.org. The Archbishop warmly invites everyone to the book launch on **Wednesday 12 February 2025 at 6.00 for 6.30pm** at **Amigo Hall, adjacent St George's Cathedral, Southwark, South London. SE1 7HY.**

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE (BABM) – Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope. To celebrate Jubilee 2025 a one day Building a Better Marriage opportunity will be held during 2025.

15 March - Our Lady Queen of Peace, East Sheen;

28 June – St Raphael Church, Kingston Upon Thames; **5 July** - St Thomas More, Dulwich;

13 September – Southwark Cathedral, London; **4 October** – Holy Cross, Catford;

1 November – St James the Great, Petts Wood.

Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ retreat for the bereaved - Aylesford Priory 21-23 March 2025

To join one of these please contact Carole on 07983 524 727 or email mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CONSECRATED LIFE: FEBRUARY 2ND



Consecrated life is the permanent state of life in which a person deepens their baptismal consecration through profession of the three evangelical counsels: poverty, chastity, and obedience (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 915-930). Within the Catholic Church, forms of consecrated life include religious life, the eremitical life, secular institutes, societies of apostolic life, and consecrated virgins and widows. Consecrated men and women, "like the Apostles... have left everything

behind in order to be with Christ and to put themselves, as he did, at the service of God and their brothers and sisters" (Pope John Paul II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Vita Consecrata*, no. 1). Fr. Leo and Fr. Godwin and all Spiritans and many other missionary groups, both male and female are Consecrated person in the religious life. Pray for them specially today.

Please Pray for those who are unwell:

St Finbarr's: Audrey Stitt, Ann McCallum, 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: David Meadows, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, Chris Quinn, Mary Pressnell, Gaby Anaya Amor, Danielle Sutton, 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: Joseph Harding, Joe Simcox, Endre Rockenbauer, Antoine Bartolo, Bertha Gregory, John Quinn.

St Paul's: Peter Evans, Herbert Victor McColm, Ian Ragsdale, Richard Percy Holland, Constance Ann White, Joan Grant, Elizabeth Walter, Eddie Clapson, Christopher Francis, Glenys Wilson, Madge Drew, Julie Knowling, Katherine Chapman, Margaret Hilda Blanchard, Ruth Smith, William Naylor, Raymond Dorian Williams KHS, Audrey Mahoney, Margarita Pott.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
	Saturday 1st February	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	Sunday 2nd February	9.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Mass for Beth Dawtry RIP (Christine Dobson)
SAINT AGATHA	Wednesday 5th February	10.15am	Mass for Victims of the Washington Air crash
SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA	Saturday 8th February	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 9th February	9.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Mass for Sick Parishioners of St Finbarr's
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT PAUL'S			
	Saturday 1st February	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E of Veronika & Ivo (Tim) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Sr Mary Dympna UJ RIP (Colin)
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	Sunday 2nd February	9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for G/E Chris Hill (Tim) Coffee after Mass Mass for Peter Evans RIP (Pat) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults
SAINT LAURENCE OF CANTERBURY	Monday 3rd February	10am 7pm	Mass for G/E Merlin & Bong (Sheila) The RCIA course in the Upper Hall
SAINT HENRY MORSE	Tuesday 4th February	10am	Mass for People of the Parish
SAINT AGATHA	Wednesday 5th February	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for Bridie Kearney RIP (Philomena) (100TH Birth day) Exposition and Holy Rosary (to 6.30pm) The Adult Sycamore Course
SAINTS PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS	Thursday 6th February	10am	NO ROSARY Mass for Jim Knott RIP (Tina Irving-Jones) NO BIBLE STUDY
	Friday 7th February	10am	Mass for The Imprisoned (Tim)
SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA	Saturday 8th February	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Sr Margaret Canny UJ RIP Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Chris Francis RIP (Jane)
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 9th February	9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Jean MacKenzie (Robert) Coffee after Mass Mass for Arkadiusz & Joanna Szoszler (5th Wedding Anniversary) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's avleshams2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Keith Wells for St Paul's doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Zoroaster Bordios for St Paul's doversg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: 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 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

First reading **Malachi 3:1-4**
'The Lord whom you seek will come to his Temple.'

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. R8a
The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!

1.O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
2. Who is this king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant;
the Lord, the valiant in war.
3.O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
4. Who is this king of glory?
He, the Lord of hosts,
he is the king of glory.

Second reading **Hebrews 2:14-18**
'He had to be made like his brothers, so that he might become merciful.'

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Acclamation **Luke 2:32**
Alleluia, alleluia.

**A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.**
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 2:22-40**
'The child grew, filled with wisdom.'

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'. Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed — and a sword will pierce through your own soul also — so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.'

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the Temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

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.