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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>

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **YEAR A – 26th APRIL 2026**

Missal P306 Order of the Mass P470

Second Collection for the Priest Training Fund

**WE WELCOME FATHER BENEDICT WAMBUA NZIOKA, CSSP
TO OUR PARISH. WE HOPE HE WILL BE VERY HAPPY HERE WITH US!**

GOSPEL REFLECTION: GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



There are different types of shepherds, and each is characterised by how the sheep are attended to. We focus on the example of Jesus who proclaimed himself the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd has time for his sheep. He knows their conditions and needs and attend to them appropriately. He lays down his life for the sheep especially in times of danger. Jesus practiced all the attributes that qualify his claim and also trained his followers to be like him. That is why Peter was able to stand and preach on the day of Pentecost. He preached as a shepherd who care for the

sheep entrusted to him. Today the continued work of the good shepherd is entrusted to us in different capacities as long as we are followers of Jesus Christ. May we learn from Jesus and the experience of the apostles after the Pentecost experience to be able to live out our lives in the service of other people.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR THE PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Good Shepherd Sunday – Support Our Future Priests. The priesthood has always been at the heart of the Church. This Good Shepherd Sunday, we pray for vocations and support the Priest Training Fund, which forms men for service across our parishes, schools, hospitals, and communities. We currently have 9 seminarians, each costing around £30,000 per year over six years of formation. Your generosity helps make their calling possible. 🙌 Donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF 📞 Call: 020 7960

2504 (weekdays, 9am–5pm) 🙏 Or use the envelopes at the back of church **Leave a lasting legacy to the Church.** Please consider remembering our church or the Priesthood in your Will. Find out more: www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/leave-a-legacy. Thank you for your prayers and support.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE/TEA AT ST PAUL'S in the Hall after the 9am Mass every Sunday.

NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2026/27. There are still some envelopes to be collected. Please pick up from the back of church.



THANK YOU ST FINBARR'S LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION.

Dear everyone, thank you very much for your kind donations to the Lenten Food Collection. Everything has now been delivered to the Beechange Food Collection, where it is supporting our local families and young people.

MARIAN ROSARY PROCESSION AT ST PAUL'S will be on **Sunday, 3rd May** starting at 3pm. Followed by tea/coffee and ice cream in the Parish Hall.

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. 1. **Fides Meetings in St Finbarr's May/June 2026:** Know your Faith - exploring the different understanding of the key teachings and practices between Protestant and Catholic Churches. You are all invited to attend our Fides Meetings which take place on a fortnightly basis on a Thursday, from the 7th of May 2026. They will be led by Fr Jamie who will share with us from his wealth of knowledge of the faith and scripture. Our meetings are from 7pm - 8:30pm with teas and coffees from 6:40pm.

Session One: 7th May The Catechism of the Catholic Church viz a viz scripture.

Session Two: 21st May Revisiting our understanding of the seven sacraments

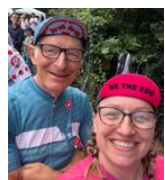
Session Three: 4th June What is Catholic Marriage and holy orders? Often misunderstood in a secular western society.

Session Four: 18th June Reception into the Church - Baptism, Confirmation, RCIA

2. **May Devotion-** During the month of May which is dedicated to our blessed Mother Mary, we will be praying the rosary together as a church community **before Mass on a Sunday, starting at 10:30** please come along to honour Our Lady.

3. **Marian Procession** - Our Marian procession this year is scheduled for **Sunday 17th May** starting at 10am. We will take off from the church and process around the village carrying our lady's statue all the while praying and singing hymns. Those who participated last year will remember what a memorable event it was. Please come out in your numbers.

4. **Church Spring Cleaning** - It's that time of the year when we need to clear out and clean up in our church and its environs. We are calling on all who are able - young and not so young in the parish to come out en masse, bring your cleaning/gardening materials and equipment's along. It is scheduled for Saturday, the **16th May 2026 10am to 2pm.**



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

CAFOD: STAND WITH SUDAN. April marks **three years since the conflict began in the neighbouring country of Sudan.** Our brothers and sisters are facing what is officially **the worst humanitarian crisis in the world.** You may remember that parishes across England and Wales supported Sudan through emergency collections two years ago. Violence in Sudan has expanded and now 13.6 million people have fled their homes. **Our Church partners remain supporting families in Sudan,** while many other charities have been forced to leave. This has become a terrible, long-term emergency. And yet news broadcasts report so little of the suffering. **Please Donate** at <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/stand-with-sudan>



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

RETROUVAILLE MARRIAGE SUPPORT: We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. **WIDOWED, SEPARATED AND DIVORCED Weekend 8th to 10th May 2026 at Worth Abbey, West Sussex, RH1 4SB.** To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel 0797 338 0443

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

Growing in Faith Together consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for:
· Married couples to enrich their friendship and love.
· Engaged couples who want to continue exploring their faith together. The next course begins on **Tuesday May 5th at 8.30pm.** For further information and to book a place, please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

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, **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/>

MUSICAL PILGRIMAGE ON THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO JUNE 8TH-14TH 2026

From Rochester to Ramsgate, via Canterbury, with Eddie Gilmore performing a little concert each evening in a pub en route. Contact Eddie for more details: gileag@gmail.com www.eddiegilmore.org

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham 'Called to Bear Fruit': Parish Renewal, 2026		
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	First and Third Sundays 11am 3rd May	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Finbarr's Children's Liturgy	First Sunday of the Month 11am 3rd May	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
St Jude's Prayer Group	Third Monday 2pm – 3pm 18th May	St Paul's Hall, Dover
'Familia Una' Adult Youth Group	Sundays 6pm	St. Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Saturday 9.30am 25th April	St Paul's Hall, Dover
First Holy Communion Preparation	Sunday 9.30am 26th April	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Fides Prayer Group St Paul's	Wednesday 6:40pm for 7pm 29th April	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group St Finbarr's	Alternate Thursdays 6:40pm for 7pm 7th May	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Marian Procession	Sunday 3rd May 3pm	St Paul's, Dover
Marian Procession	Sunday 17th May 10am	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

The Church is, accordingly, a sheepfold, the sole and necessary gateway to which is Christ. It is also the flock of which God himself foretold that he would be the shepherd, and whose sheep, even though governed by human shepherds, are unfailingly nourished and led by Christ himself, the Good Shepherd and Prince of Shepherds, who gave his life for his sheep. God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response. As God gradually reveals himself and reveals man to himself, prayer appears as a reciprocal call, a covenant drama. Through words and actions, this drama engages the heart. It unfolds throughout the whole history of salvation. (CCC 744 & 2567)



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: Grace Henderson Park Walker, Julia James, Barbara Anne Lilford, Brenda Bass, Margaret Dunn, Charles Shivers.

St Paul's: Thomas Connolly, Michael Nolan, Anthony Chalwin Carter, Veronica Lawson, Doug Hawkins, John Creed, Anton Bury, Doris Louisa Jones, Delysia White, Dorothy Winter, Bridget Cloke, Silvano & Vincenzo Gismondi, John Christopher Lee, William Chandler, Kitty Cahill, Daniel Adhern, Brian Golding.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 26th April	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation Mass for Julia James RIP (Mary Ayres)
	Wednesday 29th April	10am	Mass for Holy Souls
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 3rd May	9.30am 11am	First Holy Communion Preparation Mass for Grandson Ronnie (Andrew McTaggart)
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST	Saturday 25th April	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the Hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for G/E Sheila Henneker Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for G/E Estelle & Quinn
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 26th April	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for G/E Sheila Henneker (Moya) Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for Cathy Huntley RIP (Sheila) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall
	Monday 27th April	10am	Mass for G/E Chira Boehm (Tim)
SAINT PETER CHANEL, PRIEST AND MARTYR OR SAINT LOUIS GRIGNION DE MONTFORT, PRIEST.	Tuesday 28th April	10am	Mass for Cathy Huntley RIP (Monica Pope)
SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH, PATRON OF EUROPE	Wednesday 29th April	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for G/E Catriona Stark (Sheila) Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall - Refreshments from 6.40pm
SAINT PIUS V, POPE	Thursday 30th April	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary Mass for Lorna Lee RIP (Tim) Bible Study
SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER	Friday 1st May	10am	Mass for G/E Ros & Rob Pain (Lizzie)
SAINT ATHANASIUS, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Saturday 2nd May	9.30am 10am 5pm 6pm	First Holy Communion Preparation in the Hall Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Cathy Huntley RIP (Moya) Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Gifts of the Holy Spirit in Exam Times (Bogden, Renata & Hanna)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 3rd May	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Theresa Wells Birthday (Marie) Coffee and Tea after Mass Mass for Cathy Ryan RIP (Sheila) Marian Rosary Procession Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES CONTACT EMAIL

Stephen Carton for St Finbarr's ayleshams2@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

26th April 2026

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:20b-25

'You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.'

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 26-41

'God has made him both Lord and Christ'

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia.

John 10:14

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia.

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia.

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

'I am the door of the sheep.'

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

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.