



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/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsaye7499/streams>



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C - 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025

### Missal **P392** Order of the Mass **P470**

#### SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE PRIEST TRAINING FUND

*To support the work of the Archdiocese of Southwark's Vocations team, seminary fees and living costs of our Seminarians and those in formation for the Diaconate*

*We wish Fr Godwin a Safe Journey and Happy Holiday as he Travels to Nigeria this Week*

### PROCESSION FOR MARY 3PM TODAY AT ST PAUL'S GATHER IN THE CAR PARK BEHIND THE CHURCH

**PRIEST CORNER- HABEMUS PAPAM!** On May 8, 2025, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was elected as the 267th pope of the Roman Catholic Church, taking the name Pope Leo XIV. This historic election marks the first time an American has ascended to the papacy. In his first public address, Pope Leo XIV emphasized themes of peace, unity, and the Love of God for the Church and for everyone. Born in Chicago in 1955, Robert Prevost is a member of the Order of Saint Augustine. He spent significant time in Peru, serving as a missionary and later as the Bishop of Chiclayo. In 2023, he was appointed by Pope Francis to lead the Vatican's Dicastery for Bishops, a role that positioned him as a key figure in the Church's hierarchy. May the Lord bless our new Pope, may he be guided by the Holy Spirit as a good shepherd.



**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY (WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS)** The Fourth Sunday of Easter, known as *Good Shepherd Sunday*, is also the "*World Day of Prayer for Vocations*." Each year on this Sunday, we reflect on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, devotedly and kindly taking care of his flock. The title "*Pastor*" means shepherd. A shepherd leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects, and protects his flock. These



responsibilities belong to all Church leaders, parents, civil leaders, and all who are in charge of others. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Parents, caregivers, teachers, superiors, bosses, religious leader are called to be Good Shepherds. At home parents are the shepherds and the children are the sheep; this is the ideal situation. Parents are expected to shepherd more by good examples. Teachers are meant to teach not just by

words but also by fruitful actions. Religious leaders at various levels are meant to tend and lead the flock to God. If we anticipate good shepherds there is also need for good sheep. We are all sheep under the Good Shepherd. Just as we acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ as the Good Shepherd, we are also expected to be good sheep. We pray for a total transformation of our lives, for Good Shepherds/Good Flock, for responsible systems/sustainable economic policies, for increase in the Priestly and Religious Vocations and for Good Marriages and responsible families. May Jesus the Good Shepherd answer our prayer, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2025:** Next Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May is Safeguarding Sunday and Archbishop John Wilson has issued a pastoral letter. In his letter, Archbishop John said "Safeguarding is not the work of a few; it is a shared responsibility. Each of us — clergy, volunteers, parents, parishioners — is called to remain vigilant, informed, and committed to the well-being of every member of our community". You can find out more about Safeguarding Sunday, including accessing the full pastoral letter, at <https://rcaos.org.uk/safeguardingsunday25> or via the QR code.



**MUSTARD SEEDS CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Next Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at the 9am Mass at St Paul's.

**PROCESSION FOR MARY:** St Finbarr's next Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 10am.

**ST. JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP:** The next meeting will be Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm in St Paul's Hall. All welcome.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** St Finbarr's will have their cleaning day on Saturday 31st May at 10am.

**CONFIRMATION AT ST PAUL'S** continues every Saturday in the upper room of the parish hall from 10am to 11am. The Bishop will lead the confirmation ceremony in the Autumn.

**YOUNG ADULTS SYCAMORE COURSE:** Please note there will be no session today Sunday 11th May.

**HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY** from all the parish clergy and parishioners, to Elizabeth Gilchrist from St Finbarr's, who celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday today Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Deacon Barry.

**ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY ST PAUL'S:** The next pre 10am Mass rosary and post Mass bible study will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May. OT Book of Exodus.

**FEAST OF PENTECOST SUNDAY: PARISH CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025**

Pentecost is the birthday of the universal church and has special meaning for us as a Spiritan parish in Dover and Aylesham. The celebration will commence with Mass in both churches on that day and be followed by a parish social celebrating the diversity of our parish family. At St Paul's we will have one Mass on that Sunday at 10am. St Finbarr's will have 11am as normal. Please join us and come dressed in your national costume, and bring some food to share, ideally reflecting your cultural heritage. Scots, Welsh, Irish, Italian, Polish, Indian, African, Asian, Latin-American parishioners etc. have national dress and traditional food. England may not have a general national dress, so why not consider wearing something; red, white and blue. Regardless of what you wear, or what you bring to eat, the most important thing is to bring yourself and your family and join in the celebration. God bless, Fr Leo.

**ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL** - less than 1 week left! **Report Stage of the assisted suicide Bill is 16th May.** If you are able please contact your MP urgently about this issue. Please take action now and visit [www.righttolife.org.uk/ASVote](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/ASVote) to email your MP - it takes just 30 seconds! If you have the time, please also visit your MP - you can arrange a meeting now by visiting [www.righttolife.org.uk/meetyourMP](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/meetyourMP)

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE - FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> to MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER:** 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 [doover@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:doover@rcaos.org.uk) or message 07936 573155. God bless, Fr Leo.

**THE BOY FROM NAZARETH** is an original play with music. To discover whether we have sufficient performers and singers of all ages, as well as organizers and technicians to contribute to a 'Christian Unity Production' this coming Christmas, we need to start very soon. **On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 10:30 - 12:30, there will be a meeting to discuss the project for Aylesham at St. Finbarr's. On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July there will be a meeting for Dover 10:30 -12:30.** We hope you will join us, if this attracts you. If you have any questions that need to be answered before the meetings, please email Jeremy Rowe on [jeremyhrowe@btinternet.com](mailto:jeremyhrowe@btinternet.com)

**JOIN RADIO MARIA** for a Worldwide Rosary live from the Chapel of the Apparitions at the heart of the Fátima Shrine. Pray with our global family on **Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm.** Listen on DAB+, online at <https://radiomariaengland.uk/>, on the free Radio Maria Play app, or on your smart speaker by saying, "Play Radio Maria England."

**A DAY WITH MARY:** See the posters in the porch.

- **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May** Corpus Christi Church, Lyons Crescent, Tonbridge
- **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June** St Thomas More, Long Lane, Bexleyheath DA7 5JW
- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June** Our Lady Help of Christians, Mottingham Rd, Mottingham

For further information email [adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com) / website [www.adaywithmary.org](http://www.adaywithmary.org) Tel 020 8641 6418

**CMM SEK SINGERS** invite you to the Roger Jones' musical Two Sisters and a Funeral.

- **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June** Charlton Church, Alphege Road, Dover
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** St Andrew's Methodist Church, Folkestone
- **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August** All Saints Church, Whitstable

Rehearsals take place twice a month at River Methodist Church, Dover CT17 0PP, at 2pm.

To express an interest or for further information contact Susan Randall at [susanrandall51518@gmail.com](mailto:susanrandall51518@gmail.com)

<b>Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham</b> <b>‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal</b>		
	<b>May / June 2025</b>	
<b>Mustard Seed Children’s Liturgy</b>	<b>Every Third Sunday 9am</b> (Next 18 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>St Jude’s Prayer Group</b>	<b>Every Third Monday 2pm – 3pm</b> (Next 19 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>First Holy Communion Preparation</b>	<b>Every Saturday 9.30am</b>	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>First Holy Communion Preparation</b>	<b>Every Sunday 9.30am</b>	<b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>
<b>Young Adults SYCAMORE Course</b>	<b>Every Sunday 6pm (Not 11<sup>th</sup> May)</b>	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>SYCAMORE Course, Fides &amp; Bible Study, all combined session</b>	<b>Every Tuesday 7pm</b>	<b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham.</b>
<b>Confirmation Preparation</b>	<b>Every Saturday 10am</b>	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Church Cleaning Day</b>	<b>Saturday 31st May 10am</b>	<b>St Finbarr’s Aylesham</b>
<b>Procession for Mary</b> (Both Churches)	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 3pm</b> <b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 10am</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b> <b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>
<b>Archdiocese Jubilee Celebration</b>	<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 5pm</b>	<b>Aylesford Priory</b>
<b>Pentecost Sunday Celebration</b> (Both Churches)	<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover 10am</b> <b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham 11am</b>
<b>First Holy Communion</b> (Both Churches)	<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 11am</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b> <b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>

#### **PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV**

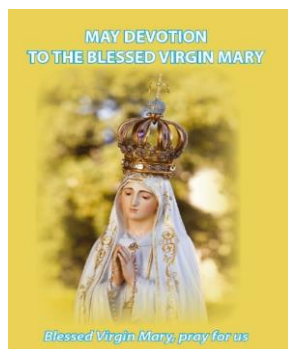
*Faithful God, You guide us on the path of life and your goodness is our constant companion.*

*Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, in his service of the Church.*

*Fill him with the power of your Spirit, the peace of your presence and the compassion of Christ.*

*May he walk with you, in wisdom and humility, and lead us, together with all God’s people, to embody your love for the world. Amen.*

#### **MAY, THE MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**



May Devotion, a special period of prayer and reflection in the Catholic Church, is dedicated to honouring Mary, the Mother of Jesus. It emphasizes Mary's role as a model of faith, her intercession for humanity, and her unique place in the Christian faith. Biblical verses highlight Mary's obedience, humility, and willingness to serve God, making her an inspiring figure for believers. The sacred scripture has affirmed the importance of Mary's role in the history of salvation as evident in Luke 1:38: "And Mary said, "Behold, I am the Lord's servant; let it be to me according to your word." This verse showcases Mary's obedience and faith in God's plan. The Blessed Virgin Mary affirmed her blessedness when she visited her cousin sister Elizabeth in Luke 1:48: "For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed." This verse acknowledges Mary's unique blessing and the recognition of her role in salvation. The miracle at the wedding of Cana, where Mary's request to Jesus leads to the transformation of water into wine demonstrates

Jesus's respect and willingness to listen to his mother and his mother's intercession on behalf of others -John 2:1-11.

#### **THE IMPORTANCE OF MAY DEVOTION**

1. May Devotion provides a dedicated time to honour Mary's faith, humility, and obedience to God.
2. Devotion to Mary involves seeking her intercession for our needs, drawing closer to Jesus through her.
3. May Devotion can offer a time of spiritual renewal and growth, encouraging prayer, reflection, and personal relationship with God.
4. Mary's life and faith provide a powerful model for Christians to follow, showing the importance of obedience, faith, and service.
5. The May Crowning tradition, a significant part of May Devotion, celebrates Mary's role as Queen of Heaven and her special relationship with God.

#### **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:** John Doyle, Maria Frost, Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, David Meadows, Roselene Hindle, Sr Rani Xavier, Thanima Jayan, Janice & Livra Fernandes, Catriona Stark, 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:** Gerard Rodes, Simone Rodes, Monica Celilia Pereira, Anne Josephine McGowan, Isabella Coatman, Gwendoline Devereux.

**St Paul's:** Margaret Chalmers, Umberto Corbo, Fr Sean Rice, Patsy Hedges, Enid Carroll, James James, Elizabeth (Lena) Gammie May Marsh, Jack Isaac Carr, William Sandell, Ellen McGurk, Edith Holmes, Elizabeth Wilmott, Michael Boston, Nigel Jonathan Walker, Donato Corbo



EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
Saint John de Ávila, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for The New Pope Leo XIV
	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	7pm	SYCAMORE Course Fides & Bible Study Combined
Saint Matthias, Apostle, Feast,	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	10.15am	Mass for The New Pope Leo XIV and the whole Church
	Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	4pm	Syro Malabar Mass
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for Children of the Parish
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
Saint John de Ávila, Priest and Doctor of the Church	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 10am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall Confirmation Preparation in the upper hall Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Anne Holiday (Mary) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Catherine O'Brien
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for G/E Martin Cronin (Tim) Coffee after Mass Mass for G/E Mary-Ann Hart Procession for Mary NO Sycamore Course for Young Adults
	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Mass for Mgr Canon John O'Toole RIP (Kay Webster)
Our Lady of Fátima	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Mass for G/E Sheila & Family (Kath Quigley)
Saint Matthias, Apostle, Feast,	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	10am 5.30pm	Mass for G/E Keith & Theresa (Kath Quigley) Exposition and Holy Rosary (until 6.30pm)
Saint John Stone, Priest and Martyr	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for Elizabeth Upward (Tim) Bible Study in the hall OT Book of Exodus
Saint Simon Stock, Priest, Memorial	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	Mass for G/E Martha (Kath Quigley)
	Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 10am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion preparation in the hall Confirmation Preparation in the upper hall Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Fr Godwin's Intention (Liz) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Vincent Croft (Tim)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	9am 9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Hilda & Alfred Smith (Smith Family) Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy in the Upper Hall Coffee after Mass Mass for G/E Clare (Kath Quigley) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Sycamore Course for Young Adults

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's [ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:ayleshamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

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

Zoroaster Bordios for St Paul's [doversg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:doversg2@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 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025

## First reading

**Acts 13:14, 43b-52**

*'Behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.'*

In those days: Paul and Barnabas went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, 'It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." ' And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 100(99):1-2. 3. 5. R3c**

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

*or: Alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Serve the LORD with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy.

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

*or: Alleluia.*

Know that he, the LORD, is God.

He made us; we belong to him.

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

*or: Alleluia.*

Indeed, how good is the LORD,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age.

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

*or: Alleluia.*

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## Second reading

**Revelation 7:9, 13a, 14b-17**

*'The Lamb will be their shepherd and will guide them to springs of living water.'*

I, John, looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

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## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.

I know my sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia.

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**Gospel****John 10:27-30**

*'I give eternal life to my sheep.'*

At that time: Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

**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.**