

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**

These sessions take place throughout the year. The next preparation session will be advised shortly. Please contact the office for details and to book.

**RECONCILIATION**

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we encounter God's love for us through the gift of forgiveness, pardon and peace. This sacrament is regularly available in church on Saturdays after the 9.30 Mass or on request.

Children are introduced to **Reconciliation** during the year in which they make their first Holy Communion and are then invited to celebrate this sacrament of God's healing.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION**

Applications are now closed for the 2025-26 programmes.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Sat 17 Jan	9.30	<b>St Antony, Abbot (Memorial) MASS</b> Patrick & Katherine O'Driscoll RIP <b>ADORATION &amp; RECONCILIATION</b>
	10.00	
	16.45	<b>ITALIAN MASS MASS</b> Intentions of Deborah Russell
	18.00	
Sun 18 Jan	9.15	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS</b> Intentions of the O'Loughlin family <b>MASS</b> Parishioners
	11.15	
Mon 19 Jan	9.30	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tues 20 Jan	18.30	<b>Adoration NO MASS</b>
	19.30	
Wed 21 Jan	9.30	<b>St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr (Memorial) MASS</b> Ray Palmer RIP (Anniversary) <b>ROSARY</b>
	10.00	
Thurs 22 Jan	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
Frid 23 Jan	9.30	<b>MASS</b> Enda McCaul RIP <b>DIVINE MERCY</b>
	10.00	
Sat 24 Jan	9.30	<b>St Francis de Sales, Bishop Doctor (Memorial) NO MASS</b> <b>NO ADORATION &amp; RECONCILIATION</b>
	10.00	
	16.45	<b>ITALIAN MASS MASS</b> Praying for Persecuted Christians
	18.00	
Sun 25 Jan	9.15	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS</b> Parishioners
	11.15	
		<b>MASS</b> Good health of Tracy Wilkinson



**THIS SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist helps us recognise Jesus by speaking simple, truthful words: "Behold, the Lamb of God." He points us to the one who comes not to condemn but to take away the sin of the world. Jesus is revealed as the one chosen by the Father, and the Spirit rests upon Him in peace. This Gospel reassures us that God comes close to us in our everyday lives. Jesus does not remain distant; He stands among us, sharing our joys and our struggles. Like John, the Church's task is not to have all the answers but to help people notice Christ already present and at work. Each time we gather for the Eucharist, we hear John's words again and are invited to trust in what they proclaim. We come as we are, knowing that Christ meets us with mercy and hope. As we move through Ordinary Time, we are encouraged to walk with Jesus in the ordinary rhythms of life — at home, at work, and in our community — confident that He knows us, loves us, and continues to take away whatever weighs us down.

*With prayers Fr. Ruslan and the PPC.*

**WORLD DAY OF THE SICK**

To mark World Day of the Sick, which is also the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Erconwald's Church will be having a Mass on **Wednesday 11 February at 11am**. The Sacrament of the Sick, also known as the Anointing of the Sick, will also be given to those who wish to receive. The Sacrament of the Sick used to be known as the 'Last Rites'. However, if we focus only on this Sacrament as a "Last Rite," we miss the fact that it is meant to be celebrated with any person facing serious illness, a change in health or surgery. This Sacrament is open to all who wish to receive it. There will be tea/coffee, cake and biscuits in the hall afterwards. There will be a "sign-up sheet" in the porch. Please indicate if you need transport. Alternatively, phone the office on 07494 749833. Please spread the word - all are welcome.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026**

One Body One Spirit. This year's theme reminds us that the call to unity is a call to work for peace for all people everywhere. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) takes place each year from 18 to 25 January. This ecumenical celebration provides an opportunity to focus our prayers on Christian unity and to know that we are joining with international siblings in Christ.

**COMMUNICATIONS TEAM - HELP NEEDED**

We are a small team, working on our newsletter, website and social media. If anyone is interested helping out, please contact Lucy Jardine on 07740 461 785. Full training provided!

**PARISH PRIEST**

Fr Ruslan Kurdiumov  
**EMAIL:**  
[ruslan.kurdiumov@abdiocesese.org.uk](mailto:ruslan.kurdiumov@abdiocesese.org.uk)

**PARISH DEACON**

Deacon Joseph Côté  
**EMAIL:**  
[micheljoseph.cote@abdiocesese.org.uk](mailto:micheljoseph.cote@abdiocesese.org.uk)

**PARISH OFFICE**

**TEL:** 01932 221 101  
**MOB:** 07494 749 833  
**EMAIL:**  
[walton@abdiocesese.org.uk](mailto:walton@abdiocesese.org.uk)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Tue - Fri 10:00 -13:30

**WEBSITE**

[www.sterconwalds.org.uk](http://www.sterconwalds.org.uk)

**PARISH SCHOOLS**

**CARDINAL NEWMAN SCHOOL**  
Arch Road, Hersham  
Surrey, KT12 4QT  
**TEL:** 01932 222536  
**EMAIL:**  
[office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk](mailto:office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk)

**SALESIAN SCHOOL**

Guildford Road, Chertsey  
Surrey, KT16 9LU  
**TEL:** 01932 582520  
**EMAIL:**  
[info@salesian.surrey.sch](mailto:info@salesian.surrey.sch)

**PARISH BANK DETAILS**

**SORT CODE** 40-05-20  
**ACCOUNT NO** 01126393

**DONATIONS PAYABLE**

**TO:** RCD A&B ST ERCONWALD'S WALTON ON THAMES.

You can also donate in church using the DONA device. Please use Gift Aid if you can. Thank you for all your help and financial contributions!

## DEAR PARISHIONERS

This section of our newsletter is for those in need of our prayers, whether sick, housebound or just in need of extra prayer. If you would like your name or someone you know to be added to the list, please let the office know. If you are submitting on behalf of someone else, please seek their permission first. If you are sick or unwell and would like Fr Ruslan to know but not have your name in the newsletter, just let us know.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS

Aman Allos, Tom Asbury, Teresa Azouz, Baby Elm, Roger Blishen, Christopher Clifford and Catherine Browle, Katherine Cawley, Trish Claxton, Rose Collins, Jimmy Connaughtoin, Pat Couchman, Thérèse Crumpler, James De Leons-Hopkins, Maureen and Bill Dodds, Julia Donaldson, Manuel and Jackie Faraldo, Michael and Cathy Flynn, Carole Frost, Carmen Galanty, Sophie Giannini, Franky Goes, Gloria Gowen, Ann Griffin, the Hansford family, Michael Johnson, Karen Lane, John Lydon, Rita McGloin, Oscar Menezes, Christian Misuraca, Sarah Mitchell, Maureen Moriarty, Colleen Murphy, Louise Nettleton, Arlo Nolan, Fr Sebastian Paul, Ben Piltsher, Shirley Rhodhes, Deborah Russell, Evie Sagun, Anna Sartori, Michael Spears, Michelle Thomas, Eileen White, Angela Widdup, Dina Yates.

## HOME VISITS

Fr Ruslan would like to meet parishioners who are too poorly to come to church at different times throughout the year in their homes. Do reach out to Susana in the office, Ann Meehan or Fr Ruslan so we can schedule visits.

## YOUTH MASSES

Our next youth-led Mass is **Saturday 7 February** at 6pm. All are welcome to come along and participate.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The PPC met this week and continued planning for this liturgical year. Our main focus now is **Lent and Easter**, and we're also looking ahead to celebrating **St Erconwald's feast day** in May. Watch this space!

Lucy Jardine, current Chair of our Parish Pastoral Council, is stepping down at the end of this month. ***We thank her for her service to our parish.*** John Joyce and Helen McHugh will take over as co-Chairs, and Gerard Frain as PPC secretary. Lucy will speak at all Masses on 31/1-1/2 to introduce them and share some updates with you.

## ADULT INITIATION INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

We are delighted that a number of people have expressed a desire to explore more about the Catholic faith; they start a programme with Fr Ruslan in the next couple of weeks. This programme is known as the RCIA programme - the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. We pray for them as they travel along their faith journey. If any of you is considered exploring the Catholic faith, please do contact Fr Ruslan.

## LENTEN SMALL FAITH-SHARING GROUPS

We will be hosting small faith-sharing groups again this year using the 'We Dare to Ask' booklets. The five sessions each include scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions on the theme of our baptismal vocation. Please consider joining with others this Lent as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. Full details and sign up to follow.

## LENTEN PARISH DIVINE MERCY DAY RETREAT

The Marian Fathers will once again be leading us in a Lenten retreat this year. Many of you came along last year; it was a special time of reflection and blessings. We are still finalising the timings, and more information will follow, but do put **Saturday 21 March** in your diaries.

## THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING – 8 February

“Peace Begins with Dignity: A Global Call to End Human Trafficking,” draws inspiration from Pope Leo XIV’s powerful reminder that true peace is gentle and humble, born of love, and sustained where human dignity is upheld. The exploitation and objectification of people through trafficking fundamentally destroy the foundations of peace and justice.

## Exciting News! St ERCONWALD Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela (Camino Francés) 9-16 June

Join us for this 8 day spiritual journey. Pilgrims will walk the 100km at their own pace. Along the way, you’ll have opportunities to meet fellow pilgrims on the route and gather for Mass. This journey will take you through beautiful landscapes, historic churches, and significant religious sites, culminating at the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. Contact the office for more information or see the church website.

## TODDLER PRAISE AND PLAY GROUP

The toddler group met this week - what a joyful gathering it is. We are next scheduled to meet in February, but would like to meet more frequently - **we need a couple more helpers.** It involves getting the toys out beforehand, spending time with (grand)parents and tidying away together afterwards. If you think you can help every once in a while please do get in touch with the parish office.

## PARISH OF WEYBRIDGE

The Weybridge Parish Representative Group next meets on 19 January. Our Parish representatives are Emma Simpkin, Vini Menezes and our Parish Pastoral Council Chair. Our website has reports and other information on our new parish here: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/weybridge-parish-news> You can also see more from the inauguration mass including pictures here: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/inauguration-weybridge>

## OTHER/DIOCESAN NEWS/EVENTS

### POPE LEO MARKS END OF JUBILEE YEAR, CLOSING THE HOLY DOOR AT ST PETER'S BASILICA

Pope Leo marked the end of the Jubilee Year on Tuesday 6 January, presiding over Holy Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord at St Peter’s Basilica and closing the final Holy Door, in St Peter's. Almost 33.5 million pilgrims from 185 countries visited Rome during the Holy Year (2 million more than expected), with many pilgrims from our Diocese making the pilgrimage journey with their families, friends, schools, or parish communities. You can watch more here: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/end-of-jubilee>

### DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 24 January 2026 11-4pm at St Michael’s church, High Salvington, Worthing BN13 3AL. Led by Bishop Richard and Catherine Christmas, Liturgy and Music Adviser. To book a place go to the Events page of the Diocesan website: [www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events).

### RESOURCES FOR CATECHISTS/PARENTS/TEACHERS

Radical Belonging: Guide to Sacramental Preparation with Autistic Young People, written by Deacon Mark Paine for the Archdiocese of Birmingham. This free Guide offers a pastoral, practical pathway for catechesis with Autistic young people, including those who are non-speaking. It reflects a theology of dignity, belonging and mission. There are helpful definitions, acronyms, glossary terms [www.godwhospeaks.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Radical-Belonging.pdf](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Radical-Belonging.pdf)

### LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Dates have now been announced. Please visit the diocesan website for details.

### DIOCESAN TRAINING DAYS

There are various other diocesan training days, including mental health training. Visit the diocesan website for details: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/ibgv7xjz>

## COMMUNICATIONS

Please send any newsletter/website/porch/social media items or any amendments to: [comms.sterconwalds@gmail.com](mailto:comms.sterconwalds@gmail.com) by Thursday at 2pm for inclusion/uploading as appropriate. All feedback is welcome.

## SAFEGUARDING

If you wish to work with children or vulnerable adults in our parish please contact Tina O’Kelly, our Safeguarding Rep for volunteers: [tina@okellynet.com](mailto:tina@okellynet.com). See our website for further details.

## VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are such a huge part of our parish and we would love to welcome anyone who wishes to get involved as we grow together as a faith community and reach out to those around us. See here for details: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/get-involved.html>

## YOUR OFFERINGS

**PLATE COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER: £1113.24**

**STANDING ORDERS FOR DECEMBER: £4900.67**

## THANK YOU!

## SAVE THE DATES!

**7 FEB:** YOUTH-LED MASS  
**11 FEB:** WORLD DAY OF THE SICK CARE MASS  
**21 MAR:** DIVINE MERCY RETREAT