



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 Ben Wambua, CSSp 01304 206766 benedictwambuanzioka@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>

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

16th August 2026

Missal P1039 Order of the Mass P470

PRIEST CORNER:

FR. DONALD CALLOWAY, MIC is Vicar Provincial and Vocation Director for the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. **We are privileged to have Fr. Donald visit St Paul's this Tuesday 18th August at 7pm to speak about The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion.** He is the author of 25 books, including Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father. He is a well-known conference speaker on Divine Mercy, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Joseph, and speaks passionately about these topics in his moving conversion story. He leads pilgrimages to Catholic shrines around the world and resides at the Marian House of Studies in Steubenville, Ohio. **All are welcome to attend this very special occasion.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION: 20th Sunday The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The celebration of today points to commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into heaven. From the moment the angel Gabriel visited Mary with the proposal of becoming the mother of Jesus and she agreed, all about her changed. It takes faith and humility to manage such news and following up with God's plan till the end. That is why we will not be surprised that God elevated and granted her such honour during her life and even at death for being the mother of God's incarnate son. So, let us join Mary today in singing the song of praise to God for the great thing he has done to us through our mother Mary. "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant."

PLEASE PRAY FOR Abina Armstrong who has passed away. Funeral details to follow. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory, Amen.

FAMILIA UNA. There will be a meeting for everyone who is interested or would like more information about going to the World Youth Day 2027 in South Korea **this Sunday 16th August at 6pm in St Paul's Hall.** Familia Una will be having a **sponsored walk from Deal to Dover on Saturday 26th September** to raise funds to send young people to World Youth Day 2027 in South Korea. If you would like to take part in this sponsored walk or sponsor someone, please contact Jack on 07710 430893 or Christina on 07587 218374. Lifts will be available. Any donations gratefully received with thanks.

A REMINDER. We have had a request from our neighbours in the Dour House next door to St. Paul's that people attending Mass or events at the church or in the hall **do not park on the access road between the church and the Dour House.** There have been incidents where some people have parked directly outside one of the resident's window. We have also had complaints of people being noisy when they leave the parish hall and congregating on the access road. Again, this is not permitted. Please move off the access road as quickly as possible. If you need to gather, you may do so in front of the church. Please be considerate of our neighbours. Thank you.

UNVEILING OF REFURBISHED CRUCIFIX, ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Monday 14th September 2026 is the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. This year it will be celebrated with a special Mass presided over by our Parish Priest, Fr Gabriel Onoyima, who will unveil and bless the refurbished large crucifix located at the front of the church. The Mass is at 6pm followed immediately by a celebratory social in the hall including a talk on the history of the crucifix and its refurbishment given by Deacon Barry and Paul Smye-Rumsby & Chris Quinn respectively. Deacon Barry.

HISTORY OF THE CRUCIFIX OUTSIDE ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Calling all parishioners especially long-term ones! We are trying to build a comprehensive time line from when the crucifix was first erected to the current day. We are also trying to identify the name of the artist who carved the Christ figure. CAN YOU HELP! Sight of any photos of the crucifix prior to 1959 would be very welcome. Please have a look in old photo albums or shoe boxes for photos taken intentionally of the crucifix or in which the crucifix appears in the background. These will help with dating. If you have any such photos and / or suggestions as to the identity of the wood carver please contact Deacon Barry ASAP.

NEW FIRE ASSEMBLY POINT – ST PAUL'S DOVER Following the recent Fire Marshalling Training at St Paul's a new Fire Assembly Point has been identified that those evacuating must go to should a fire break out in the church, sacristy and upper and lower church halls and attached outbuildings. The new Fire Assembly is located at the corner of Maison Dieu Road and Taswell Street some 80 yards to the left of the church as you leave by the main front door. When the fire alarm sounds and / or the priest saying Mass tells everyone to leave the church etc, then everyone must leave immediately via the nearest fire exit and go straight away to the corner of Maison Dieu Road and Taswell Street and wait there for instructions or go straight home. The priest will announce when parishioners can go back in the building. If the fire is in the Priest House those exiting church must go right towards the Health Centre, not left past the fire in the Priests' House. At St Finbarr's the fire assembly point is the church car park.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR DOVER OUTREACH CENTRE The Dover Outreach homeless drop-in centre is currently in urgent need of good-quality small and medium men's T-shirts. They would also be very grateful for donations of new, unopened men's socks and underwear (pants), including any unwanted gifts. If you are able to help, your donation would be greatly appreciated and will make a real difference to those who need it most. Thank you for your support. Items can be left in either church, or contact Carina Jarvie. A Box will be left at the back of the churches.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER For the next few weeks, the newsletter will be printed on a Thursday. All articles for inclusion must be received by Wednesday of that week. Thank you.

FATHER JOHN PANARIO Fr John's last Sunday morning Mass as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dover will take place on **Sunday 30th August**. There will be a buffet lunch in Our Lady's Hall after the 10.30am Mass. All are welcome to attend. If you wish to donate towards a gift for Fr John, please put in an envelope clearly marked '**For Fr Panario Collection**' and place in the offertory collection here at St Paul's or St Finbarr's or put through the door of the presbytery at St Paul's. Anyone who would like to bring food and/or help with the buffet at Our Lady's on the day please speak to Pauline 07990 982552. Father Andrew Bishop will be taking over as Parish Priest of Our Lady's in September. Fr. John will be living in Dover so will not be far away.

ST PAUL'S BIBLE STUDY, SUMMER BREAK The last study, before the summer break, is **Thursday 30th July**. The group will reconvene on **Thursday 10th September**.

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 be confirmed.

MUSTARD SEEDS Children's Liturgy at St Paul's is taking a break over the summer. 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. **Confirmation Classes will start on Saturday September 12th at 10.30am** in the Upper Room in St. Paul's Hall.

THE GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER FOR MARRIED AND ENGAGED COUPLES is an ONLINE course, which has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the Agency for Evangelisation and Sycamore, a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang, Bishop-Elect of Arundel and Brighton. **Save the dates: September 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th**. 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 September 8th at 8.30pm**. For further information and to book a place, please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

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

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 31 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on WhatsApp 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

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 6th 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 Will resume in September	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 Will resume on 10th September	St Paul's, Dover
Mass & Unveiling of the Crucifix	Monday 14th September 6pm	St Paul's, Dover

CATECHISM –

MARY'S MOTHERHOOD WITH REGARD TO THE CHURCH

Wholly united with her Son . . . Mary's role in the Church is inseparable from her union with Christ and flows directly from it. "This union of the mother with the Son in the work of salvation is made manifest from the time of Christ's virginal conception up to his death"; it is made manifest above all at the hour of his Passion: Thus, the Blessed Virgin advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross. There she stood, in keeping with the divine plan, enduring with her only begotten Son the intensity of his suffering, joining herself with his sacrifice in her mother's heart, and lovingly consenting to the immolation of this victim, born of her: to be given, by the same Christ Jesus dying on the cross, as a mother to his disciple, with these words: "Woman, behold your son." After her Son's Ascension, Mary "aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers." In her association with the apostles and several women, "we also see Mary by her prayers imploring the gift of the Spirit, who had already overshadowed her in the Annunciation." (CCC 964 & 965)

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: Yvonne O'Reagan, 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, 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: Pat Donnachie, Kevin & Mary McCarty, Owen McCallum, Michael Barrett, Josephine Elizabeth Margaret Fewkes Nellie Mills, Valerie Mary Bailey, Bryn Rossiter, Charles Whitehouse.

St Paul's: Sean O'Sullivan, Sheila O'Neill, Bessie Green, George Gibbins, Mary Goodacre, Sr. Mary Cyril, Fr Wilfred D'Silva, Christopher Hall, Anthony King, Richard Nolan, Lewis Harris, Mark Edward Tapley, Maureen Johnston, Bernard John Smith, Marie Donovan, Ted Huntley, Dr Penny Hill (nee Smye-Rumsby), Roberto Gismondi, Deacon Ray Partridge, Paul Mitchinson, Win Clarke, Allan Wills.

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Sunday 16 th August	11am	Mass for Russell Bramwell RIP (Anne)
SAINT JOHN EUDES, PRIEST	Wednesday 19 th August	10am	Mass for Kafele Emedo Birthday Thanksgiving (Esiri & Richard)
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 23 rd August	11am	Mass for The People of St Finbarr's
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Saturday 15 th August	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for Peace in the World Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for The Joyce Family (Kay)
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Sunday 16 th August	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for Anita Cadman 'F' Coffee after Mass Mass for Welcome back Fr. Jamie Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet
	Monday 17 th August	10am	Mass for Moira & Nicholas Saunders (Colin)
	Tuesday 18 th August	10am 7pm	Mass for Those Struggling with their Mental Health Divine Mercy Message & Devotion with Fr. Donald Calloway MIC
SAINT JOHN EUDES, PRIEST	Wednesday 19 th August	10am 5.30pm	Mass for Protection of Human Life from Conception to Natural Death Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm
SAINT BERNARD, ABBOT AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Thursday 20 th August	9.30am 10am	Holy Rosary Mass for Maureen & Joe Johnston RIP (Colin)
SAINT PIUS X, POPE	Friday 21 st August	10am	Mass for Farmers Bringing in The Harvest
THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Saturday 22 nd August	10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for The Chapel Trustees Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for The sick of the Parish
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 23 rd August	9am 11am 3pm	Mass for The People of St Paul's Coffee after Mass Mass for The Youth of the Parish 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 **Wednesday** 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 16th August 2026

First reading

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab ·

‘A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.’

God’s temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God.

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, ‘Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R10b

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear:
forget your own people and your father’s house.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

So will the king desire your beauty.
He is your lord, pay homage to him.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-27 ·

‘Christ the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ.’

Brothers and Sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes

the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For ‘God has put all things in subjection under his feet.’

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Mary has been taken up into heaven;
the host of angels rejoice.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 1:39-56

‘He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of humble estate.’

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.’

And Mary said,
‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring for ever.’

And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

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.