



PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

Parish Priest: Reverend Canon Christopher Rutledge KHS

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Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Jackie Kelly: safeguarding@catholic-andover.org.uk

Office Hours: Mon: 8.30am - 3.30pm; Tues & Thurs: 8.30am - 12 noon; Fri. 8.30am - 2.30pm.

NB: The Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays / Canon Chris' Day off: Wednesday.

19th and 20th September – THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Psalm Response: The Lord is close to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia

Communion Antiphon: I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM CANON CHRIS

To my Dear Parish,

Now that I have been with you a year, I have been getting to know the parish and have had the opportunity to see where the needs are. There are several important matters we need to put in place for this coming term.

Eucharist Ministers: Both Churches

We have a great need to recruit and train new eucharistic ministers for our parish.

They will help in the distribution of Holy Communion in the church during Mass

Additionally, we also need many more people who feel they would like to visit our brothers and sisters in their homes, bringing them the Lord.

If you can feel you can help, please, please speak to me after Mass and I will take your details.

Counters

I would really appreciate if we could have a bank of volunteers to help count our weekly collections. Counting takes place on a Monday morning at 9:00am. If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis, please contact the parish office. As the saying goes, many hands make light work.

Parish Leadership Group

The bishop has asked, in his ten year plan, that evangelization is vital in our role as a Catholic community. With that in mind, I shall be setting up a Core Group to "Build Christ-centred parishes, devoted to the Lord and passionate about proclaiming His Good News of the gospel to the world" (Bishop Philip's Quote). This Core group will, going forwards, help with all aspects of parish life.

First Holy Communion Programme

I'm seeking new First Holy Communion Catechists to join the existing group to deliver a new programme for this coming term. This means First Communion classes will start a little later this year. The Course book we will be following is a Redemptorist Publication called, "I belong".

Please don't panic if I approach you to volunteer, as training will be given before we embark together on this journey. Do please consider volunteering as we become intentional disciples of Christ.

Canon Chris

Biblical walk with the Blessed Mother

This will be a new eight-week Bible Study Course using Scripture, reflection and prayer to explore the life of Our Lady and how she leads us ever closer to Christ. It will be held in the Parish Hall on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.00pm starting on 5th October and ending on 30th November including a break for half term.

Each week is based on an episode of Our Lady's life.

Deadline for signing up is 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

Would those interested please contact Mark Johnson-Ferguson at: mandj.jf@gmail.com or phone 0790 296 7210 or give your names and contact details to the Parish Office.

2027 MISSAL ORDERS

We are now taking orders for the new, 2027 Year B Sunday Missal. If you would like to purchase a copy, you may do so through the Parish office. The cost will be £9 each and payments can be made by BACCS (annotated 'Missal') or cash.

The deadline to order your copy is FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND On 19th and 20th September there will be a **second collection** for the **HOME MISSION SUNDAY**. Home Mission collection takes place each year on the third Sunday of September. Dioceses rely on the generosity of our Catholic community each Home Mission Sunday as it is the day we ask our parishes to pray for the work of evangelisation and to support this vital work through your donations. **Donations can be made online, cash or by DONA machine (NB We CANNOT claim Gift Aid on this collection, so please DO NOT use your envelopes!)**

SECOND COLLECTION On 3rd and 4th October there will be a **second collection** for **CAFOD**. **CAFOD stands in solidarity with people across the world by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice.** Working together with our brothers and sisters around the world, we campaign to tackle climate change, defend human rights, cancel unjust debts and build fairer food systems. We also campaign for peace and an end to conflict wherever it arises. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. **Donations can be made online, cash or by DONA machine (NB We CANNOT claim Gift Aid on this collection, so please DO NOT use your envelopes!)**

PARISH COLLECTIONS: Loose plate: £628.70 Gift Aid Envelopes: £246.50
Standing Orders: (weekly average) £933; Direct Debits: (weekly average) £315.00
Special Collection for Education Sunday: £649.55 Thank you for your generous donations!

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 19th September – 2nd October

Sat. 19th Andover Mass 10:00am *Marilyn Nicholls RIP*

Sat. 19th Andover Mass 6.00pm *Mike Cunningham RIP*

Sunday 20th September – THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *Amical Foran RIP*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am

Andover Mass 10.30am *People of the Parish*

Mon. 21st Andover Mass 10:00am *Malcolm Crabtree Strength and Healing*

Tue. 22nd Andover Mass 10:00am *Maureen Galavan RIP Anniversary*

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 23rd No Mass or Service

Thur. 24th Whitchurch Mass 10.00am *Canon Dermot MacDermot-Roe RIP*

Fri. 25th Andover Mass 10:00am. *Holy Souls in Reparation and Thanks*

Sat 26th Andover Mass 10:00am *Blanche David RIP Birthday Memorial*

Sat. 26th Andover Mass 6:00pm *People of the Parish*

Sunday 27th September- THE TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8:30m *-Gerald Attwater RIP*

Farleigh School Mass 10:00am

Andover Mass 10:30am *-Antonio Francis da Cunha RIP Anniversary*

Mon. 28th Andover Mass 10:00am *Apolonio Dias RIP Anniversary*

Tue. 29th Andover Mass 10:00am *William Doyle RIP*

Andover-Healing Prayers from 6:30pm-7:30pm

Wed. 30th No Mass or Service

Thur. 1st No Mass

Friday 2nd Andover Mass 10:30 *Jeanne Lynam RIP Anniversary*

Please pray for: Esmé Coveney, Rita Lane, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Fiona Hilleard, Tony Fabian, Helen O'Connell, Douglas Manning, Diane Mahoney, Rita Casey, Carol Keenan, Eileen Wharton, Oran Keenan, Margarita Hardiman, Robert Colledge, Eileen Price, Concepta Cuddihy, Frank Hinds, Clan Furtado, Lisa Rammage, Susanne Church, Sandy Saunders, Margaret Blair, Pat Middleton and Angelo and Angela Alvarez.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Ann Matthews

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.