



St Paul's Church & Presbytery
103 Maison Dieu Road, Dover CT16 1RU

St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham CT3 3EZ

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Parish website www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk

St Paul's Mass Streaming Live Every Day (for times see below): www.churchservices.tv/dover

Make a Donation at: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/good-shepherd-parish-st-paul-s-dover-st-finbarr-s-aylesham

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th of August, 2020

Our Churches Have Reopened!

Face Coverings Must be Worn Except By Children

Bring Your Own Masks if You Can.

Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover

Thank You I am sure you all join me in thanking Fr. Pat for ministering so beautifully amongst us. He leaves with an assurance of our prayers as he becomes a parish priest. I am sure we have helped him in many ways we don't know. One I know amuses me. Our streamed Masses have enabled his new community to have a look at him before he gets there. May Fr. Pat's ministry in Hartley be full of such cheerfully unusual events and deeply fruitful. Fr. Jeff.

The Mass on Wednesdays at St. Finbarr's at 10.15 starts again this week. Although we can observe the two metre rule, face coverings will still have to be worn as directed by the Government.

Thank You & Best Wishes The diocesan autumn manoeuvres have led to another change in our locality, Fr. Stephen Bould is stepping down. Fr. Alex Saba the former parish priest at Hartley is taking his place as parish priest of Folkestone & Cheriton. I will remember Fr. Stephen as someone with a big heart. I will never forget his kindness to seemingly countless people who kept interrupting us as we were trying to plan a do in his church. I wish both Stephen and Trish many happy years in retirement and thank them especially for the witness they gave to the world when they came over. May God Bless Them Both & Their Family. Fr. Jeff.

Please Pray for Allan Wills, Olga Will's son who has died. His funeral will be in St. James Cemetery, the one past St Edmund's on Friday 11th of September at 2.p.m.

September in Our Parish It looks as if our new priest Fr. Leo won't be able to get here until early in October on account of the travel restrictions. Fr. Kenneth, the Provincial of the Spiritan Fathers is kindly arranging for a priest serving in London to help us so that we can still have the 11.30 Mass on Sunday Mornings in St. Paul's.

St. Finbarr's SVP A garden meeting will be held this Tuesday, 1st September at 2.30pm.

Foodbank Jon Wheeler, myself and all involved thank everyone for their interest and continued support. Though demand has eased a little over the last 2 months the increase since lockdown began has been 34% over the same time last year, so any donations, large or small, are very much appreciated. The changes in operation resulting from Covid19 will continue for some time yet, probably into next year. As a result, the procedure for donations will also continue. The collection box in Tesco (Whitfield) is now back in place - near the bureau de change - particularly for donations purchased in store. For full details of collection points and information see Dover Foodbank website. The most needed items are noodles (small packets), fruit juice, jam, squash, tinned meat, soap, tinned fruit, rice pudding, tinned potatoes and tinned fish. However, all donations of any long-life food items are always welcome. Len Stevens 01304 215466 or 07958234123 Email len_s@hotmail.com.

Father Pat's book Available after Mass – please observe social distancing. See Andrew (Dover) or Carina (Aylesham) for any requests or queries.

The Weigh Inn, The Christian Coffee/Book Shop, Worthington Street (CT17 9AQ) in Dover. They are now open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.am until 2.p.m, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2.p.m until 4.p.m and Saturdays from 10.am until noon. George and Ann Walton, who run it, are a lovely couple. So why not pay a visit if you feel like going out for a coffee?

I apologise for the Layout. I clicked on the wrong thing and could not get the normal layout back. Fr. Jeff.

Request for stewards: More stewards are still required to ensure the continued opening of St Paul's Church for weekday masses. We need several more stewards to go on a reserve list in case of absence, and also to replace existing stewards when some of them return to normal work duties in September; otherwise we may return to situations where less weekday masses are open to the public. Thanks for your help in this mission. David Evans (Chairperson St Paul's Management Group).

NHS Test & Trace

The Government Says Everyone Must Fill in a Form Every time they go to Church.

Forms available at church and on the website

<https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/parish>

Tickets at St. Paul's

You do not need them now but you may do later as people return so why not get a season ticket which will ensure a place for you at the Mass of your choice by applying to

Anne Castle 01304 202 980

annecastle@hotmail.co.uk

Please pray for those who are unwell, especially Charlie Golden, Brendan Quinn, Tina Isaacs, Ray Deverson, Lucy Purbrick ; Denise Bishop, Sean O'Regan, Jean Ann Dowle, Diane Jones, Melanie Melone (daughter of Len and Bernadette), Nina Woolhouse, Maureen & Joe Johnston, Christopher Browne, Angela, Ellen McGurk, Helen Davies, Christine Mackenzie, Chris Francis, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Julie Balston, Madison Woodall, Elisa Gomez Meler, Ann Tomalak, Rev Michael Hinton, Cathy Huntley, Mary Nelson, Emil Jain, Pat Sherratt, **and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Madge Douglas, Janet Pendlebury, Mary Ann Bramwell, Joan Kathleen Trim ; Julie Searles, Michael Tivnan, Kathy Santham, Tom Heath, Patricia Wolsoncroft, John O'Bree, Bridget Mahon, Gladys Sullivan, Florence Mary Newing, John Tollan, Ernest Edward Stokes, Seamus Mallon, Mary Morris, Ralph Coyne, Gladys Parsons, Mary Brewer, Denis Brazil, Mary Alice Huntley, Timothy Smye-Rumsby, Dennis Wilson, Sean O'Connor, Henry Berrecloth, Mary Josephine Noakes, Gabriel Frank Kelly, Mary Hawkins, Yvonne Ottley, and Ralph George.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

CHURCHES OPEN ONLY AT SPECIFIED TIMES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

<i>The Passion of St John the Baptist</i>	Saturday	3pm 5pm 6pm	St Finbarr's, Syro Malabar Mass (Fr Hans) Confessions in St Paul's Presbytery until 5.50pm St Paul's, Mass for The Peoples of Hartley & Dover (Fr. Pat)
<i>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Sunday 30 th August	9.15am 11.15am 11.30am	St Paul's, Mass for Priests, Deacons and Friends (Sheila) (Fr. Pat) St Finbarr's, Mass for the Family of Mary Graves (Fr. Pat) St Paul's, Mass for Refugee Children (Fr. Jeff)
No exposition until Next Week			
<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	Monday	10am	Mass for Intentions of John and Gladys Sullivan F (Fr. Pat) (Streamed only)
<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	Tuesday	10am	St Paul's, Mass for Success of Parish Building Project (Fr Pat)
<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	Wednesday	10am 10.15am	St Paul's, Mass for Fr. John Healy RIP (Fr. Pat) St Finbarr's, Mass for Catherine Rowe F (Fr. Jeff)
<i>St Gregory the Great</i>	Thursday	10am	St Paul's, Mass for Mary Dormay F (Fr. Pat)
<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	Friday	10am	St Paul's, Mass of Thanksgiving for 60 years of Religious Life (Odile) (Fr Jeff)
<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	Saturday	3pm 5pm 6pm	St Finbarr's, Syro Malabar Mass (Fr Hans) Confessions in St Paul's Presbytery until 5.50pm St Paul's, Mass for People of the Parish (Fr. Jeff)
<i>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Sunday 6 th September	9.15am 11.15am 11.30am 3pm	St Paul's, Mass for Irene Cunningham RIP (Maureen & Eddie) (Fr. Jeff) St Finbarr's, Mass for Mary Tanner RIP (Visiting Priest) St Paul's, Mass for staff and students at Wonerh Seminary (Fr. Jeff.) St Paul's, Exposition until 4pm

Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/parishofgoodshepherd

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact Matthew Cloke, 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.

Our Covid Safety

Both St Paul's and St Finbarr's churches have now been open for Mass for six weeks plus holding funeral Masses and Services and, where St Paul's is concerned, weekday Masses as well.

This is a considerable achievement and attributable to a number of factors:

- Complying with Diocesan advice with sensitive local interpretation
- Excellent leadership both clergy and lay
- A small number of dedicated teams of weekday morning and weekend volunteers and their coordinators who together have managed the 'NHS Test and Trace', hand sanitisation on entry and exit, face covering wearing, as well as gently shepherding those attending Mass to seats thus ensuring maximum health and safety compliance before, during and after Mass.

All the plans would not have been as successful as they have been if it were not for the excellent compliance of all those parishioners who, by their self-discipline and cooperation with the church stewards, have enabled us to stay safe. Thank you to all parishioners for what you have done to date to help and which you will do in the future as we go forward.

You will remember that a decision was made early on to go for the one metre seating arrangement, and the mandatory wearing of face covering. Because of the spacing of the seating this enabled us to increase the possible seating from thirty-eight to over one hundred. So, there is plenty of space if you would like to attend Mass but have not as yet returned.

Numbers attending Sunday and week day Masses have been increasing over the last six weeks in both churches. At St Paul's the total number of parishioners attending the 3 Masses last weekend was 126. At St Finbarr's it was 31. This compares with 94 and 21 on the 11/12th July; the reopening weekend. Weekday Mass attendances have doubled from 9 to 21.

News Flash: Wednesday 2nd September at 10.15am Mass will be said at St Finbarr's. Please note that 2-meter social distancing and face covering will be in operation. Please see parish newsletter.

Comparison with parish records from last year shows that about 50% of parishioners have returned in both churches. This is an excellent start but hopefully the content of this update will encourage more parishioners to return.

We have in place a one-way system of entrance to St Paul's through the main doors. Parishioners leave via the side door. For those parishioners who have difficulty descending steps from the side door, the door into the church hall can be opened so that they can leave on the flat.

At St Finbarr's the one-way system of entrance is through the main doors and exiting by a side door; there are no step issues.

You will be interested to know that a further five places have now been made available in the choir loft at St Paul's for anyone with a condition that makes wearing face covering difficult. If you are such a parishioner and have not attended Mass as yet, but would like to, then please do come and explain your situation to the steward on entry to the church and they will show you and / or take you to the choir loft where you can participate in the Mass yet remaining socially distant.

Those who have attended Mass at St Paul's or have been streaming the Masses will have seen that a number of 'pods', each comprising of five chairs, has been placed at the sides of the church for family groups. So, if you are a family who have not come to Mass recently then please be aware of this provision.

Similarly, if you and your family usually worship at St Finbarr's then please do attend and make your requirements known to the stewards and they will do their best to meet them.

We have been most meticulous about cleaning the pews etc following weekend and daily Masses. Initially this was done with cloths and cleaning agents, but we have now invested in modern technology. We now have a 'fogger' which stewards use after each Mass to sanitize the pews, so any trace of infection can be removed. It works by spraying into the air, about 3ft above each surface to be sanitised, and a mist of sanitising agent that gently descends over the surface requiring to be sanitised. It is then left to 'work its magic'. One has also been ordered for St Finbarr's and we are awaiting delivery.

We know the 'new normal' may be with us for some time yet but we must be careful not to become complacent and lax in our adherence to the rules set in place for our collective safety. Two particular areas require our special attention.

Please ensure that when going to communion in either church it is via single file, one behind the other, and spaced according to the distance markers on the floor. The floor is marked out at two metre spacing, something we have all got used to in shops, please ensure this is observed. If we retain our old practice of a double row approaching the sanctuary, then parishioners are too close to each other and social distancing has been breached.

The second area where we need to be especially vigilant is leaving church. Understandably there is a desire to stop and talk to each other after Mass. This is not a problem providing social distancing and face covering wearing is maintained. Our location on Maison Dieu Road means that passers-by view the front and sides of St Paul's and we would not want them to see any accidental non-compliance and think that might be happening in the church as well because, as well all know, it is not.

Although we have tried to do everything that we can to ensure parishioner, clergy and visitor safety we know that we can always do better. So please do contact us if you have any suggestions to make, or indeed queries requiring answering. We would be pleased to talk to you.

St Paul's: Malcolm Fisher malcermie@fastmail.fm 07944 754230

St Finbarr's: Carina Jarvie carinamjarvie@aol.co.uk 07766 406020