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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

19th JULY 2026

Missal **P635** Order of the Mass **P470**

PARISH FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING THIS WEEKEND

We welcome Roy Collier from the Diocese

Saturday 7pm St Paul's, Sunday 12noon St Finbarr's

Everybody Welcome & Encouraged to Attend

PRIEST CORNER:

THE MEDAILLE TRUST AND CARITAS SOUTHWARK will be visiting St Paul's on **Saturday 1st August, 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. Website <https://caritas.rcaos.org.uk/>

GOSPEL REFLECTION: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



Jesus continues his teaching with parable from another aspect of Sower's experience. In this parable of the Sower, Jesus addressed questions that have defied human comprehension. Many times, people ask the question, why are there many evils in the world? Some believe that satan is at work all over the world. But the obvious truth is that we will never see satan physically doing something horrendous. All we can see is people committing all those evil acts. Then another question will be, why does God who is all powerful not destroy all the wicked people in the world? These and more questions are answered by Jesus in the gospel with the parable of the Sower who planted good seeds, but the enemy came and sowed weeds. Jesus' instruction is that both the good and bad plants must be left to exist until the time for the harvest when they will be separated according to their use. In the case of human, God does not wish the death of sinners rather that they may repent and gain life. That explains why God does not strike a person who sinned but allow the person a chance for repentance. We are all sinners in need of God's grace. We are given the opportunity

and are invited to repent so that we can gain life. St Paul reassures us that the Holy Spirit is in us and will help us to pray.

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. Also **Robert Yore**, formally from Aylesham, who has passed away in Australia. We pray for his family during this difficult time. May Roselene and Robert Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

URGENT WARNING FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK. We would like to make you aware of a **new type of scam** that is now targeting individuals within our parish communities through **WhatsApp**. Cyber criminals are increasingly using artificial intelligence (AI) to create convincing videos, voice messages and written communications while impersonating members of the clergy. Their aim is to deceive unsuspecting individuals into believing they are communicating with a priest, bishop, or other Parish representative before requesting money or donations. These are entirely fraudulent and have been created to persuade recipients that they are communicating with the Archbishop personally. Similar techniques could be used to impersonate any member of the clergy. We ask that you please remain vigilant.

- Never assume that a WhatsApp message or video is genuine simply because it appears to come from a member of the clergy.
- Never send money, gift cards or bank details in response to unsolicited requests received via WhatsApp or other messaging platforms.
- Always verify the identity of the sender by contacting the priest or parish directly using a known telephone number or official email address before responding to any request.
- Report any suspicious messages and the phone numbers to Action Fraud <https://www.reportfraud.police.uk/>.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2026 Next Sunday 26th July the world-wide church celebrates the above event. Pope Leo 14th has declared this year's theme as 'I will never forget you' (Isaiah 49:15). Having celebrated all grandparents in the parish in July 2025, this year we concentrate on all our parishioners who are 90 years old or older or who will be 90 at some point later this year. We celebrated this group for the first time in July 2024. Celebrations for 2026 will again follow the same format; 11am Mass, St Paul's, attended by invited nonagenarian parishioners and their family members followed immediately afterwards by a social with strawberries, ice cream, jelly and celebratory cake etc. The homily based on the Pope's chosen theme will be preached at all 3 Masses as St Paul's and again at the 11am Mass at St Finbar's on the 2nd August. Deacon Barry.

ST FINBARR'S SUMMER BARBECUE. A huge thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly to make last Sunday's Barbeque a success and to those who stayed behind to share in the food and have a chat. God bless you all.



YOUTH MUSTARD SEEDS would like to thank all those who donated towards the group's minibs transport to Aylesford Priory last Saturday. It was a wonderful occasion. A total of £260 has been raised from Silvana and Michelle's sponsored walk to Deal. May God Bless you for your generosity.



FAMILIA UNA ADULT YOUTH GROUP had their own barbeque last Sunday when they officially opened the Log Cabin in the presbytery garden. They would like to thank the Archbishop's Appeal Fund for the grant of £2000 towards its purchase. The Cabin will be used by the youth of the parish for various activities and storage. **The Youth Mustard Seeds** had their own little opening ceremony with Deacon Barry.



ST PAUL'S FIDES PRAYER GROUP will be taking a break for the summer until after the new school term commences in September. Date to confirmed.

MUSTARD SEEDS Children's Liturgy at St Paul's is taking a break over the summer. There is no session this Sunday. We will be back **Sunday 6th September** at 11am Mass.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS. St Joseph's School, Aylesham are looking for Foundation Governors. If anyone is interested, please contact Philip by email Philip.Smye-Rumsby@st-josephs-aylesham.kcsp.org.uk

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. Finbarr's. We want to start our Confirmation Classes soon.

ENJOYING GOD'S CREATION: A summer retreat day at **Minster Abbey on August 29th** led by Eddie Gilmore. Contact: gileag@gmail.com www.eddiegilmore.org

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 Will resume on 6 th September	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 Will Resume in September	St Paul's Hall, Dover
Holy Rosary	Thursdays 9.30am	St Paul's, Dover
Bible Study	Thursdays 10.30am	St Paul's, Dover

CATECHISM –

Human Freedom in the Economy of Salvation

Freedom and sin. Man's freedom is limited and fallible. In fact, man failed. He freely sinned. By refusing God's plan of love, he deceived himself and became a slave to sin. This first alienation engendered a multitude of others. From its outset, human history attests the wretchedness and oppression born of the human heart in consequence of the abuse of freedom. Threats to freedom. The exercise of freedom does not imply a right to say or do everything. It is false to maintain that man, "the subject of this freedom," is "an individual who is fully self-sufficient and whose finality is the satisfaction of his own interests in the enjoyment of earthly goods." Moreover, the economic, social, political, and cultural conditions that are needed for a just exercise of freedom are too often disregarded or violated. Such situations of blindness and injustice injure the moral life and involve the strong as well as the weak in the temptation to sin against charity. By deviating from the moral law man violates his own freedom, becomes imprisoned within himself, disrupts neighbourly fellowship, and rebels against divine truth. (CCC 1739 & 1740)

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, 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: Basil Walter Ward, Quentin Steele, Michael De La Mare, Harry & Hilda Elworthy, Sandra Lane McCann, William Albert Willson, Joseph Mather, Henry Coates, Mary Elizabeth Hoy, Sir Patrick Sheehy, Dennis William Jones.

St Paul's: Joe Gavigan, Quentin Clifford Steele, Phyllis Page, Brigid Clark, Ida Madeleine Huntley, Nick Sanders, Angela Dyer, Bill Naylor, Kathleen Hodgson, John Downie, William Wilson, Dr Gregory McSwiggen, Michael Maher, Dudley Michael Wilmshurst, Tony Medhurst, Ada Willis, John Henry O'Brien, Fr Geoffrey Winchester, Dominic Grilli, Fr Geoffrey Dove, Maura Sanders, Mary Golding, Gordon Goodacre.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 19 th July	11am	Mass for The Harris Family Intention. (Ed & Emilia birthdays and John & Agnes Wedding Anniversary) FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING AFTER MASS
	Wednesday 22 nd July	10am	Mass for The Spread of the Gospel
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 26 th July	11am	Mass for Jean Cable RIP (Audrey)
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
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 in the Parish Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Faith and Life Sessions for Familia Una Youth Group in the Upper Hall (Final meeting before the summer break)
SAINT APOLLINARIS, BISHOP AND MARTYR.	Monday 20 th July	10am 2pm	Mass for Ida Huntley RIP (Mary) St Jude's Prayer Group in the Hall
SAINT LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Tuesday 21 st July	10am	Mass for Oji Ozu (Nicy Vincent)
SAINT MARY MAGDALENE, FEAST	Wednesday 22 nd July	10am 5.30pm	Mass for Protection of Human Life from Conception to Natural Death (Tim) Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm
SAINT BRIDGET, RELIGIOUS, PATRON OF EUROPE FEAST	Thursday 23 rd July	9.30am 10am 10.30am	Holy Rosary Mass for Vincent Joseph (Nicy) Bible Study
SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLUF, PRIEST OR SAINT JOHN BOSTE, PRIEST AND MARTYR	Friday 24 th July	10am	Mass in Honour of God The Father
SAINT JAMES, APOSTLE, FEAST	Saturday 25 th July	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St. Edmund's Chapel for Children in Care Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Mary & Robert Golding RIP (Colin)
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 26 th July	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for People of the Parish Coffee after Mass Mass for Roselene Mary Hindle RIP (Peter) Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

19th July 2026

First Reading

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

‘You give repentance for sins.’

Neither is there any God besides you, whose care is for all,
to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly.
For your strength is the source of righteousness,
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.
For you show your strength
when men doubt the completeness of your power,
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.
You are sovereign in strength but you judge with mildness,
and with great forbearance you govern us;
for you have power to act whenever you choose.
Through such works you have taught your people
that the one who is righteous must be kind,
and you have filled your sons with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 86(85):5-6. 9-10. 15-16a. R5a

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

or: Alleluia.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.
Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer,
and attend to my voice in supplication.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

or: Alleluia.

All the nations you have made shall come;
they will bow down before you, O Lord,
and glorify your name,
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

or: Alleluia.

You, O God, are compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abundant in mercy and fidelity;
turn and take pity on me.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

or: Alleluia.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-27

‘The Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.’

Brothers and Sisters: The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

Cf. Matthew 11:25

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-43

‘Let both grow together until the harvest.’

At that time: Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?” He said to them, “An enemy has done this.” So the servants said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he said, “No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’

He put another parable before them, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’

He told them another parable. ‘The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.’

All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet: ‘I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.’

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.