



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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Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 8.30am – 1:30pm

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

3rd and 4th October – THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Psalm Response: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia. I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide. Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Thought for the Week

Can you imagine waving your child or grandchild off to school, knowing that they'll spend the day hungry? Knowing they'll try to concentrate in lessons but have an empty stomach, thinking more about food than what they're learning.

It's difficult to imagine, but for many families around the world, this is a daily reality.

I'd like to tell you about 12 year old Tayla from northern Zimbabwe, where drought has left communities struggling with food and water shortages. After fetching water before school each morning, Tayla often arrived hungry and tired.

Without enough food or water, she struggled to concentrate in class and worried about falling behind with her studies.

Tayla told us: "It affected me because I would feel tired and not be good at working. Some of the mathematics would be hard." But together, parishioners like you, Tayla's community and CAFOD's trusted Caritas



partners began to change that situation. At first, children received school meals so they could keep learning. But at the same time, local experts worked with Tayla's school and community

to install a solar-powered water system-a long-term solution that means the children can drink safe water and wash their hands all through the day, without having to collect it before

school. The school also uses the water to grow vegetables to provide nutritious school meals for children throughout the year.

Now Tayla and her classmates are better able to learn and play. And she's happy she can now concentrate in her maths lessons, so she can pursue her dream of becoming a doctor. As Tayla proudly says: "We are getting more energy."

Tayla's story shows what's possible when we come together. But there are many more children who still arrive at school hungry every day. Thank you for your generosity, your prayers and your support this CAFOD weekend.

WINE TASTING

Organised by Andover Catenians

Friday 30 October 2026 at 7:30 in the St John the Baptist Parish Hall. Tickets £10 available from Catenians after Mass (Saturday and Sunday). As usual, expert guidance on the wines together with bread and cheese will be included. There will also be a raffle and prize donations would be very welcome. All proceeds to Charity.

NEW WAYS CHARITY DONATIONS

Parishioners and friends of St John Fisher are running the Rotations charity shop in Whitchurch from 15th to 21st October and we are looking for donations of *good quality* items to sell – books, autumn/winter clothes, bric-a-brac etc. Donations can be left at the parish office in Andover for collection, there is a box at St John Fisher in Whitchurch.

The charity New Ways supports the Turkana, a mostly semi-nomadic tribal people in Northern Kenya. The area experiences frequent droughts and they are seeing the number of hungry children at their nursery schools increase. For a child to fully develop both physically and mentally, they require good quality nutrition in the first six years of their lives. At New Ways' nutritional rehabilitation units it costs £1.25 a week (about £5 per month) to feed one child two meals per day for six days. They feed over 2,500 children every year and every penny donated helps to make a tangible difference. More children go to primary school as a result of the project!

PARISH COLLECTIONS:

Loose plate: £527.75 Gift Aid Envelopes: £ 249.50

Standing Orders: (weekly average) £933; Direct Debits: (weekly average) £315.00 Thank you for your generous donations!

COFFEE MORNING TUESDAY

Don't forget to join us after Mass for coffee and cake in the church hall on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of each month. Next one will be held Tuesday the 6th of October

ROSARY

Please join us for the Rosary, we meet every Monday at 10:30am in the church hall
Everyone welcome for faith and fellowship

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 BACS (annotated 'Missal') or cash.

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

PARISH JOURNAL

The OCTOBER edition of THE PARISH JOURNAL is now available to download from the Parish Website.

Please leave contributions at the Presbytery or email them to: stjohnsjournal@googlemail.com

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL THROUGH OUR AMAZON WISHLIST

As a Catholic school, we are blessed by the prayers, encouragement and generosity of our parish community. If you would like to support our children in a practical way, we have an Amazon Wish List containing resources that will enhance learning, wellbeing and play across the school. Every item, no matter how small, helps us to provide the very best opportunities for our pupils and is greatly appreciated by our staff and children. If you are able to help, please visit our Amazon Wish List using the link below: Thank you!

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3DV3XAZS7QUNI?ref=wl_share

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 3rd October – 16th October

Sat. 3rd Andover Mass 10:00am-Audrey Bulner RIP Birthday Memorium

Sat. 3rd Syro-Malabar Community Holy Mass 2:30pm

Andover Mass 6.00pm-Maria and Regis Boudreau RIP Anniversary

Sunday 4th September – THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am -People of the Parish

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am

Andover Mass 10.30am-Fiona Hilleard for Health and Wellbeing

Mon. 5th Andover Mass 10:00am-Intentions of the Davies Family

Tue. 6th Andover Mass 10:00am-Holy Souls in Reparation and Thanks

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 7th No Mass or Service

Thur. 8th No MASS in Whitchurch

Fri. 9th Andover Mass 10:00am-Frank Hinds for Health and Strength

Sat 10th Andover Mass 10:00am-Patricia Hillier RIP Anniversary

Sat. 10th Andover Mass 6:00pm-For Peggy and Andrea in Thanksgiving

Sunday 11th October- THE TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8:30m -People of the Parish

Farleigh School Mass 10:00am

Andover Mass 10:30am-Rita Casey for Health and Wellbeing

Mon. 12th Andover Mass 10:00am-Sheila Muir RIP Anniversary

Tue. 13th Andover Mass 10:00am-Deceased Dwyer Sisters & John McCooey

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

Wed. 14th No Mass or Service

Thur. 15th Whitchurch Mass 10:00am-Holy Souls in Reparation and Thanks

Friday 16th Andover Mass 10:30-Canon John Longinotto RIP

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 the departed

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