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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/@stpaulsdoverstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A – 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2026

**Missal P619 Order of the Mass P470**

**Happy Father's Day to all our Fathers and Priestly Fathers**

**Second Collection for Day For Life**

**PRIEST CORNER:** Congratulations to the three Candidates who are making their First Holy Communion at the 11am Mass today at St Finbarr's. Please pray for them and their families. May it be the start of a lifetime of receiving Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

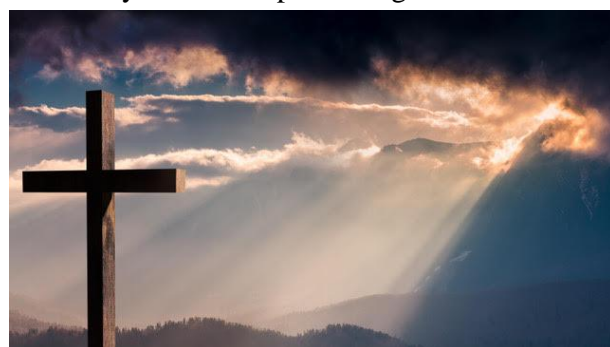
We wish all our fathers a very Happy Father's Day today.

Next Sunday is the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, and our Parish Feast Day. I encourage you all to come along to the Presbytery Garden for a BBQ after the 11am Mass next Sunday to celebrate our Feast Day.

**Congratulations Shirley!** Last week Shirley Lazarus celebrated her 90th birthday. At St Paul's we all celebrated the occasion with the gift of a bouquet of flowers and a card in recognition of the many years of service in which Shirley, along with fellow parishioner Pat Evans, cleaned the church and hall on a weekly basis, provided and served refreshments after Sunday Mass, undertook presbytery shopping and assisted with parish fund raising. Thank you, Shirley, for your service to God and St Paul's.



**GOSPEL REFLECTION** Those who truly trust in God's providence and care entertain no fear of persecution when they are on the path of righteousness. This is confirmed with words of Jesus to his followers whom he told



not to fear those who can destroy the body but can do nothing to the soul. Jesus reminds us how important we are to him hence if he can protect the sparrows, how much more about ourselves who trust and follow him. The protection of God was acknowledged by the prophet Jeremiah who was very much aware of evil plots that the people have against him but still trust that God will fight for him. When we remain faithful in keeping the will of God, we may experience persecutions and difficulties in life but God's protecting, and inner peace is always assured. The persecutions that we encounter in following Jesus is the

cross which Jesus told us to carry every day and follow him. May he give us the grace to trust in him even when we are in difficulties because of our faith.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR Audrey Stitt** from Aylesham who passed away recently. Audrey's Requiem Mass will take place at St Finbarr's on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 12noon**, followed by burial at Aylesham Cemetery. We remember Audrey's family in our prayers. Also please pray for **Mr Baby Joseph Thottupattu** the Father of Manju Augustine from St Paul's, who passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026. We remember Manju, George, Richie and Reina and all the family in our prayers. Joseph's funeral service took place on 20<sup>th</sup> June in Edoor, Kerala, India. May Joseph & Audrey Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

**PARISH FAMILY DAY AND BBQ – NEXT SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE** on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, our **Parish Feast Day**. All families are invited to the presbytery garden at St Paul's after the 11am Mass for food, games, music and fun! The parish will contribute towards the BBQ sausages, beef burgers and soft drinks and **we ask families to also bring food and drink to share**. All parishioners are welcome, including St Finbarr's families, for this special celebration.

**DAY FOR LIFE** This Sunday, Catholic churches across England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland will celebrate the Day for Life 2026. This year's theme is "*The Wonder of the Child in the Womb*." In their message for the occasion, the bishops reflect on the humanity of every unborn child and offer a special word of remembrance to parents who have lost a child before or shortly after birth. A papal blessing has also been given for the Day for Life. **The second collection this Sunday will support the Day for Life Fund**, which assists organisations dedicated to protecting life from conception until natural death in a variety of ways. Further information about the Day for Life, including helpful resources and details on how to donate to the Day for Life Fund, can be found at [www.dayforlife.org](http://www.dayforlife.org).

**GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK** On Tuesday 23rd June, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740, or via [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com).

**STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE BEING BROUGHT BACK** Assisted suicide campaigners are trying to bring back the Leadbeater Bill. Not Dead Yet UK has launched a simple tool to help you email your MP about the risks this Bill poses to people with disabilities. Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today using the tool here: <http://action.notdeadyetuk.org/>

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING:** Training session will take place on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am to 12noon**. Parents of servers are asked to get their children here on time so we can start at 10.30am sharp. Servers from St. Finbarr's are very welcome to come and join us here at St. Paul's.

**MUSTARD SEEDS 1. Summer Outing to Aylesford.** The Mustard Seeds invite children aged 9–15, along with parents and siblings, to join us on **Saturday, 11th July**, for a visit to the **Friars Summer Fayre 2026 in Aylesford** with **Father Gabriel**. The annual Friars Summer Fayre is a fundraising event filled with fun, activities, and community spirit for all ages. **More details and travel information will follow soon.**

**2. Youth Prayer Warriors.** Children aged 9–15 years are invited to join us every **Saturday at 3:00 pm** for the **Rosary** in the church at St Paul's (side entrance). Prayer requests may be placed in the **gold prayer boxes**, where our **Youth Prayer Warriors** will pray for your intentions.

**NEXT WEEKEND** there will be a Second Collection for **Peter's Pence**. This is a collection taken by the Catholic Church to support the Pope's charitable work and mission of the Holy See. Donations help people in need around the world, including the poor, refugees, victims of war and natural disasters, struggling dioceses and Catholic institutions. It is a way for Catholics to show unity with the Pope and support the Church's humanitarian and pastoral work.

**FAMILIA UNA QUIZ NIGHT** on **Saturday, 4th July** from 6.45pm for a 7pm start in **St Paul's Church Hall**, to raise funds to take a group of young people to **World Youth Day 2027 in Taiwan & South Korea**. Get together with your friends, family and community for an evening of fun. Entry fee £5 per person and there will be a raffle and light refreshments available. If you would like to book a table or get more info, please contact Sandra in advance on Mob: 07521 282261 or Email: [sandramalho01@gmail.com](mailto:sandramalho01@gmail.com). Not enough people for a table of up to 6 people, just let Sandra know and she can hook you up with some friendly folk. **Donations for the raffle would be greatly appreciated.** If you have any unwanted presents or small items, please leave them in the box at the back of St Paul's. Many thanks.

**PARISH FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>JULY** This is a legal requirement and will take place **at St Paul's on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm after the evening Mass and at St Finbarr's on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July after the 11am Mass**. The training is given by a member of the diocese, Roy Collier, and is free of charge and will also include a drill (also a requirement). It is very important the Welcomers and Leaders of Parish Ministries and Groups especially, and as many parishioners as possible, attend this training for all our safety. Refreshments will be available.

**NEW CHURCH FAÇADE AT ST FINBARR'S.** A lot of work has been going on behind the scenes to give our church a much-needed facelift to make it more appealing and welcoming. This was initiated by our immediate past parish priest, Fr Leo Illah and is being carried forward by our current parish priest, Fr Gabriel Onoyima. The architectural drawings are on display on the notice boards at the back of the church. Please avail yourself of the opportunity to peruse these and have your say. You can make your suggestions or ask any questions by speaking to Fr Gabriel directly or contacting him by email ([gabrielonoyima@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:gabrielonoyima@rcaos.org.uk)) Thank you.

**COLLECTIONS FOR MAY:** Cash & CollecTin £4208.36; Bankers Orders £3014.00; Second Collections: World Communications £198.04; The Spiritan Priests Training: £585.45; Thank you for your generosity.

**CONFIRMATION 2026. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 11am Mass.** Parents of children, 13 years upwards, who wish to be confirmed, please pick up an application form either from the Parish Office or from Theresa Wells after 9am Mass on Sunday or Anne Rowe at St. Finbarr's. We want to start our Confirmation Classes in the next couple of weeks.

**‘A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED’ Dover Baptist Church, Saturday 27th June 4pm.** The local Christian Music Ministries choir is presenting 'A grain of mustard seed' by Roger Jones, a musical piece that tells the story of Robert Raikes and the start of Sunday Schools. Come and listen to the first and free performance which will be followed by Tea & Cakes. CTiD.

**GOING DEEPER INTO THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE — New Course, September 2026.** The Maryvale Institute is launching a new course, designed for all who wish to go deeper into the Sacrament of Marriage. It is for parish priests, counsellors, those working with married couples, and couples themselves. Full details may be found at: <https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/marriage.html>

<b>Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham ‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal, 2026</b>		
<b>Mustard Seed Youth Prayer Warriors Holy Rosary</b>	<b>Saturdays 3pm</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b>
<b>Mustard Seed Children’s Liturgy</b>	<b>First and Third Sundays 11am Next 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>St Finbarr’s Children’s Liturgy</b>	<b>Sunday 11am</b>	<b>St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>
<b>St Jude’s Prayer Group</b>	<b>Third Monday 2pm – 3pm</b>	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>‘Familia Una’ Adult Youth Group</b>	<b>Sundays 6pm</b>	<b>St. Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Fides Prayer Group St Paul’s</b>	<b>Wednesdays 6:40pm for 7pm</b>	<b>St Paul’s Hall, Dover</b>
<b>Holy Rosary</b>	<b>Thursdays 9.30am</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b>
<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>Thursdays 10.30am</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b>
<b>Altar Server Training</b>	<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b>
<b>Parish Feast Day Family BBQ</b>	<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 12noon</b>	<b>St Paul’s Presbytery Garden, Dover</b>
<b>Familia Una Quiz Night</b>	<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 7pm</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover</b>
<b>Mustard Seeds Summer Outing</b>	<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Aylesford Priory</b>
<b>Fire Marshall Training</b>	<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 7pm Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 12noon</b>	<b>St Paul’s, Dover St Finbarr’s, Aylesham</b>

## CATECHISM

### "I Know Whom I Have Believed"

Faith is first of all a personal adherence of man to God. At the same time, and inseparably, it is a free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed. As personal adherence to God and assent to his truth, Christian faith differs from our faith in any human person. It is right and just to entrust oneself wholly to God and to believe absolutely what he says. It would be futile and false to place such faith in a creature. To believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. For a Christian, believing in God cannot be separated from believing in the One he sent, his "beloved Son", in whom the Father is "well pleased"; God tells us to listen to him. The Lord himself said to his disciples: "Believe in God, believe also in me." We can believe in Jesus Christ because he is himself God, the Word made flesh: "No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known." Because he "has seen the Father", Jesus Christ is the only one who knows him and can reveal him. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 150 & 151)

**Please Pray for those who are unwell:**

**St Finbarr’s:** Charlotte, 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:** Sheila Henneker, Keely Cookson, David Underdown, Sr. Jennifer Sanders, 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:** Laurence Joseph Flaharan, William Friel, Helen Geraldine Bartolo, Tom McArdle, Rosalind Bridgland, Mrs N Doyle, Sylvia Mary Hogben, John Hogben.

**St Paul’s:** Peggy Bywaters, Christopher Mlilo, Fr Martin Gifkins, Sr Maria Brennens DC, George Bowles, Madge Henneker, Rosemary Chilton, Edwin Ernest Perry, Jean Ford, Ernest Ford Stokes, Bruno Gismondi, Tony Marples, Annie Blackman, Percy Castle, Charles Ribbans, Francis Buhlman, Jeremy Barker, David Grilli, Bernardino Di Adamo.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	11am	Mass for People of the Parish <b>FHC Candidates Mass</b>
THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Mass for the Success of World Youth Day
SAINT THOMAS GARNET, PRIEST AND MARTYR	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	12 noon	Requiem Mass for Audrey Stitt
<b>SAINTS PETER AND PAUL</b>	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	11am	Mass for Mrs. Gordon Canning 'F'
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
SAINT ALBAN, MARTYR, PROTOMARTYR OF BRITAIN	Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	10am 3pm 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Those Contemplating Entering the Priesthood Mustard Seed Youth Prayer Warriors Holy Rosary Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for All Who Work for the Emergency Services
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Shirami Geraldine RIP (Dona) <b>Coffee after Mass</b> Mass in Thanksgiving for Fr Ugo's 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination <b>Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy</b> Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall
SAINTS JOHN FISHER, BISHOP, AND THOMAS MORE, MARTYRS, FEAST	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	10am	Mass for Tanya Wells RIP (Keith & Theresa)
SAINT ETHELDREDA (AUDREY), ABBESS	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	10am	Mass for Sick Parishioners
THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for Protection of Human Life from Conception to Natural Death (Tim) Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall - Refreshments from 6.40pm
	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary Mass for Anita Cadman 'F' Bible Study
SAINT THOMAS GARNET, PRIEST AND MARTYR	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Mass for Jean Mackenzie RIP (Robert)
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OR SAINT CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	10am 10.30am 3pm 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Holy Souls Altar Server Training until 12noon Mustard Seed Youth Prayer Warriors Holy Rosary Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Victims of Violence in Nigeria
<b>SAINTS PETER AND PAUL</b>	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	9am 11am 12 noon 3pm 6pm	Mass for Fr Benedict's Birthday <b>NO Coffee after Mass</b> Mass for People of the Parish followed by <b>PARISH FAMILY BBQ IN THE PRESBYTERY GARDEN</b> 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.  
 A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

# Readings for Sunday

## 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

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### First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13

*'He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.'*

Jeremiah said:

I hear many whispering.

Terror is on every side!

'Denounce him! Let us denounce him!'

say all my close friends,

watching for my fall.

'Perhaps he will be deceived;

then we can overcome him

and take our revenge on him.'

But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior;

therefore my persecutors will stumble;

they will not overcome me.

They will be greatly shamed,

for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonour

will never be forgotten.

O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous,

who sees the heart and the mind,

let me see your vengeance upon them,

for to you have I committed my cause.

Sing to the LORD;

praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy

from the hand of evildoers.

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### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 69(68):8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R14c**

*In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord..*

*or: Alleluia.*

It is for you that I suffer taunts,

that shame has covered my face.

To my own kin I have become an outcast,

a stranger to the children of my mother.

Zeal for your house consumes me,

and taunts against you fall on me.

*In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord..*

*or: Alleluia.*

But I pray to you, O LORD,

at an acceptable time.

In your great mercy, answer me, O God,

with your faithful salvation.

LORD, answer, for your mercy is kind;

in your great compassion, turn towards me.

*In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord..*

*or: Alleluia.*

The poor when they see it will be glad,

and God-seeking hearts will revive;

for the LORD attends to the needy,

and does not spurn his own in their chains.

Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,

the seas and everything that moves in them.

*In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord..*

*or: Alleluia.*

### Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15

*'The free gift is not like the trespass.'*

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned — for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many.

### Acclamation before the Gospel

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord, and you also will bear witness.

**Alleluia.**

*Cf. John 15:26b, 27a*

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### Gospel

Matthew 10:26-33

*'Do not fear those who will kill the body'*

At that time: Jesus instructed his Apostles: 'Have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father knowing. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.'

### 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.**