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



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 23rd MARCH 2025

Year C – Missal Pg. 169 Order of the Mass-Missal Pg. 470



**THIS WEEKEND THERE WILL BE A
 2nd COLLECTION FOR POOR PARISHES**

**DON'T FORGET NEXT SUNDAY THE CLOCKS GO
 FORWARD ONE HOUR**



PRIEST CORNER: MASS TIMES: Dear Brothers and Sisters, thank you for your prayers for me and Fr. Godwin during our retreat. Our retreat was directed by Bishop John Arnold of Salford Diocese, it was wonderful, we prayed for you all. In the last few months, we have had some conversations about changing the Mass times by 15 minutes earlier. Dover to move to 9am and 11am, St. Finbarr's to move to 11am. This will give us more time in-between the two Masses, and when there is a shortage of Priests, it will be easier to move from one end to another. We are at the level of more consultations and I will appreciate if you wish to send me any suggestion in case you have a concern about this. Thank you. Fr. Leo.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: A CALL TO REPENTANCE



The period of Lent offers us a golden opportunity to turn to Jesus. It is a call to reflection, renewal and repentance. We all need to repent; it is a call for everyone; it is every day, and nobody can be so holy as not to need the constant conversation and repentance from wrong doings. We all need to do better. We need to love more, forgive more, give more, judge less, criticize less, complain less, be gentler and be more patient, etc.

At Lent, the Lord invites us to be humble, to acknowledge our mistake and seek God's Mercy. The key word is "Metanoia"; a Greek term that is often translated as "repentance," but its meaning is deeper and more nuanced. "Metanoia" conveys the idea of a transformative change of heart or a fundamental shift in one's way of thinking and understanding. It is the act of recognizing one's wrongdoing, feeling genuine remorse or regret for that wrongdoing, and

making a commitment to change one's behaviour or attitudes to avoid repeating those wrong actions in the future. The Lord gave us some examples on the way to do this; through intensifying our discipline of fasting, prayer and almsgiving; we grow in virtues and holiness; we mortify the flesh, control our desires and aspire for the things that are spiritual. We become better and we bear fruits of love. Let us take advantage of the sacramental gift of confession, the stations of the cross and other Lenten practices and be more intentional about it. May the Lord bless us on our Lenten Journey. Amen.



FLAME YOUTH CONFERENCE, WEMBLY 2025: UNSTOPPABLE:

On March 15, 2025, Wembley Arena in London hosted *Flame 2025*, the largest gathering of young Catholics in England and Wales. Over 10,800 young people attended, including 23 from the Parish of the Good Shepherd, Dover and Aylesham, alongside Fr. Leo and Fr. Godwin. The event centered on the theme *Unstoppable*, emphasizing that faith in Jesus empowers believers to overcome any challenge. With Jesus by your side, you are unstoppable. No bars, no doors, no struggles can prevent God's love from reaching us.

Key Highlights: A Call to Be Beacons of Hope: Young people were encouraged to spread hope and love in a world filled with uncertainty.

The event reinforced that Jesus walks beside them in this mission. The day featured worship, Eucharistic adoration,



confessions, and inspiring messages, including words from Pope Francis and Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía. The Pope's message— "*God believes in you*"—was a call to live faith boldly. God's Love Knows No Limits: Cardinal Vincent Nichols, alongside 19 bishops and many priests, led the Eucharistic adoration. He reminded the young people that their names are written

in Jesus' heart and vice versa; When we come to Christ, it is the meeting of two loving hearts; we are unstoppable in Christ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Jane Francis from St Paul's who has passed away. Jane's Requiem Mass will take place on **Tuesday 8th April at 12noon at St Paul's** followed by committal at St James' Cemetery, Dover. Please also pray for Keith Armstrong, husband of Abina, who has died. Keith's funeral service will take place in St Paul's on **Friday 4th April at 1pm** followed by committal at Hamilton Road Cemetery, Deal at 2.15pm. Also, please pray for Anthony Grilli, former teacher at St Edmund's School, Dover, and Johnny Vercammen who have passed away. Johnny's funeral service will take place at St Paul's on **Saturday 29th March at 2pm**. Anthony's funeral service will take place on **Wednesday 16th April, 11am** at St Andrews Church Shepherdswell. May Jane, Keith, Anthony and Johnny Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2025. For those who give their Offertory Donation by envelope please collect the new Gift Aid envelopes after Mass this weekend from Mary at St Paul's or Anne at St Finbarr's. Thank you.

ST PAUL'S PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE PARISH & THEIR FAMILIES. **Sunday 13th April 12pm-2pm** (After 11am Mass) Please join us for lunch to celebrate Palm Sunday & prepare for Holy Week. There will be songs, crafts & games with prizes to be won! We hope you can make it. Any questions please speak to George, Maeve or Laura.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION AT ST PAUL'S Saturdays in the upper room of the parish hall from **10am to 11am.** (**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME**) (Next Saturday 29th March it will be in the church). 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 Autumn.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE - FRIDAY 19th to MONDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER:

This is now confirmed. Cost for 3 nights half board accommodation £485 per person based on 2 people sharing (plus £60 single supplement). Estimated flight costs £320 per person. Book early to avoid flight supplement. Deposit £300 per person. Balance 10 weeks prior to departure. For a booking form and further information please contact Mary in the parish office, 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 27th March. OT Book of Exodus.

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.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER'S TRAINING FOR THE PARISH: On **Tuesday 1st April, 7pm**, we shall be hosting a renewal training program for the Lay Eucharistic Ministers. This training is combined for both Churches at St. Paul's. A speaker from the Agency for Evangelization will come from London to lead this training. I wish to encourage all our Lay Ministers to please attend this session, especially if you want to still continue in this role. Fr. Leo.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE / CONFESSIONS FOR LENT: Our reconciliation / penitential services and confessions will come up during the Holy Week. This year, the services will be led by Father Giovanni Prandini who is the assistant Parish Priest in Canterbury. It comprises of some short reflections, prayers and confessions / Sacrament of Penance. **Monday 14th April 6pm (St Paul's)** and **Tuesday 15th April 6pm (St Finbarr's)**. This is necessary at the time of Lent and I encourage all to take this opportunity of Lenten blessing.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) would like to invite the parishioners to afternoon tea on **Sunday 6th April** in the Parish Hall at 3pm. Please come and find out about your SVP and what they have achieved.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE 12TH JULY AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, SOUTHWARK. If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, **and no later than the middle of May**, providing the following details: **your names** in the format John and Mary Smith, **your home address**, your **parish**, and the **anniversary you are celebrating**, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact Carole at mfilkent@rcaos.org.uk. As the **title of your email, please write your parish location** e.g. Dover, Aylesham.

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. **If you would like to go please let Mary in the parish office know, email dover@rcaos.org.uk or message 07936 573155.** We only have two people who have indicated interest so far. To make a coach viable we need more people. God bless, Fr Leo.

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal		
	March/April 2025	
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	Every Third Sunday 9.15am	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
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 (final session 31 st March)	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
Adult SYCAMORE Course	Every Wednesday 7pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
SYCAMORE Course for Young Adults	Every Sunday 6pm	St Paul's Upper Hall, 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
SYCAMORE Course, Fides & Bible Study, all combined session	Every Tuesday 7pm	St. Finbarr's, Aylesham.
Confirmation Preparation	Every Saturday 10am	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
Parish Planning Meeting	Tuesday 25 th March 7pm (St Paul's) Friday 28 th March 7pm (St Finbarr's)	St Paul's Hall, Dover St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Lay Eucharistic Minister Training	Tuesday 1 st April 7pm (Combined St Paul's & St Finbarr's) Tuesday 8 th April 7pm (St Paul's) Thursday 10 th April 7pm (St Finbarr's)	St Paul's, Dover St Paul's, Dover St Finbarr's, Aylesham
St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Tea	Sunday 6 th April 3pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Palm Sunday Celebration for the Children & their Families	Sunday 13 th April 12noon	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Lenten Penitential Service	Monday 14 th April 6pm (St Paul's) Tuesday 15 th April 6pm (St Finbarr's)	St Paul's, Dover St Finbarr's, Aylesham

CATECHISM-THE SEASON OF LENT:

SUFFERING: *We can look at suffering from a different perspective:* Our Lord understands our struggles and gives us the grace we need to bear them well. We can learn how to do this from His example. He endured His suffering with patience, dignity, and humility. Jesus never stopped loving, forgiving, and praying for his persecutors. Even though the situation was so intense, He obeyed God's Will. His response to such an extreme situation was one of love. He endured it for our salvation. From His example, we can learn to love with humility and patience despite our broken world.

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: Daniel Donnachie, Janet Anne Wiseman, Stella Willetts, James Herr, Vincent Yore, Peter Yore, Francis Tierney Gallagher, Agnes Stevenson McKenna, Joan Elliott, Edward Golden, Gloria Rockenbauer.

St Paul's: Winifred Corbett, George Stratford, Violet Goddard, George Carr, Mary Jane (Maureen) Gibbs, Sean Thomas Ronan, Molly Townhill, Rita Charlotte Milford, Sheila Pople, Albert Townhill, Marian Clay, Shane Clay, Georgina Clay, Phylis Conlon, Janusia Ashton, Anita Lee, John Sharp, Ethel Kate Newman, Frederick Natall, Yvonne O'Brien, Brigadier Gilbert Hickey, Flo Roberts, Josephine Hennin, Ian Dalziel, Norma Nunn, Arthur McMillan.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE'S CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: dovernewsletter@rcaos.org.uk

New sletter 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

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
	Saturday 22nd March	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 23rd March	9.30am 10.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Stations of the Cross Mass for Mary Ann Potter 'F' Followed by Sacristans' & Altar Servers' Training
	Tuesday 25th March	7pm	SYCAMORE Course, Fides & Bible Study Combined
	Wednesday 26th March	10.15am	Mass For G/E Fr Jamie (Kath Quigley)
	Saturday 29th March	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY	Sunday 30th March	9.30am 10.30am 11.15am	First Holy Communion preparation in the Church Stations of the Cross Mass for Carl Bramwell RIP (Bramwell Family)
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
	Saturday 22nd March	9.30am 10am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall. Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Mary SR (Sheila) Confirmation preparation in the upper hall Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Jane Francis RIP (Theresa)
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	Sunday 23rd March	9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Anne & Peter Castle 60th W/A (Sheila) Coffee after Mass Mass for Jane Francis RIP (The Lisieux Pilgrims) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults
	Monday 24th March	10am 7pm	Mass for Sybil & Ada Fry 'F' RCIA course in the upper hall
THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	Tuesday 25th March	10am	Mass for Theresa & Keith Wells (Ronnie Mitchinson)
	Wednesday 26th March	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for G/E Maureen McCue (Sheila) Exposition and Holy Rosary (to 6.30pm) Adult Sycamore Course in the hall
	Thursday 27th March	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for Kaisa & Anthony (Kath Quigley) Bible Study in the hall OT Book of Exodus
	Friday 28th March	10am 6pm	Mass for Jane Francis RIP (Carol Balment) Stations of the Cross
	Saturday 29th March	9.30am 10am 10am 2pm 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall (Final session before Easter) Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E Veronika & Ivo (Tim) Confirmation preparation in the Church Funeral Service for Johnny Vercammen Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for G/E Tim (Kath Quigley)
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY	Sunday 30th March	9.15am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Keith, Theresa & Family (Kath Quigley) Coffee after Mass Mass In Thanksgiving Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 23RD MARCH 2025

First reading

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

“I Am” has sent me to you.’

In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, ‘I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.’ When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ Then he said, ‘Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’ And he said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, ‘I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.’

Then Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I Am Who I Am.’ And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “I Am has sent me to you.” ’ God also said to Moses, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.” This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8, 11. R8a

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives full justice to all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of Israel.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him.
The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

The way of life of the people with Moses in the desert was written down for our instruction.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

'Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?"' And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."'

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.