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St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: [www.churchservices.tv/dover](http://www.churchservices.tv/dover)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C – 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025/ Missal P903 Order of the Mass P470

*We Welcome back Fr Godwin as we thank him for his Ministry and  
Congratulate him on his 7<sup>th</sup> Priestly Anniversary.  
We also wish Fr Leo a Very Happy Birthday this week.  
Today we Celebrate St Finbarr's Family Fun Day.*

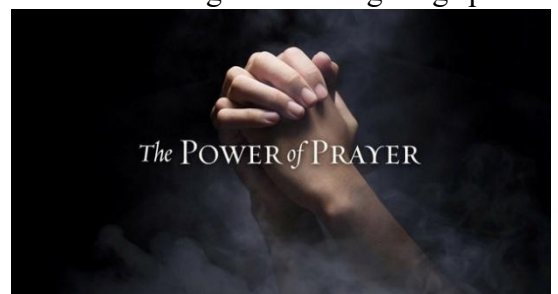


**PRIEST CORNER:** Today, we pray for our dear Fr. Godwin Alkali, CSSp, who served with us in Dover as assistant Parish Priest from the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, 2024 until the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, 2025. We have been so deeply touched by the ministry and witnessing of Fr. Godwin in our Parish. He is now appointed as the Parish Administrator to serve the Archangel Parish, Chatham. On behalf of the whole family, we want to say, thank you Fr. Godwin. We all love and appreciate you. We shall continue to pray for you in your new ministry. Very best wishes. Fr. Leo

**FR. LEO AWAY ON BREAK FOR AUGUST:** I will be away from the 28<sup>th</sup> of July until the 28<sup>th</sup> of August. I will travel on a short Pilgrimage to Rome and after, I will visit my Family in Nigeria. While I am away, **Fr. Jamie will be responsible for the Parish, assisted by Fr. Stanislaus Chukwube, CSSp and Rev. Barry.** Mary will look after all the office demands. Keep me in your Prayers. Fr. Leo

### GOSPEL REFLECTION: THE POWER OF PRAYER: LK 11:1-13

The readings of our liturgy today have a lot to teach us about prayer – how to pray and what to pray for. In the first reading we see the power of intercessory prayer. Abraham prays to God to reconsider his decision to destroy the sinful people of Sodom. Abraham negotiates with God and God was ready in his limitless mercy to rescind his decision. God's desire in giving his people a second chance and his generous forgiving spirit is boundless. In the Gospel reading, one of the disciples seeing the beauty of prayer in the way Jesus prays asks him to teach them how to pray. In that model prayer Jesus taught them he makes them realise that prayer is a father and child affair, full of love and trust. God will not be irritated by our prayers nor be unwilling to meet them with generosity. St. John Chrysostom, an early Church father, says that prayer "is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation of cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness". Prayer is very essential for the Christian life. Without prayer the life of grace in us becomes unproductive and fades away. But with prayer we are transformed. A colleague asked C.S. Lewis if he really thought he could change God with his prayer for the cure of his wife's cancer. Lewis replied: "Prayer doesn't change God; it changes me." May the Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the desire to always be in the presence of the heavenly Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Gordon Goodacre from St Margaret's at Cliffe who has died. Funeral arrangements to follow. May he Rest in Peace & Rise in Glory, Amen.

**ST. FINBARR'S FAMILY FUN DAY.** Our family fun day is today **Sunday, 27th of July** immediately after Mass. All are invited to join in an afternoon of fun for all the family. There will be games, food and drink as well as a barbecue. Please bring along a meal to share. This Family Day is special as we shall combine this with the farewell for Fr. Godwin at St. Finbarr's. We look forward to seeing you there.

**ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY ST PAUL'S.** Thursday's pre 10am Mass rosary and post Mass bible study will take place on **Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> July. OT Book of Exodus.**

**PLEASE NOTE: ST PAUL'S CAR PARK** will be closed on **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July.** Thank you for your understanding.

**SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE AT ST PAUL'S.** Please note there will be no Sunday Morning Coffee after the 9am Mass during August (apart from **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August for Grandparents Day**). We will **restart on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

**WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2025 - Calling all grandchildren! Calling all grandparents!** You are invited to celebrate the role that grandparents play in families and to say a special 'thank you' to God for grandparents will be next **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** at both the **9am** and **11am** Masses at St Paul's, and at the **11am** Mass at St Finbarr's. Grandparents and grandchildren after either of the 2 Masses at St Pauls are invited to stay to enjoy summer refreshments and each other's company in the hall. Deacon Barry.

**GRANDPARENTS' MASS 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST: INSTRUCTIONS FOR PICTURES AND PRAYERS INVITATION.** We would like the children of the parish to draw or paint a picture of their grandparent(s) and / or write a short prayer thanking God for them. These will be used to decorate St Paul's Church as part of the celebration of the Mass. Full details of how to do this are located in a basket at the back of St Paul's. Please take one home. Deacon Barry

<b>Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham</b> <b>'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal</b>		
<b>2025</b>		
<b>Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>Every Third Sunday 9am</b> <b>Restarts 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>St Jude's Prayer Group</b>	<b>Every Third Monday 2pm – 3pm</b> <b>(18<sup>th</sup> August)</b>	<b>St Paul's Hall, Dover</b>
<b>'Familia Una' Adult Youth Group</b>	<b>Every Sunday 6pm</b>	<b>St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>SYCAMORE Course, Fides &amp; Bible Study, all combined session</b>	<b>Every Monday 7pm</b>	<b>St Finbarr's, Aylesham.</b>
<b>Fides Course</b>	<b>Every Wednesday 6:40pm for 7pm</b>	<b>St Paul's Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Confirmation Preparation</b>	<b>Restarts Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Grandparents &amp; the Elderly Day</b>	<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	<b>Both Churches</b>
<b>RCIA COURSE</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 7pm</b>	<b>St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Confirmation Mass with Bishop Paul Hendricks</b>	<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 11am</b>	<b>St Paul's, Dover</b>

**THE BOY FROM NAZARETH** It would be unwise to attempt to stage a production of the play this year. I have not managed to arouse sufficient interest or confidence for such a project. This will have to await a broader base among the churches, and it will need more management than is within my capacity. We do not have to give up. A commitment to Christian Theatre will not develop without a lot of preparation and encouragement. I am not sure how to engage people in St. Finbarr's, but perhaps someone will come forward with suggestions. In Dover, there is already some promise of adventure, but nothing is certain yet as to if and when we can organize an alternative and more compact presentation. My thanks to those who attended the two meetings. I trust that your time has not been wasted. [jeremyhcrowe@btinternet.com](mailto:jeremyhcrowe@btinternet.com)

**THE WELL: AN EVENING OF BEAUTY, REFLECTION & EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL** Youth Groups and Confirmation candidates. Join Christopher West and musician Mike Mangione at St George's Cathedral on **Thursday 11th September 6:30pm to 9:30pm** for an evening of music and inspiration. Tickets are £21 – selling fast! Book now: <https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/dyfmqalv> Contact Fr Dermott: [dermottogorman@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dermottogorman@rcaos.org.uk)



**COURSE FOR ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES.** Have you seen the amazing Sycamore series about adults and their faith? The next online course for married and engaged couples begins on **Tuesday, September 9th** and continues on **Sept 16th, 23rd and 30th 2025**. Please contact Carole on [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) for more information.

**CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES.** The CCRS is a knowledge-based, internationally recognised qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, and applicable. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop's vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make an informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs> for further information.

## CATECHISM ON PRAYER



### Catholic Prayer Printables

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory Be | Apostle's Creed | Guardian Angel | Grace Before Meals

<p><b>Our Father,</b> Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. <b>Amen.</b></p>	<p><b>Hail Mary,</b> full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. <b>Amen.</b></p>	<p><b>Glory be</b> to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. <b>Amen.</b></p>
<p><b>Apostle's Creed</b> I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. <b>Amen.</b></p>	<p><b>Angel of God,</b> my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side to light and guard, to rule and guide. <b>Amen.</b></p>	<p><b>Bless us, O Lord</b> and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. <b>Amen.</b></p>

### HOW CAN WE PRAY IN OUR BUSY LIFE?

Many of us struggle to bring God into the busyness of our lives. Yet the God, who is the Lord of all of our lives, is interested in **everything** we do. Brother Lawrence was a seventeenth century French monk who knew God's presence at all times. He writes: *"God is everywhere, in all places, and there is no spot where we cannot draw near to Him, and hear Him speaking in our heart."* His central teaching is that we need to practice being aware of God's presence. *"Whoever practices God's presence will soon become spiritual."* Paul writes to the Ephesians : "Pray all the time, asking for what you need." (**Eph 6:18**).



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ADULT YOUTH GROUP WHO LED THE PARISH YOUTH MASS LAST SUNDAY. OUR NEXT YOUTH MASS COMES UP IN SEPTEMBER AT ST. FINBARR'S. FAMILIA! UNA!**

#### 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 death anniversaries occur this week:

**St Finbarr's:** Christine Burgess, Christine Burgess, Kitty Phelan, Mary Merrin, Val Deary

**St Paul's:** Jenny Gartland, Dave McClelland, Fr Patrick Healion, Kathleen Saunders, James Phoenix, Margaret Mary Heyes, Neville Walton Cox, Dorothy Hall, Arry Petch, John Brennan, Trudy Thacker, Malcolm Warner, Ann Arthur, Anthony Casey, Sherry Carney, Ena Samitowska, Mike McCarthy, Annie Wilson, John Tollan, Iris Yvonne Guy, William George Precious, Margaret Leat, Mary Hebdon

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST FINBARR'S			
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	11am	Mass for The Conversion of England followed by Family Fun Day and Goodbye to Fr. Godwin.
	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	7pm	SYCAMORE Course Fides & Bible Study Combined
	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Mass for Brother Bede Mackrell FSC (Theresa McAuley)
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	11am	Mass for Peace in Gaza
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S			
SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE, PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Maria Calnan RIP (Tim) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Fr. Godwin (7 <sup>th</sup> Priestly Anniversary) followed by refreshments in the hall
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Fr. Leo (Birthday) Coffee after Mass Mass for Youth Ministry in our Parish Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall
	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Mass for Fr. Godwin 7 <sup>th</sup> Priestly Ordination Anniversary
SAINTS MARY, MARTHA AND LAZARUS' MEMORIAL	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Mass for Fr. Leo (Birthday)
SAINT PETER CHRYSOLOGUS, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	10am 5:30pm 7pm	Mass for Rafaela Morris RIP (Tim) Exposition and Holy Rosary (until 6.30pm) Fides Session in the Hall
SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST MEMORIAL	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	9:30am 10am 10:30am	Holy Rosary in the church Mass for Holy Souls Bible Study OT Book of Exodus
SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH, MEMORIAL	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	10am	Mass for All Pilgrims of the Jubilee Year in Rome
SAINT EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI, BISHOP OR SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST OR THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for G/E Veronika & Ivo (Tim) Confessions in the Church (until 5.45pm) Mass for All Families travelling on holiday
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Archbishop John & his Ministry Coffee after Mass to celebrate Grandparents Mass for Jean MacKenzie RIP (Robert) Coffee after Mass to celebrate Grandparents Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall

**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](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.

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# Readings for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## First Reading

**Genesis 18:20-32**

*'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak.'*

In those days: The LORD said, 'Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.' So the men turned from there and went towards Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.

Then Abraham drew near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' And the LORD said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.' Abraham answered and said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the LORD, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' Again he spoke to him and said, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' He said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Psalm 138 (137): 1-2a. 2bc, 3. 6-7b. 7c-8. R.3a**

*On the day I called, you answered me O Lord*

*Or: Alleluia*

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart;  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I praise you.  
I bow down towards your holy Temple.  
*On the day I called, you answered me O Lord*  
*Or: Alleluia*

I give thanks to your name  
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.  
For you have exalted over all  
your name and your promise.  
On the day I called, you answered me;  
you increased the strength of my soul.  
*On the day I called, you answered me O Lord*  
*Or: Alleluia*

The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly,  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
You give me life though I walk amid affliction;  
you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes.  
*On the day I called, you answered me O Lord*  
*Or: Alleluia*

With your right hand you save me;  
the Lord will accomplish this for me.  
O Lord, your merciful love is eternal;  
discard not the work of your hands.  
*On the day I called, you answered me O Lord*  
*Or: Alleluia*

## Second Reading

**Colossians 2:12-14**

*'God made you alive together with him, having forgiven all trespasses'*

Brothers and sisters: You have been buried with Christ in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

## Acclamation before the Gospel

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry 'Abba! Father!'

**Alleluia.**

**Romans 8:15bc**

## Gospel

**Luke 11:1-13**

*'Ask and it will be given to you.'*

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' And he said to them, 'When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'

And he said to them, 'Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him"; and he will answer from within, "Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything"? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask 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.**