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Parish Giving: www.Parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/giving/
St Paul's Mass Live Streaming: www.churchservices.tv/dover
<https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsdoversfinbarrsayle7499/streams>

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

11th October 2026

Missal **P684** Order of the Mass **P470**

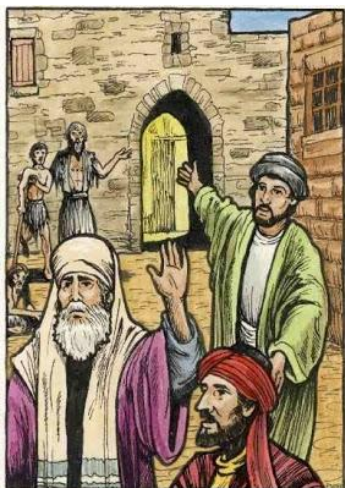
FINAL NATIONAL MASS COUNT

This weekend is Prisoners' Sunday - a National Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families. There will be a Second Collection Today to support them
'I was in Prison and you visited me' (Matthew 25:36)

PRIEST CORNER:

Last week the new priests in the Archdiocese had an Orientation Program at the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell, Surrey. It was very enriching in many ways and thanks to the organisers. Thanks to Fr Jamie and Fr John who continued the ministry during our absence. On another note, our Provincial Superior asked our Spiritan Community, Dover to help in one of our parishes in London where the parish priest had an immigration emergency. Fr Benedict and I had a meeting and decided that Fr Benedict will temporarily go and assist in the parish. He will be back as soon as the parish priest is back. We keep him in our prayers.

GOSPEL REFLECTION: 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The love of God upon his people is reflected in the prophesy of Isaiah where God plans beautiful environment for his people. The responsorial psalm puts it nicely, "In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending". Dwelling and enjoying the promise starts after our life here on earth ends. Though for us to take part in this promise, we need to play our part in preparing to gain access to this beautiful promise. That is why the gospel narrates a parable of a wedding feast where guests were invited for the great banquet, unfortunately they declined even when they knew how important it is for the host. To make for a wider coverage, the invitation was extended to everyone to come but surprisingly, even among those who accepted the invitation, one person was not worthy to take part as he did not prepare for the wedding feast. Though all are invited but must meet the expectation of the host hence Jesus invites everyone into his company, not because we are worthy but because through that invitation we can be transformed into worthy followers by living the life of Jesus. Once we fail to live according to the life of Jesus then we are like the person who came to the wedding but not dressed in a wedding robe.

PLANNED GIVING DRIVE Please can you complete the forms in the handouts and return to us in the box provided at the back of church or scan and email them to dover@rcaos.org.uk. We are encouraged to consider giving by standing order and, if we pay any tax, to gift aid our giving. We can't emphasise enough the benefits of both of these approaches; both benefit the parish in many ways. Please prayerfully consider your offertory contribution and how you can best use your time and talents for the benefit of the parish, reflecting with this stewardship prayer:

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not out of regret or compulsion. For God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

HAPPY 92ND BIRTHDAY TO ROB PAIN. The clergy and parishioners are delighted in send Rob Many Happy Returns of the day as he celebrates his 92nd Birthday on Monday. Deacon Barry.

NEW/UPDATED PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM. The parish is updating its parishioner name and address database. This is important so we know where our parishioners live especially in the case of a sick visit or we need to call you. If you are new to the parish or have changed your address/phone number/email in recent years and not let us know, **please complete a New/Updated Parishioner Registration Form** at the back of the church and return to the parish office at 103 Maison Dieu Road Dover CT16 1RU for the attention of the Parish Secretary or give to one of the clergy or place in the box provided for the planned Giving Drive Forms at the back of church. You can also access the form on our website. <https://www.parishofthegoodshepherd.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/New-Parishioner-Form.docx> All personal information complies with the diocese privacy policy stated on the bottom of the form.

CANDLE STANDS IMPORTANT NOTICE There have been several incidents recently where the candle stands at St Paul's have been overflowing with lighted candles. This is a Health & Safety Fire issue. Please only put candles in the holders provided. Candles **MUST NOT** be placed on the bottom of the stand or put on the top between the holders. Those who light more than 2 candles at a time please be considerate of others who wish to light candles but the stand is full. This is particularly relevant on a Sunday. Thank you for your understanding.

NEXT WEEKEND IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY. There will be a second collection for Missio which is the Church's official organ for the support of foreign missions. The collection taken on World Mission Sunday goes in its entirety to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missio works through local bishops, churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need. The money goes directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories: local church directly helping local church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Joyce Purssord from St Mary's Dover who died recently and some parishioners may know. May Joyce Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Amen.

RCIA COURSE The next RCIA Course will start at **7pm** this **Wednesday 14th October** in the Upper Hall at St. Paul's. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, is much more than a series of educational classes, it moves through a process of deep reflection, discernment and formation. God offers each of us the grace of desiring and seeking love, truth, and meaning. Throughout the process of initiation into the Catholic Church, the people of God accompany those seeking full initiation step-by-step, to support, guide, and help them hear God's call in their life. For those who want to join this course please contact either Fr Jamie, Father Gabriel or Mary the Parish Secretary.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST PAUL'S will take place at 11am Mass next **Sunday 18th October**. The Mustard Seeds are collecting donations for the Dover Foodbank. Some of the Items which are needed are: Cooking sauce in jars, Cup-a-soup, Gluten-free food items, Household Cleaner, instant mashed potato, Long-life juice, Long-life milk, Men's deodorant, Toilet roll, washing powder, washing up liquid. We are grateful for any donations received. Please leave the donations at the back of the church. Thank you Maeve.

CONFIRMATION 2026 **Sunday 22nd November at the 11am Mass** here in St Paul's. Candidates please note: **Confirmation Classes each Saturday 10am to 11am** in the Upper Room of St. Paul's Hall.

ST FINBARR'S CORNER:

1. Outdoor Statue of Our Lady - It would be wonderful to have a statue of our lady enshrined on our church grounds, this would provide a welcoming area to our parishioners, passers-by and visitors to say a prayer, light a candle or leave Our Lady some flowers. We are calling on you, our generous parishioners and friends of the parish to consider making donations towards this worthy cause. If this piques your interest, please speak to Carina, Esiri, Rev Frs Gabriel or Benedict. Thank you.

2. Light Party 2026 - It's fun time for our children once again at St Finbarr's! Our light party is scheduled for **Saturday 31st October 2026**. It is the third year running and it has continued to increase in popularity. We hope that it will be even bigger this year with participation from our local primary school, St Joseph's, other churches in the village and the entire village itself. We are calling for volunteers to organise and assist with executing this, your kind donations would also be welcome. Please speak to Agnese or Esiri if you would like to contribute in any way.

3. General Healing and Anointing of The Sick: Sunday 25th October 3pm, St Finbarr's. All of us need healing, spiritually, emotionally or physically. The planned service is an opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of the sick together. The service will be led by the parish clergy priests. Please join us for this short service and pray for healing, either for yourself, your family or loved ones. **A second general healing service and anointing of the sick is planned for 3pm, Sunday 14th February, 2027, at both St Finbarr's, Aylesham and St Paul's Church, Dover.**

4. Autumn Church Cleaning - Friday, 13th November, 5:30pm and Saturday, 14th November, 10am. The clipboard is at the back of the church. If you are able to help, please put your name opposite the job you can do on the date and time that suits you. Thank you.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU Dover Outreach Centre would like to thank the parishioners of **St Finbarr's and St Paul's** for your generous donations. Providing someone with new underwear and clean clothes after a shower means more than you can imagine. Your kindness is truly appreciated. We welcome **small to medium T-shirts, joggers and trousers** all year round. Donations can be dropped directly to the Centre between **8am and 4pm**, or call **01304 339022**. **Every blessing and thank you for your continued support.** Carina and the DOC Team.

COLLECTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: Cash & CollecTin £3,607.37; Bankers Orders £3,495.00; Catholic Education Service £244.56; Home Missions £226.20; CAFOD £570.45. Thank you for your generosity.

ARE THERE ANY SONGWRITERS in St Finbarr's/St Paul's who would like to explore and experiment in a collaboration to attempt to write worship songs? I'm looking to set up a collaboration team of several songwriters if there's the interest. Must be adults only and have experience of composing music and/or lyrics. Contact Matthew Sykes msykes71@yahoo.com

FEAST OF ST JUDE – 24th-25th & 28th OCTOBER Whitefriars, Tanner Street, Faversham ME13 3BZ

- Saturday 24th October 12noon & 2.30pm: St Jude Mass, followed by anointing
- Sunday 25th October 12.30pm St Jude Mass, followed by anointing
- Wednesday 28th October 5.30pm St Jude Mass, followed by anointing

All are welcome. Please call 01795 539214, visit www.stjudeshrine.org.uk or email shrineoffice@stjudeshrine.org.uk for more information

Parish of the Good Shepherd Dover and Aylesham ‘Called to Bear Fruit’: Parish Renewal, 2026		
Mustard Seed Youth Prayer Warriors Holy Rosary	Saturday 3pm	St Paul's, Dover
Mustard Seed Children's Liturgy	First and Third Sunday 11am 18th October Harvest Festival	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Finbarr's Children's Liturgy	Sunday 11am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Confirmation Classes	Saturday 10am	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
St Jude's Prayer Group	Third Monday 2pm – 3pm 19th October	St Paul's Hall, Dover
'Familia Una' Adult Youth Group	Sunday 6pm	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
Fides Prayer Group St Paul's	Wednesday 6:40pm for 7pm	St Paul's Hall, Dover
RCIA Course	Wednesday 7pm Starts 14th October	St Paul's Upper Hall, Dover
Holy Rosary	Thursday 9.30am	St Paul's, Dover
Bible Study	Thursday 10.30am	St Paul's, Dover
General Healing and Anointing of The Sick	Sunday 25th October 3pm	St Finbarr's, Aylesham
Light Party	Saturday 31st October	St Finbarr's, Aylesham St Paul's Dover
Autumn Church Cleaning	Friday 13th November 5.30pm Saturday 14th November 10am	St Finbarr's, Aylesham

CATECHISM – What must we do to gain the happiness of heaven?

To gain the happiness of heaven we must know, love, and serve God in this world. Man must know, love, and serve God in a supernatural manner in order to gain the happiness of heaven. Man is raised to the supernatural order only by grace, a free gift of God. Man cannot be perfectly happy in this world, for nothing created can satisfy his desire for complete happiness. History and experience show that neither riches, nor honours, nor glory, nor reputation, nor power, nor pleasure, nor knowledge, nor any other worldly goods can fully satisfy man's longing for happiness. Man's earthly, imperfect happiness is in proportion to his approach to God-the final goal of his life. The more closely man approaches God by the practice of virtue under the influence of God's grace, the greater will be his happiness. Worldly goods and pleasures may satisfy man for a time, but of themselves they cannot make him fully happy. Man may enjoy the innocent pleasures and reasonable comforts of life as long as they do not lead him away from God. (Baltimore Catechism)

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: Kathleen Garrity, Francis Patrick McKenna, Bessie Burville, Robert Ernest Coates, Doreen Mary Brace, Michael Quinn, Mary Watts, Caroline Miller, Mary Theresa Graves.

St Paul's: Teresa Phillipson, Michael Theobald, John Gillespie, Gertie Major, Desmond Ryan, James Donohoe, Kathleen Marion Glynn, Bod Bowles, George Patrick Reed, Angela Hall, Len Richards, Helen Wright, Phyllis Joyce Wood, Dennis Harry Sharp, Charles Maynard Sandham, Margaret Bonar Becks, James Bannan, Hilda Morecroft, Susan McLaughlin, Veronica Mary Watts, Charles John Green, Sr. Sarah Neilan DC, James Brown, Dorothy O'Meara, Kathy Goble

EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. FINBARR'S			
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 11 th October	11am	Mass for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland (Tommy)
	Wednesday 14 th October	10am	Mass for People of the Parish
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 18 th October	11am	Mass for McCallum Family (Kathleen & Family)
EVENTS THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S			
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OR SAINT PAULINUS OF YORK, BISHOP OR SAINT DENIS, BISHOP, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS OR SAINT JOHN LEONARDI, PRIEST.	Saturday 10 th October	10am 10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E of Charles Confirmation Class in the Upper Hall Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for Prisoners & their Families
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 11 th October	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for Jozef Kuras RIP (Anna-Maria) Coffee after Mass Mass for G/E of Martha Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Familia Una with an Alpha session
SAINT WILFRID, BISHOP	Monday 12 th October	10am	Mass for Marcela (Gizela)
SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, KING, FEAST	Tuesday 13 th October	10am	Mass for G/E of Angelita (Sheila)
SAINT CALLISTUS I, POPE AND MARTYR	Wednesday 14 th October	10am 5.30pm 7pm 7pm	Mass for Tanya Wells RIP (Marie) Exposition and Holy Rosary until 6.30pm Fides Prayer Group in the Hall - Refreshments from 6.40pm RCIA Course in the Upper Hall
SAINT TERESA OF JESUS [OF ÁVILA], VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	Thursday 15 th October	9.30am 10am	Holy Rosary Mass for Dorothy Frances O'Meara 'F' Followed by Bible Study
SAINT HEDWIG, RELIGIOUS OR SAINT MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE, VIRGIN.	Friday 16 th October	10am	Mass for Kathy Goble RIP (Marie)
SAINT IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, BISHOP AND MARTYR	Saturday 17 th October	10am 10am 5pm 6pm	Mass in St Edmund's Chapel for G/E of The Gray Family Confirmation Class in the Upper Hall Confessions in the church (until 5.45pm) Mass for The Work of Missio
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sunday 18 th October	9am 11am 3pm 6pm	Mass for G/E of Ann & Gerard Coffee after Mass Mass for Mike Whelan RIP (Lizzie) Mustard Seeds Harvest Festival Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet Familia Una with an Alpha session

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

11th October 2026

First reading

Isaiah 25:6-10a

'The Lord will make a feast, and he will wipe away tears from all faces.'

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.
He will swallow up death for ever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the
earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
'Behold, this is our God;
we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.'
For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

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

***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.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.

***In the LORD'S own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.***

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.

***In the LORD'S own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.***

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

***In the LORD'S own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.***

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.

***In the LORD'S own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.***

Second reading

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

'I can do all things through him who strengthens me.'

Brothers and Sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia.
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 22:1-10

'Invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.'

At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people, in parables, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again, he sent other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, 'See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'" But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find." And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So, the wedding hall was filled with guests.'

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.