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 Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A – 18th JANUARY 2026 PEACE SUNDAY

Missal P578 Order of the Mass P470

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026

SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY TO SUPPORT FR LEO

PRIEST'S CORNER: SUMMARY OF MY MISSIONARY STORY

Growing up, we lived very close to the Spiritan seminary school. We attended morning Mass every day and I enjoyed their singing. Don't ask if I learnt how to sing. Often, I met missionaries who came back on holiday or other missionaries who came to visit the school. I always asked them many interesting questions about mission and was fascinated by their stories. From then I developed an interest in becoming one of them. That dream took me to South Africa after my ordination. There I experienced different African cultures and partial European culture. After serving the people for eight years, the same missionary spirit brought me to the United Kingdom where I served in Scotland for seven years. There I met another culture, people and food especially haggis. Today here I am in Dover where the same missionary spirit has brought me to serve you. I will also discover culture and ways of life here too. All these diversities are making me realize that I still have a lot to learn about how to serve the people of God. The joy of my life story is that in all these places I served them with the love of Christ and met nice people, and I think that all the people of Dover and Aylesham are nice too. Fr Gabriel.

GOING FORTH CELEBRATION FOR FR LEO We remain grateful to all that Fr Leo did in our parish. He is also very appreciative of the love you have shown him throughout the time he was serving us and all the gifts and words of appreciations extended to him as he departs to a new mission. We are planning to have his **farewell for both parishes** on the **31st January at St Paul's** with a Holy Mass celebrated by him. The time for the Mass needs to be changed to accommodate all your expressions of love and farewell to him. **The Mass will start by 5pm** instead of 6pm. **After the Mass there is a change of venue**, all of us are invited to **St Mary's Hall, Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BY** (just across Pencester Park) for a meal and celebration. We wish the celebration to take the shape of a family meal where everyone who is able to cook and bring and we share. **Please could we let Mary know the type of dish you wish to bring before 28th January** as it will help us in coordination. **On Sunday 1st February, he will celebrate the 9am Mass at St Paul's and 11am at St Finbarr's** to thank the people for their love. To support Fr Leo's ongoing missionary work, this weekend **17th and 18th of January** there will be a **Special Collection for him**. Kindly express your love for him as he is starting a new challenging ministry.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The story of Isaiah the prophet cannot be complete without acknowledging as he puts it that God formed him for a purpose. He was sent to bring back the stray and to be a light to the nation and for the salvation of God to reach the end of the earth. This is a big mission which John the Baptist continued through his preaching. Both Isaiah and John the Baptist as we can see responded to God's call and acted out "Behold, I have come Lord to do your will." When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he recognized him as the lamb of God who has come to take away the sins of the world. He was not ashamed to proclaim him to the world. In our world of today, we are invited by God just like Isaiah the prophet to prophesy to the world the goodness of God and like John the Baptist to show Jesus Christ to the world through our words and actions. In this way we continue to spread the kingdom of God in the world.



SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE AT ST. PAUL'S HAS BEEN SUSPENDED. We hope to restart at Easter but need more people to volunteer, especially the younger generation, to keep this important ministry going. Perhaps some of the parish groups would be willing to help. If you would like to volunteer please speak to Fr. Gabriel.

THANK YOU. Theresa Gordon would like to thank all parishioners who offered Masses and prayers for her late brother Peter Grilli.

MUSTARD SEEDS CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST PAUL'S will be this Sunday at **11am Mass** and on **the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month**. All primary school children are invited to join us. Younger children may attend with a parent or older sibling (they need to be able to join in & toilet trained). Please join us to share the gospel in a fun and interactive way. Thanks, Laura, Maeve, Henry and Jan.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) 2026 GROUP at St Paul's will be in the hall on **Saturdays at 9.30am** and at St Finbarr's in the church on **Sundays at 9.30am**.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026 Come and celebrate the Week's overall theme, '**One Body, One Spirit**', Ephesians 4:4 with Christians from different denominations across Dover, through different facilitated daily themes. **ALL ARE WELCOME.** Deacon Barry, WPCU 2026 Coordinator 07715 546938 barrybarton@rcaos.org.uk

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026 - SCHEDULE			
Date and Time	Venue	Daily Themes	Organisational Lead
Monday 19th January, 10.30 am Refreshments	St Paul's Church Hall Dover	Our Call to Unity	David Slater Dover Port Chaplaincy
Tuesday 20th January, 10.30 am Refreshments	St Paul's Church Hall Dover	The Bond of Peace	Alan Boxall Dover Food Bank
Wednesday 21st January, 10.30 am Refreshments	St Paul's Church Hall Dover	Bearing with One Another in Love	Noel Beamish Dover Sunrise Cafe
Thursday 22nd January, 10.30 am Refreshments	St Paul's Church Hall Dover	Call to One Hope	Carol Boxall Dover Street Pastors
Friday 23rd January, 10.30 am Refreshments	St Paul's Church Hall Dover	One God Over All	Peter Wallace Dover Outreach Centre
Sunday 25th January, 3pm	St Paul's Catholic Church, Dover	Ecumenical Worship Service	St Paul's Clergy

ST. JUDE'S PRAYER GROUP will be meeting this Monday in St Paul's hall between 2pm and 3pm. All are welcome.

THE FIDES PRAYER SESSION – ST PAUL'S will resume this Wednesday **21st January, at 6:40 for 7pm** in the parish hall.

THE ADULT RCIA COURSE will resume this **Monday 19th January 7pm** in the upper room of St Paul's Hall.

ADULT YOUTH GROUP Familia UNA Faith and Life course will resume its weekly sessions **next Sunday 25th January 6pm** in the upper room of St Paul's hall. All young people aged 16 and over are welcome.

HOLY ROSARY AND BIBLE STUDY AT ST PAUL'S every Thursday at 9.30am and the bible study immediately after the 10.00am Mass. **OT Book of Exodus.**

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER: Cash & CollecTin £3349.32; Bankers Orders £3,109.00; Second Collections: SVP £601.50; Christmas Flowers £347.65; Carol Service £63.92. Christmas Offering for the Clergy £2,008.36. Thank you for your generosity.

WINTER SOUP KITCHEN (WSK) ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL: Every Sunday afternoon from 4pm - 6pm. We provide a warm space for those who are homeless or lonely or just needing a place to chat on a Sunday.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SECOND COLLECTION 25TH JANUARY. For over half a century, St George's Cathedral has been the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Southwark, home to 175 parishes and over 50,000 Roman Catholics. For many Catholics living and working across London and the South East of England, St George's has been a beacon of light. Today, St George's Cathedral continues to attract thousands of worshippers and visitors each year, as well as serving a lively local parish community which proudly reflects the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of South London. The Cathedral frequently hosts important Diocesan and national celebrations and is entirely reliant upon the generosity of its parishioners, volunteers and the Archdiocese of Southwark to keep its doors open. It does not receive Vatican or government funding, nor has an endowment to rely on. Your support can enable the Cathedral to remain open daily to those seeking a place of peace, prayer and worship. Scan the QR Code using you phone camera to donate.



TODAY IS PEACE SUNDAY. The Bishops' Conference encourage us all to use the day to reflect on the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace on the 1st January. Pope Leo has said that the theme for his message which will be 'Peace be with you all: towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace'. Pax Christi promote Peace Sunday with the support of the Bishop's Conference and have produced a number of resources to help us reflect including a liturgy and activities for children. You can download these from the Peace Sunday 2026 page on their website www.paxchristi.org.uk On Peace Sunday, please support Pax Christi's work which includes promoting nonviolence as a way of resolving conflict, advocacy and campaigning for peace and peace education in schools you can donate via their website www.paxchristi.org.uk/product-category/peace-sunday-appeal/ or scan the QR code above.



Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal, 2025		
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	Every First and Third Sunday 11am	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Jude's Prayer Group	Every Third Monday 2pm – 3pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
'Familia Una' Adult Youth Group	Every Sunday 6pm Restart 25th January	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
Winter Soup Kitchen	Every Sunday 4pm – 6pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group	Every Wednesday 6:40pm for 7pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Junior Youth Group	Every First Saturday 1pm – 4pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
RCIA Course	Every Monday 7pm	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover

CATECHISM

Who is the Saviour of all men? The Saviour of all men is Jesus Christ. That Jesus Christ is the promised Saviour can be proved from the prophecies of the Old Testament which are fulfilled in Him; from His own testimony, which is worthy of belief; and from the miracles He worked in proof of His divine mission, especially His Resurrection. The name "Jesus" means Saviour. "Christ," a Greek word meaning "anointed," signifies Jesus'- threefold office of King, Priest, and Prophet, because, of old, kings, priests, and prophets were anointed. (Baltimore catechism). St Paul reminds us, "For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all, bearing witness in his own time" (1 Timothy 2:5-6).



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: David Underdown, Sr. Jennifer Sanders, .Mary Mee, Carol Manton, Oliver O'Connor, Helen Scopes, 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, Pat Evans, Shirley Lazarus, Shirley Jefford, 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: Frank Golden, May Wilson, John Leach, Mary McIntyre, Catherine Alice Lorne, Bernard William Jenkins, Timothy Ward, Jane Charlotte Sabine, Odile Tyson, Robert Maguire, John Quinn, Kathleen Mountford, Pat Yore, Ann Kathleen Brown, Rene Viner, Michael James Humphreys, Michael Dobson, Rob Maguire.

St Paul's: Colin Hay, Josephine Smye-Rumsby, Bernard Moore, Christina O'Reilly, Teresa Maria Morley, Jacqueline Margeson, Leslie Ross MacNab, Anne Marie McDonald, Peter Henneker, Margaret (Peggy) Eileen Kirby, Helena Pal, Frank Taylor, Annie Holdstock, Timothy Ward, Maria Gray, William Doolin, Maureen Shaw, Joan D'Eath, William James Huntley, Nuala Pullen, Ted Belsey, Kitty Casey, Mabel O'Neill, Arthur Griffiths, Patricia Monger.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME PEACE SUNDAY	Sunday 18 th January	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for World Peace
SAINT AGNES, VIRGIN AND MARTYR	Wednesday 21 st January	10am	Mass for Deceased Clergy of the Diocese
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 25 th January	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation in Church Mass for Sick of the Parish
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
SAINT ANTHONY, ABBOT, MEMORIAL	Saturday 17 th January	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Vocations to the Priesthood and Peter Grilli RIP (Bong) Confessions in the Church (until 5:45pm) Mass for People of the Parish
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME PEACE SUNDAY	Sunday 18 th January	9am 11am 3pm 4pm	Mass for World Peace Mass for Deceased Hart and Cusack Families (Mary-Ann) Mustard Seeds Children's Liturgy Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Winter Soup Kitchen in the Hall until 6pm
SAINT WULSTAN, BISHOP	Monday 19 th January	10am 2pm 7pm	Mass for Christians Together in Dover St Jude's Prayer Group in the Hall RCIA in the Upper Hall
SAINT FABIAN, POPE AND MARTYR	Tuesday 20 th January	10am	Mass for Deceased Family and Friends (Theresa)
SAINT AGNES, VIRGIN AND MARTYR	Wednesday 21 st January	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for Peace in Iran Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall
SAINT VINCENT, DEACON AND MARTYR	Thursday 22 nd January	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary Mass for The Unemployed Bible Study in the Hall
	Friday 23 rd January	10am	Mass for Christian Unity
SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Saturday 24 th January	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for The Elderly and Infirm Confessions in the Church (until 5:45pm) Mass for Maureen Houghton RIP (Colin)
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 25 th January	9am 11am 3pm 4pm 6pm	Mass for People of the Parish Mass for G/E Paul Ecumenical Worship Service CTiD Winter Soup Kitchen in the Hall until 6pm Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall

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For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the Editor: dovertnewsletter@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 18th January 2026

First Reading

Isaiah 49:3.5-6

'I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'

And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him —
for I am honoured in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength —
he says:

'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40(39):2, 4ab. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. R8a, 9a

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.
Or: Alleluia

I waited, I waited for the LORD,
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.
Or: Alleluia

You delight not in sacrifice and offering,
but in an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and sin offering.
Then I said, 'Behold, I have come.'
Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.
Or: Alleluia

In the scroll of the book it stands written of me:
'I delight to do your will, O my God;
your instruction lies deep within me.'
Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.
Or: Alleluia

Your uprightness I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O LORD.
Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.
Or: Alleluia

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

'Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;
to all who did receive him,
he gave the authority to become children of God.

Alleluia. John 1:14a, 12a

Gospel

John 1:29-34

'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.'

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

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.