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 Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsavle7499/streams>



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 9th MARCH 2025

Year C – Missal Pg. 161 Order of the Mass-Missal Pg. 470

**This Friday is CAFOD Family Fast Day.
 Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for CAFOD.
 Envelopes available at the back of church.**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

We need to confront and conquer temptations as Jesus did, using the means he employed. Like Jesus, every one of us is tempted to seek sinful pleasures, easy wealth, and a position of authority, and is drawn to the use of



unjust or sinful means to attain good ends. Jesus is our model for conquering temptations through prayer, penance, and the effective use of the “Word of God” in Scripture. Temptations make us true warriors of God by strengthening our minds and hearts. We are never tempted beyond the strength God gives us. In his first letter, St. John assures us: “*The One Who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world*” (1 John 4:4). Hence during Lent, and the rest of the year as well, let us confront our evil tendencies with prayer (especially by

participating in the Holy Mass), with penance, and with the meditative reading of the Holy Bible. Knowledge of the Bible prepares us for the moment of temptation by enabling us “*to know Jesus more clearly, to love him more dearly and to follow him more nearly, day by day*”.

DIAMOND JUBILEE: CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNE & PETER CASTLE



who are celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (60 years) with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 9.15am today and afterwards invite family and friends to join them for Coffee and Cakes in the Parish Hall. On behalf of St. Paul's Parish family, we want to congratulate and celebrate Anne and Peter Castle. We are so happy for you dear Peter and Anne. It is remarkable that you were married here in this Church at St. Paul's, on 6th March 1965, then, all your children were baptized in this Church, they grew up and served Mass in this Church, and you have not stopped even for a day in your dedication and service to the Parish. Thank you for your inspiring

example. Very best wishes from all of us. Fr. Leo



CONGRATULATIONS TO RUSSELL AND VERA BRAMWELL who are celebrating 67 years of Marriage at St. Finbarr's today. We are happy for Russell & Vera Bramwell, 67 years of marriage on the 8th March. Russell and Vera are among the foundational members of the Church at St. Finbarr's. They were married at St. Finbarr's and they have never stopped attending Mass and supporting the Parish. We are so proud of your faith. Very best wishes from all of us. Congratulations. Fr. Leo

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST. PAUL'S: MUSTARD SEED: The Mustard Seed Children's liturgy group is restarting at **St. Paul's on Sunday 16th March at the 9:15am Mass**, at the Parish Hall upstairs. Due to the lack of volunteers, the Mustard Seed will not run every Sunday, we shall start by holding it, every third Sunday of the month and then follow through if we get more volunteers. If you are interested in being Part of the Volunteers to teach Children, please Speak to any of the Clergy asap. Dear Parents, bring your children to participate, starting by next Sunday. God bless. Fr. Leo

CONFIRMATION AT ST PAUL'S. The Confirmation Class at St. Paul's is to commence tentatively on **Saturday 15th March in the upper room of the parish hall from 10.30am to 11.30am**. If your child is 12 years and above, kindly email the Parish Office dover@rcaos.org.uk to enrol your child. The Bishop will lead the confirmation ceremony in the summer.

FLAME: A Catholic youth event at Wembley Arena, starring Bear Grylls and others, on **March 15th, 2025**. Cost will be £30 (incl. travel). **Coach will leave Dover at 7.30am and return by 9pm**. Please contact Jack 07710 430893 on WhatsApp to register. Parents who would like to attend should also indicate. **There will be a meeting for all those attending the event this Sunday 9th March at 6pm in the upper room of the parish hall. This will replace the Youth Sycamore Course. Fr. Leo.**



SVP IS BACK TO ACTION: (St. Vincent de Paul Society). Our Dover SVP is back to work; serving the poor and the needy of Dover; caring for people and touching lives in the example of Jesus. Do you feel called to join them? Speak to any of the Clergy or to Liz Whelan. **Next Meeting is Tuesday 11th March, 6:30pm** at the Parish upper hall. God bless. Fr. Leo

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: ALTAR SERVERS AND SACRISTANS: For the month of March, we shall be focusing on encouraging the Altar Servers and Sacristans in both our Churches. Altar servers are a great sign of hope and joy for our Parish. They are like angels, serving God around the altar of God with dedication and grace. Serving Mass or serving as a Sacristan has no age limit; everyone is welcome. Join us for our training sessions coming up in both Churches in March. **March 9th after the 11am Mass at St. Paul's and March 23rd at St. Finbarr's after the 11:15am Mass. Teas and Pizzas for our young people. Parents, please help us bring the Children. God bless. Fr. Leo.**

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE Friday 19th to Monday 22nd September: Estimated cost, for 3 nights half board accommodation £485 per person based on 2 people sharing (plus £60 single supplement). Estimated flight costs £270 per person. If you are interested in going please let Mary in the parish office know, email dover@rcaos.org.uk or message 07936 573155. God bless, Fr Leo.

ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY ST PAUL'S. Next Thursday's pre 10am Mass rosary and post Mass bible study will take place on Thursday 13th March. OT Book of Exodus.

OUR PARISH ST. PATRICK'S IRISH DAY CELEBRATION: Next Sunday 16th March 2pm – 5pm St Paul's hall. **Afternoon Tea Party, Quiz & Bingo! - Bring food to share and please wear something green. Tea/coffee provided.**

ST JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP. The next meeting will be on **17th March at 2pm in the Parish Hall**. New members would be very welcome to join us.

SYCAMORE COURSE, FIDES & BIBLE STUDY all combined session at **St. Finbarr's to begin on 18th March, 7pm**. Arrive for coffee, followed by inspiring videos, conversations and prayer. All are welcome.

ST PAUL'S SCOUT GROUP are holding a quiz night on **Tuesday 18th March 7.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall** to raise funds for the St Paul's Scout Group. Teams up to 6, cost is £4 per person. There will be a small buffet; Please feel free to bring your own drinks, however, tea and coffee will be available. Prizes for the winning (and the losing) team!! If you would like to book a table, please let me know at davymcr@gmail.com but we will always welcome entries on the night. If you cannot find a team, please feel free to join us, and we will add you to one of the tables! Dave McRoberts.

COLLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: Cash & CollecTin £2860.78; Bankers Orders £3430.00; Racial Justice £218.00; Clergy Support £759.65; Thank you for your generosity. Fr. Leo.

ST PAUL'S REPOSITORY. Easter, Mother's Day, St. Patrick's, Birthday, Sympathy Cards and many others are on sale in the Church Hall after the 9:15 a.m. Sunday Mass each week, also rosaries and Holy Water bottles.

LENT LUNCH SATURDAY 22nd MARCH Our Lady of Dover Church Hall, **12 noon until 2pm**, Roosevelt Road, Buckland, Dover CT16 2AW. Bus route 61 from Pencester Bus Station. Homemade soups, baguettes & butter, coffee or tea. Everyone is welcome, drop in, bring friends and make new ones. Games & colouring for children. Donations will go to CAFOD to help fight global poverty. For further information or to help us on the day, call Pauline Lloyd on 07990 982552.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN DOVER AGM 2025 takes place on **Thursday 20th March, 7pm, Upper Meeting Room, St Paul's Hall**. Refreshments provided. All welcome.

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	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 Not this Sunday 9th (Flame meeting)	St Paul's, Dover
Stations of the Cross	Every Friday during Lent 6pm	St Paul's, Dover
Stations of the Cross	Every Sunday during Lent 10.30am	St Finbarr's Aylesham
Sacristan & Altar Server Training	Sunday 9 th March after 11am Mass	St Paul's, Dover
Sacristan & Altar Server Training	Sunday 23 rd March after 11.15 Mass	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
St Patrick's Irish Day Celebration Tea Party	Sunday 16 th March 2pm	St Paul's, Dover
SYCAMORE Course, Fides & Bible Study, all combined session	Starting Tuesday 18 th March 7pm	St. Finbarr's, Aylesham.
Confirmation Preparation	Starting Saturday 15 th March 10.30am	St Paul's, Dover

ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY AT THE FRIARS AYLESFORD 7th 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). More information at <https://rcaos.org.uk/faith/jubilee-2025/>. **The parish may arrange a coach. If you would like to go please let Mary in the parish office know, email dover@rcaos.org.uk or message 07936 573155. God bless, Fr Leo.**

SYCAMORE ONLINE COURSE for married and engaged couples, Tuesday 11th March and continues on 18th, 25th and April 1st, 2025. Couples are welcome but if only one can attend, please join us! To register click on the link <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together>. *Growing in Faith Together - Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis.*

CATECHISM AT LENT

PRAYING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The stations of the cross are a popular biblical devotion during Lent. Known as *Via Crucis* in Latin, this form of prayer commemorates the journey Jesus made to Calvary, and the various steps he made in that journey. Fourteen "stations" are featured in total. Each station usually begins with a verse by someone leading the prayer. The group responds in unison. Short words of meditation then lead into a shared prayer, recited by all. The Stations of the Cross have a rich history within the Church. In modern times, Stations of the Cross often take place on Friday evenings during Lent. (Hallow app). **The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 6pm at St. Paul's and 10:30am at St. Finbarr's on Sundays before the Mass.** The Stations of the cross are referred to as a form of Spiritual pilgrimage; *Praying the Stations of the Cross helps inspire deep prayer.* God gives us the grace to contemplate the suffering of Jesus and feel deep empathy and love for Him. As we meditate on the events, they become more vivid and take root in our hearts.

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: Maria Frost, 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: Brian Michael Docherty, Mary Agnes Bancroft, Margaret Ford, Audrey Hobbs, Patricia (Wendy) Herve.

St Paul's: Albert George Goodacre, Margaret Buckingham, Salvatore Pasquino, Collette Berry, Gillian Thomson, Arthur Jones, Brian Blomfield, Philip Cloke, Ethel Gore, Keith O'Meara, John McSweeney, Agnes (Molly) Threadgill, Stan Newman, James Joseph Gillan, Mary O'Keeffe, Ernest Michael Huntley, Philip Bywaters, Rose Creed, Baby Joshua Wells, John Fuller, Mary Coen, Pat Carr, Paul Coe, Christine Blackman, Frederick Hill, Edgar Ralph Ryan, Felix Mascarenhas, Jackie Bowles.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
ST. JOHN OF GOD	Saturday 8 th March	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 9 th March	9.30am 10.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Stations of the Cross Mass for Kathleen McCallum & Family
	Wednesday 12 th March	10.15am	Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life
	Saturday 15 th March	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 16 th March	9.30am 10.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Stations of the Cross Mass for Dick & Lena Gammie 'F'
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
ST. JOHN OF GOD	Saturday 8 th March	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E Anne & Philip Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Joe McCann RIP (Tim)
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 9 th March	9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Peter & Anne Castle 60 th Wedding Anniversary Coffee after Mass Mass for Caterina Marsella (Angelina Gismondi) Followed by Sacristans' & Altar Servers' Training Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet FLAME Meeting (NO Sycamore Course for Young Adults)
	Monday 10 th March	10am 7pm	Mass for G/E Bernadette Birthday (Sheila) RCIA course in the Upper Hall
	Tuesday 11 th March	10am	Mass for Fr James Law 'F'
	Wednesday 12 th March	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for Ernest Michael Huntley RIP (Mary) Exposition and Holy Rosary (to 6.30pm) Adult Sycamore Course in the hall
	Thursday 13 th March	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for Health of Pope Francis Bible Study in the hall OT Book of Exodus
CAFOD FAST DAY	Friday 14 th March	10am 6pm	Mass for Len Stevens Birthday (Sheila) Stations of the Cross
	Saturday 15 th March	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Eucharistic Service in St Edmund's Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for St Paul's Young Adults
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 16 th March	9.15am 11am 2pm 3pm 6pm	Mass for G/E Maureen McCue Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy in the Upper Parish Hall Coffee after Mass Mass for Keith Beddow RIP (Ian Middleton) St Patrick's Celebration Tea & Quiz Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

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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 9TH MARCH 2025

First reading

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the chosen people.

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. And you shall make response before the Lord your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me." And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. R cf 15b

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,
says to the Lord, 'My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach your tent.
For you has he commanded his angels
to keep you in all your ways.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

They shall bear you upon their hands,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

On the lion and the viper you will tread,
and trample the young lion and the serpent.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,
protect him, for he knows my name.

When he calls on me, I will answer him;

I will be with him in distress;

I will deliver him, and give him glory.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Second reading

Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith of believers in Christ.

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4b

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone,

**but by every word that comes forth from the
mouth of God.**

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

'Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil'

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone."' '

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve."' '

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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.