

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

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 24 Jan	9.30 10.00	St Francis de Sales, Bishop Doctor (Memorial) NO MASS NO ADORATION & RECONCILIATION
	16.45 18.00	ITALIAN MASS MASS Praying for Persecuted Christians
Sun 25 Jan	9.15	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS Parishioners
	11.15	MASS Good health of Tracy Wilkinson
Mon 26 Jan	9.30	St Timothy & Titus, Bishops (Memorial) NO MASS
Tues 27 Jan	18.30 19.30	Adoration NO MASS
Wed 28 Jan	9.30	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor (Memorial) MASS Yvonne Johnson RIP
	10.00	ROSARY
Thurs 29 Jan	13.00	Yvonne Johnson's Funeral
Frid 30 Jan	9.30	MASS Betty Braganza RIP
	10.00	DIVINE MERCY
Sat 31 Jan	9.30	St John Bosco, Priest (Memorial) MASS Betty Braganza RIP
	10.00	NO ADORATION & RECONCILIATION
	16.45 18.00	ITALIAN MASS MASS Good health of Henry & Mary Menezes
Sun 01 Feb	9.15	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS Diana Hall RIP
	11.15	MASS Parishioners
	13.00	POLISH MASS



ST ERCONWALD'S NEWSLETTER

24/25 JANUARY 2026



Fr Ruslan returns on Tuesday - we hope that he has had a restful time off! **Thank you** to the visiting priests who have said Mass for us this week.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

This Sunday is the Sunday of the Word of God, sometimes known as Bible Sunday. This year's expression is taken from Saint Paul to the Colossians: "The word of Christ dwells among you" (3:16). We are reminded of the central role that the Word of God plays in our Christian faith and practice. It's particularly fitting at the end of this week of Christian Unity. During all Masses this weekend we shall enthrone the Word of God by carrying the lectionary in procession, reminding us that the Word of God should be the centre of our lives.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

To mark World Day of the Sick, which is also the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, we will be having a special 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.

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR FOR 2026

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a special Jubilee Year, from 10 Jan 2026-10 Jan 2027 to commemorate the eight hundredth anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi. We are invited to rediscover the way of life of the Saint of Assisi: a life that is simple and essential, open to peace and respect for creation.

Perhaps we can experience this period grace by making a pilgrimage to a Franciscan church or to a place dedicated to Saint Francis anywhere in the world, rediscovering in prayer the value of simplicity and the care of our common home.

WORKS IN CHURCH

You may have noticed our new brighter lighting in church and some work in both the side chapels. Huge **thank you** to the cleaning team who are working to ensure that our church is ready for our weekend Masses.

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Ruslan Kurdiymov

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PARISH DEACON

Deacon Joseph Côté

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tue - Fri 10:00 -13:30

WEBSITE

www.sterconwalds.org.uk

PARISH SCHOOLS CARDINAL NEWMAN SCHOOL

Arch Road, Hersham

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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.

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.

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 OF WEYBRIDGE

On 19th January the Representative Group of the newly formed Parish of Weybridge met for the third time, and Vini Menezes and John Joyce attended from St Erconwald, s. At the meeting the representatives were asked two questions - "What would be your hope for where we will be as a parish by the end of 2026?" The second question was about how representatives can assure communication with their parish communities, recognising that they are the key channel of communication with their pastoral teams and clergy. Further information from the meeting can be found on our St Erconwald's website here: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/veybridge-parish-news>

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. **There will be Wednesday morning and Thursday evening sessions. 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 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 PASTORAL COUNCIL

Lucy Jardine, current Chair of our Parish Pastoral Council, is stepping down at the end of this month. 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.

OTHER/DIOCESAN NEWS/EVENTS

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

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

DIOCESAN TRAINING DAYS

There are various 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 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. 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