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 Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
 St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoversstfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A 12th JULY 2026

Missal P631 Order of the Mass P470
St Finbarr's Summer BBQ after Mass
Second Collection for Sea Sunday

PRIEST CORNER:

St Finbarr's Summer Barbecue will be a taking place today, Sunday, the 12th of July immediately after Mass. It's an opportunity to socialise and for the children to have some fun in the garden. Please bring along some food or drinks to share as usual and invite a friend or two. All are welcome.

First Holy Communion Children, Going Forth Masses Congratulations to the two FHC children at St Paul's who received their FHC Certificates last Sunday.

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Jesus as a great teacher that he is uses what people experience in their practically

daily life to teach them. His audience understood the farming technique of spreading the seeds in the farm and what happen to seeds that fall in different places. In the same manner that a farmer spreads seeds does Jesus himself spreads the seed of faith, the message of the kingdom of God in the heart of his listeners which depending on how it was received produces abundantly or get lost before producing any fruit. Jesus in explaining the parable of the sower draws our attention to the reality of our faith which has the potentials of growing and making our life productive when we nurture it. Every person has a vocation, and it is through the seed of faith that each uses that vocation to serve God and humanity. It is in serving with love as a teacher, doctor, politician, catechist, priest, etc that we bear fruits for God. Our vocation is for service and not only for personal survival. Do I use my vocation with faith to produce desired fruits?



ARCHDIOCESAN DIACONATE DAY: Deacon Barry will be preaching at all three Masses at St Pauls this weekend on the Permanent Diaconate and again on **Sunday 19th** at St Finbarr's to mark the third Archdiocesan Diaconate day. Are you a man aged 21–58, prayerful, active in parish and community life, and drawn to deeper service in the Church? God may be calling you to be a Permanent Deacon. To discern this call, speak with Fr Gabriel, Fr Ben, Fr Jamie or Barry Barton, our Parish Deacon, or visit the diocesan website at <https://rcaos.org.uk/vocations/is-god-calling-me/the-diaconate/> or contact the Diaconate Formation Director via e-mail: ianblack@rcaos.org.uk for more information. Deacon Barry.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Roselene Mary Hindle who passed away recently. We also pray for her husband Peter and family in their loss. Roselene's funeral service will take place on **Friday 7th August 2026** at Barham Crematorium at 12noon. May Roselene Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

THANK YOU. Familia Una would like to thank everyone who came to their quiz last Saturday, which helped them raise £300 towards their World Youth Day 2027 funds and for all the raffle prize donations. There will also be a **Familia Una BBQ after the 11am Mass at St Paul's, TODAY.** All welcome.

PARISH FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING NEXT WEEKEND 18th/19th JULY will take place **at St Paul's on Saturday 18th July at 7pm after the evening Mass and at St Finbarr's on Sunday 19th 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.

COLLECTIONS FOR JUNE: Cash & CollecTin £3414.48; Bankers Orders £3772.00; Second Collections: Day for Life £175.00; Peter's Pence: £251.35; Thank you for your generosity.

CALLING ALL 90-YEAR-OLDS AND OVER. If you are 90 years old or older, or will be 90 this year, we would like you to receive a personal invitation to the **World Day of Prayer for the Elderly Celebration to be held on Sunday 26 July 2026 at St Paul's Church**, comprising of 11am Mass and immediately followed by strawberries and cream etc in St Paul's Church Hall, Dover. Consequently, anyone reading this notice please let the parish secretary (07936 573155, dover@rcaos.org.uk) know the name(s) and ideally contact details of any parishioners from both St Paul's and St Finbarr's who you think might be 90 years old or older so we can send them, and their family, an invitation. Thank you. Deacon Barry.

CONFIRMATION 2026. Sunday 22nd 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. Finnbarr's. We want to start our Confirmation Classes in the next couple of weeks.

BANNNEUX ND GB PILGRIMAGES 2026 invite you to join our pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Banneux, Belgium, a major Catholic Marian pilgrimage site. It marks the spot where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared eight times between January 15 and March 2, 1933, to an 11-year-old girl, Mariette Beco, calling herself the "Virgin of the Poor". During the visions, Mary indicated a stream, stating, "This spring is reserved for all nations to relieve the sick". The shrine was officially approved by the Roman Catholic Church in 1949 and was famously visited by Pope John Paul II in 1985. We will be travelling by luxury coach on the **12th August and returning on the 18th August.** A full program of daily Holy Mass, Rosary, Talks, Divine Mercy devotions is available and a day trip to Beauraing, another Marian apparition site is included in the price. Hotel and full board included. Please call Millie on WhatsApp 07957 594646 for more information.

THE MEDAILLE TRUST AND CARITAS SOUTHWARK will be visiting St Paul's on **Saturday 1st August 2026, from 3.30pm to 6pm**, as part of their Archdiocesan Arts Roadshow, which is dedicated to raising awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking. The Medaille Trust is one of the UK's leading providers of support for survivors of modern slavery, and they run safe houses and community projects across the country. This event at St Paul's will see the parish hall transformed into an exhibition space, displaying artwork created by survivors of modern slavery. Alongside this exhibition, there will be a talk and an opportunity for discussion, with the aim of helping parishioners better understand the realities of exploitation in the modern world. For more information, please email Caritas Southwark at caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk.

GRIEF IN LOSS HOPE IN CHRIST RETREAT AT AYLESFORD PRIORY 9TH -11TH OCTOBER 2026 For anyone who has experienced bereavement, whether recently or some time ago. We grieve, remember, hope and give thanks for our loved ones in the light of the Resurrection of Jesus. **Guided By: Liz Taylor, Barbara Salamonczyk & Ged Walsh O.Carm Cost: £280.00 Single; £250.00 Shared. For More Info And Bookings Contact: Tel: 01622 717272 Email: reception@thefriars.org.uk**

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham ‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal, 2026		
Mustard Seed Youth Prayer Warriors Holy Rosary	Saturdays 3pm	St Paul’s, Dover
Mustard Seed Children’s Liturgy	First and Third Sundays 11am	St Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover
St Finbarr’s Children’s Liturgy	Sunday 11am	St Finbarr’s, Aylesham
St Jude’s Prayer Group	Third Monday 2pm – 3pm	St Paul’s Hall, Dover
‘Familia Una’ Adult Youth Group	Sundays 6pm	St. Paul’s Upper Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group St Paul’s	Wednesdays 6:40pm for 7pm	St Paul’s Hall, Dover
Holy Rosary	Thursdays 9.30am	St Paul’s, Dover
Bible Study	Thursdays 10.30am	St Paul’s, Dover
Fire Marshall Training	Saturday 18th July 7pm Sunday 19th July 12noon	St Paul’s, Dover St Finbarr’s, Aylesham

CATECHISM – WAYS OF COMING TO KNOW GOD

Created in God's image and called to know and love him, the person who seeks God discovers certain ways of coming to know him. These are also called proofs for the existence of God, not in the sense of proofs in the natural sciences, but rather in the sense of "converging and convincing arguments", which allow us to attain certainty about the truth. These "ways" of approaching God from creation have a twofold point of departure: the physical world, and the human person. The world: starting from movement, becoming, contingency, and the world's order and beauty, one can come to a knowledge of God as the origin and the end of the universe. “As St. Paul says of the Gentiles: For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made”. The human person: with his openness to truth and beauty, his sense of moral goodness, his freedom and the voice of his conscience, with his longings for the infinite and for happiness, man questions himself about God's existence. In all this he discerns signs of his spiritual soul. the soul, the "seed of eternity we bear in ourselves, irreducible to the merely material", can have its origin only in God. (CCC 31&33)



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, Bob Yore.

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, 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: Assuntina (Susie) Hodgson, Margaret Barnby, Nora Arter, Lady Susannah Caroline Hyde, Mary Jane (Jean) Cable, Teresa Gozalez Viega Lady Hawarden, Allen Lonie.

St Paul’s: Don Bostock, Rosalie Wickham, Mervyn Beadle, Frank Webster, Julian Martin Woolhouse, Maurice Doyle, John Colquhoun Jardine, Sylvia Wood, Reginald Grilli, Eileen Belfield, Tony Gibbs, Teresa Farrell, Joan Cahill, William Richard Brankley, Debbie Linda Winters, Brian Coyne, James McGilly, Rudolf Balog, Abby Tait, Derry Maher.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 12 th July	11am	Mass for Elena & Isabella's 10 th Birthday (Diana) SUMMER BBQ
	Wednesday 15 th July	10am	Mass for Peace in the Middle East
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 19 th July	11am	Mass for People of the Parish followed by FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING AFTER MASS
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
SAINT BENEDICT, ABBOT, PATRON OF EUROPE, FEAST	Saturday 11 th July	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Isobel de Pelet RIP (Nicholas) Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for People of the Parish
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 12 th July	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Rubeen (Deepa Babu) Coffee after Mass Mass for Fr. Jeff Cridland 56 th Priestly Ordination Anniversary (Mary) Followed by FAMILIA UNA BBQ Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall
SAINT MILDRED. ABBESS OR SAINT HENRY	Monday 13 th July	10am	St Richard's School Leavers Mass for Julian Woolhouse RIP (Norman) Restituta Crave RIP (Bong)
SAINT CAMILLUS DE LELLIS, PRIEST	Tuesday 14 th July	10am	Mass for G/E The Dowle Family (Jean)
SAINT BONAVENTURE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Wednesday 15 th July	10am 5.30pm 7pm	Mass for The Housebound Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall - Refreshments from 6.40pm
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, MEMORIAL. DIOCESAN	Thursday 16 th July	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary Mass for Johannah Carmel Briant RIP (Henry) Bible Study
	Friday 17 th July	10am	Jen McCann RIP
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Saturday 18 th July	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Fr. Leo's 18 th Priestly Anniversary (Mary) Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Holy Souls followed by FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING AFTER MASS
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 19 th July	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Sheila Henneker Birthday (Theresa) Coffee after Mass Mass for Sick of the Parish 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

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 July 2026

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

‘The rain makes the earth bring forth and sprout.’

Thus says the Lord:

‘For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 65(64):10a-d. 10e-11. 12-13. 14. R Luke 8:8

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

or: Alleluia.

You visit the earth, give it water;
you fill it with riches.
God’s ever-flowing river brims over
to prepare the grain.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

or: Alleluia.

And thus you prepare it:
you drench its furrows;
you level it, soften it with showers;
you bless its growth.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

or: Alleluia.

You crown the year with your bounty.
Abundance flows in your pathways;
in pastures of the desert it flows.
The hills are girded with joy.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

or: Alleluia.

The meadows clothed with flocks.
The valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy; yes, they sing!
Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

or: Alleluia.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

‘The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.’

Brothers and Sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption, and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower; all who find him will live for ever.

Alleluia.

1 Samuel 3:9; John 6:68

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

‘A sower went out to sow.’

At that time: Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: ‘A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.’

Then the disciples came and said to him, ‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’ And he answered them, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.’

‘Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.’

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.