



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

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

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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.

10th and 11th October – THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon: If you, O Lord should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Psalm Response: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

Gospel Acclamation: *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*

Communion Antiphon: When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Thought for the Week

Life is full of invitations that don't arrive in an envelope.

Every day brings opportunities to make a difference in someone else's life. We might be invited to notice someone who is lonely, to offer encouragement to a person having a difficult time, to make peace after a disagreement, or simply to stop and listen when someone needs to talk.

The difficulty is that life can be very busy. We have work to do, appointments to keep, families to care for and plenty of things competing for our attention. Sometimes we can become so caught up in our own concerns that we don't notice the opportunities for kindness that are right in front of us.

The message of the 28th Sunday reminds us about welcome and inclusion. A good community is one where people feel they have a place, where newcomers are welcomed, where those who are struggling are noticed and where nobody feels they have been forgotten.

Building that kind of community doesn't always require grand gestures. Often it begins with very ordinary things: a smile, a conversation, an offer of help, an invitation for a cup of tea, or simply making time for someone. Something that seems very small to us can mean a great deal to another person.

Perhaps this week we can slow down enough to notice the invitations that come our way. Who could we encourage?

Who might appreciate being included? Who simply needs someone to listen?

A stronger, kinder community is created one small action at a time. When we make room for others and respond with generosity, patience and kindness, we help ensure that everyone feels there is a place for them at the table.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Missio-World Mission Sunday

Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. This year marks 100 years of this special charity.

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: £496.35 Gift Aid Envelopes: £270.10

Standing Orders: (weekly average) £933; Direct Debits: (weekly average) £315.00

Special Collection for CAFOD: £961 Thank you for your generous donations!

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.

WELCOME MRS MURPHY

We would like to say a big welcome to Mrs Murphy who will be starting her new role as finance administrator with us this next week. We all wish her the best of luck in her new role.

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 school's 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 ever year and every penny donated helps to make a tangible difference. More children go to primary school as a result of the project!

Thank you for your donations!

ROSARY

Please join us for the Rosary

We meet every Monday at 10:30am in the church hall

Everyone welcome for faith and fellowship

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 10th October – 23rd October

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-7:00pm

Wed 14th No Mass or Service

Thurs 15th Whitchurch Mass 10:00am-*Mgr Canon Arthur Olney RIP*

Fri 16th Andover Mass 10:00-*Canon John Longinotto RIP*

Sat 17th Andover Mass 10:00am- *Gabriela & Conor Beales-6th Wedding Anniversary Blessings*

Sat 17th Andover Mass 6:00pm-*Mary Hadley RIP*

Sunday 18th October- THE TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8:30am-*For the People of the Parish*

Farleigh School Mass 10:00am

Andover Mass 10:30am-*Fiona Hilleard-Birthday Blessings*

Mon 19th Andover Mass 10:00am-*Michael & Margaret Cunningham RIP Anniversary*

Tues 20th Andover Mass 10:00am-*Canon Paul Townsend-Good Estate*

Andover-Healing Prayers from 6:30pm-7:00pm

Wed 21st-No Mass or Service

Thurs 22nd No Whitchurch Mass

Fri 23rd Andover Mass 10:00am-*Jean Kingsley-Birthday Blessings*

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.