



St Paul's Presbytery 103 Maison Dieu Road, Dover CT16 1RU
St Finbarr's Church, Market Place, Aylesham CT3 3EZ
Parish Priest: Fr Gabriel Onoyima CSSp 01304 206766 gabrielonoyima@rcaos.org.uk
Asst: Fr Jamie Houghton 07955 242324 jameshoughton@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Barry Barton: 07715 546938 barrybarton@rcaos.org.uk
Parish Secretary: 07936 573155 dover@rcaos.org.uk
St Finbarr's: aylesham@rcaos.org.uk
Parish website: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk
Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR A – 12th APRIL 2026
Missal P296 Order of the Mass P470

PRIEST'S CORNER:

Joyfully we await the coming of our assistant priest before the end of April.

Biography of Rev. Fr. Benedict Wambua Nzioka, CSSp

Rev. Fr. Benedict Wambua Nzioka CSSp, born on June 28, 1974 in Machakos, Kenya, is a Roman Catholic priest of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans). He pursued his early education at Kaloleni Primary School and Pope Paul VI Junior Seminary before advancing to philosophical and theological studies in Tanzania, Ireland, and France. He holds degrees in Philosophy, Theology, Anthropology, Mission Theology, and Education, with academic interests spanning religious studies, cultural anthropology, inter-religious dialogue, and environmental issues.

Fr. Nzioka made his first religious profession in 1999 and was ordained to the priesthood in 2004. His ministry has taken him across Ireland, Tanzania, and Kenya, serving as parish priest, rector, and director in various Spiritan institutions. He has been deeply involved in vocations ministry, refugee support, parish leadership, and the formation of future priests. Notably, he has served as Rector of the Spiritan House of Formation in Nairobi, Rector of the Immaculate Heart Shrine in Mombasa, and Director of Holy Ghost Schools and Technical Institute in Mombasa.



GOSPEL REFLECTION: Divine Mercy Sunday

This Sunday, we are celebrating the Divine Mercy of God which is the manifestation of God's love upon us



through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He sacrificed himself to save us. In the gospel, by showing himself to his apostles after his resurrection shows how much God loves them unconditionally. Even after denying and running away during the suffering and death of Jesus and locking themselves up in the upper room due to fear, Jesus still came to them. Their action did not change the love that he has for them. He offered them the Holy Spirit and entrusted to them the power to forgive sins. Thomas did not believe that Jesus came to them probably because he felt that they were unworthy of his trust and friendship. Still even in those doubts, the Mercy of God was still presented to him and them. Accepting the love of God and making effort to follow and do the will of Jesus is what we are being offered in the Divine Mercy of God.

WEDDING OF ESTELLE ESCUBIO & QUINN SMITH. The Nuptial Mass will take place in St Paul's Church, tomorrow, **Monday 13th April at 2.30 pm.** All are welcome to attend the ceremony.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED. Catherine Mary (Cathy) Huntley from St. Paul's, mother of Clare and Joe. Cathy's Requiem Mass will be this **Tuesday 14th April at 11am** followed by cremation at Barham at 1pm. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Amen.

Please note there will be no 10am Mass on Tuesday due to the Requiem Mass at 11am.

INDUCTION OF FR. GABRIEL as the parish priest of the Good Shepherd parish by Bishop Paul Hendricks will take place **this Thursday 16th April with Mass at 6pm**. We invite all of you for this memorable celebration. The Reception afterwards will be at **St Richard's Catholic Primary School, Castle Avenue, Dover**. **TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY TO GET YOUR FREE TICKET TO THE RECEPTION**. These can be obtained through the following website. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reception-for-fr-gabriel-onoyima-cssp-tickets-1984365643056?aff=oddtcreator>. If you do not have access to the internet please give your name to Mary if you would like to attend. Tel 07936 573155. **The Induction Mass is open to All**. It is just the Reception afterwards that will be free ticketed. We will be arranging transport for those who wish to attend the Reception and are unable to walk up the hill to the School. Please contact Mary in the office if you require transport.



CONGRATULATIONS Doug, Simon, Maizie, Georgina, Katie, Dawn and William who were received into the church at the Easter Vigil. God Bless you.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES. Some of us joined Our Lady of Dover parish for their trip to Lourdes last week. It was the 70th Anniversary of the HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust). It was an amazing experience. We lit candles and prayed for you all.



NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2026/27. Please pick up from the back of church.

FAITH AND LIFE SESSIONS FOR FAMILIA UNA YOUTH GROUP Resumes today, **Sunday, 12th April**, which will be the start of a Youth Alpha course.

BIBLE STUDY AT ST PAUL'S. The next bible study will take place immediately after the 10am Mass on **Thursday 23rd April**.

CHILDREN'S FILM EVENT. Youth Mustards Seeds invite children aged 9–15 to a screening of "The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima" on **Saturday 9th of May** 1pm to 4pm at the Hall of St Paul Church. Refreshments will be provided.

ST FINBARR'S CORNER. Fides meetings will be taking a break for the month of April. We will reconvene on **Thursday, the 7th of May** at our usual time of 6:40 for a 7pm start.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO RUN A REPOSITORY AT ST. FINBARR'S. We would like to revive our repository at St Finbarr's where prayer books, sacramentals and holy objects will be sold. If you are interested in helping with this, please speak to Fr Gabriel, Carina or Esiri.

ST FINBARR'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY the **1st Sunday of the month only**, until we recruit some more volunteers.



MARK & LINDSAY PILGRIMS HOSPICE 125 MILE CYCLE CHALLENGE 2026.

Mark Kennett and his daughter Lindsay are going to cycle 125 miles in one day, **Sunday 3rd May**, to raise funds for The Pilgrims Hospice Please support them if you can, Either by clicking on their just giving page or seeing Mark after Mass.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/markandlindsay?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

URGENT ASSISTANCE NEEDED Does anyone have any spare bicycles available for free? We urgently need three adult-sized bicycles and one 24-inch bicycle to solve a commuting problem for an asylum-seeking family living in Dover. If you have any spare bicycles available, they can be returned to you when the family leave Dover. If you can help please let Mary know in the office. Tel 07936 573155.

COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH: Cash & CollecTin £4094.97; Bankers Orders £4236.00; Second Collections: CAFOD Family Fast £245.69; Poor Parishes £360.00; Thank you for your generosity.

FREE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE EVENTS FOR PARENTS AND MARRIED OR ENGAGED COUPLES - For parents with teenagers Catholic CELEBRATE are offering free of charge 2 webinars **Confident parenting in a world of screens, 29th April**, 8pm and **Raising teenagers in a Catholic family 2nd June**, 8pm. To book a place contact asap info@celebratetrust.org

SUMMER CELEBRATION OF ST. JUDE The Summer Celebration of St. Jude will be on **Saturday 30th May** in the grounds of the Carmelite Shrine of St. Jude, 34 Tanner Street, Faversham ME13 7JW. *11am Devotions with Anointing; *1.30pm Open Air Mass; * 2.30pm Procession past the Shrine of St. Jude. All are welcome.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE July 11th, At St George’s Cathedral. 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 us at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Dover, Aylesham

FOR ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES: ROOTED IN LOVE – ONLINE GROUP Meets one hour a month on Zoom from 8.30pm to 9.30 pm. No travelling and no costs. It’s free to attend **April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22, November 26, December 10.** FFI contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk To obtain further information go to **Southwark MFL** webpage <https://rcaos.org.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life/>

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham ‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal, 2026		
Mustard Seed Children’s Liturgy	First and Third Sunday 11am 19th April	St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover
St Finbarr’s Children’s Liturgy	First Sunday of the Month 11am	St Finbarr’s, Aylesham
St Jude’s Prayer Group	Third Monday 2pm – 3pm 20th April	St Paul’s Hall, Dover
‘Familia Una’ Adult Youth Group	Sunday 6pm 12th April	St. Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Saturday 9.30am Restarts 25th April	St Paul’s Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Sunday 9.30am Restarts 26th April	St Finbarr’s, Aylesham
Fides Prayer Group St Paul’s	Wednesday 6:40pm for 7pm Restarts 22nd April	St Paul’s Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group St Finbarr’s	Alternate Thursdays 6:40pm for 7pm Restarts 7th May	St Finbarr’s, Aylesham
Junior Youth Group “The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima” Film Show	Saturday 9th May 1pm – 4pm	St Paul’s Hall, Dover

CATECHISM

What is meant by the Redemption?

By the Redemption is meant that Jesus Christ, as the Redeemer of the whole human race, offered His sufferings and death to God as a fitting sacrifice in satisfaction for the sins of men, and regained for them the right to be children of God and heirs of heaven. Satisfaction is compensation for an offense or injury against another. A redeemer is one who pays a price to regain something that has been lost or given up. No creature could, of himself, make adequate satisfaction for sin, which offends the infinite majesty of God. Every creature is finite and, as such, is unable to make infinite satisfaction. (Baltimore catechism)

Please Pray for those who are unwell:

St Finbarr’s: Charlotte, 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: Keely Cookson, David Underdown, Sr. Jennifer Sanders, Mary Mee, Carol Manton, Oliver O’Connor, Helen Scopes, John Doyle, Maria Frost, Roz & Rob Pain, Rosa Mazzitelli, 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, John & Joyce Nix, Bailey Turner, Peggy Merrell, Ryan Whittall, Jean Ann Dowle, Norman Woolhouse, Ted Peel, Christopher Browne, Angela, Alice Wilson, Angela Henbrey, Madison Woodall, Elisa Gomez Melero, Ann Tomalak, Emin Jain, Pat & Patricia Sherratt, Chris Roy.

Please Pray for those whose death anniversaries occur this week:

St Finbarr’s: Mary White, Henry Valentine Gunson, Peter Yore, Sarah Deary, Thelma Friel, Catherine Hart.

St Paul’s: Colin Henbry, Virginia Grilli, Bernadette Crittall, Malcolm John Skinner, Dorothy Smith, Iris Taylor, Elizabeth Marie Peters, Marshall Jones, Hilda Freed, Peter Tiernan, Michael Boston, Hannah Ride, Nigel Jonathan Walker, Kay Walsh, Joyce Elkington.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
DEVINE MERCY SUNDAY SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 12th April	11am	Mass for George Gilchrist RIP (Bet)
	Wednesday 15th April	10am	Mass for People in Debt
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 19th April	11am	Mass for The Bereaved
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
	Saturday 11th April	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Peace in the Middle East Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Niamh Cavanagh RIP (James Liston)
DEVINE MERCY SUNDAY SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 12th April	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for God's Blessing, Mercy & Protection for the Ziarek Family Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for Kathleen Huntley RIP (Mary) & Baby Michelle (Marie) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall
SAINT MARTIN I POPE AND MARTYR	Monday 13th April	10am 2.30pm	Mass for Philomena Byrne RIP (Mrs McArdle) & Jonas Motoska (Robert Konya) Nuptial Mass for Estelle Escubio & Quinn Smith
	Tuesday 14th April	10am 11am	NO MASS REQUIEM MASS for Catherine Huntley
	Wednesday 15th April	10am 5.30pm	Mass for Ian Thomas Barber RIP (Colin) Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm
SAINT GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL	Thursday 16th April	9.30am 10am 6pm	Holy Rosary Mass for G/E Sister Jennifer Saunders (Moya) NO Bible Study until 23rd April INDUCTION MASS of Fr. Gabriel Onoyima CSSp as Parish Priest Followed by a Reception at St Richard's Catholic School
	Friday 17th April	10am	Mass for Kathy Ryan RIP (Lizzie)
	Saturday 18th April	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Cathy Huntley RIP (Monica Pope) Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Bridie RIP (Philomena) & Carol Smye-Rumsby RIP Interment of Ashes
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 19th April	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Cathy Huntley RIP (Ronnie) Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for Private Intention Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

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

Keith Wells for St Paul's doversg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Zoroaster Bordios for St Paul's doversg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Readings for Sunday

12th April 2026

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

'All who believed were together and had all things in common.'

The believers devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the Apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they shared their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118(117):2-4. 13-15b. 22-24. R1

*Give praise to the LORD, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.*

or: Alleluia.

Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the LORD say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

*Give praise to the LORD, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.*

or: Alleluia.

They pushed me, pushed me hard to knock me down,
but the LORD was my helper.

The LORD is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and salvation
in the tents of the righteous.

*Give praise to the LORD, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.*

or: Alleluia.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad.

*Give praise to the LORD, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.*

or: Alleluia.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

*'He has caused us to be born again to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.'*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia.

John 20:29

Gospel

John 20:19-31

'Eight days later, Jesus came.'

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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.