

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

BAPTISM PREPARATION

These sessions take place regularly throughout the year. Please contact the office for details and to book. The next Baptism session will take place on **Tuesday 4 February at 8pm on Zoom.**

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 2025

Our First Holy Communion programme for 2024-25 is now underway. Please pray for all our First Holy Communion children, their catechists and their families.

CONFIRMATION

Our Confirmation programme is now also underway. Please pray for our Confirmation candidates as they prepare for this Sacrament, which they will receive next year at Arundel Cathedral.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 25 Jan	NO MASS 16.45 18.00	The Conversion of St Paul (Feast) NO MASS NO Adoration OR Reconciliation ITALIAN MASS MASS Winn Douet RIP (birthday)
Sun 26 Jan	9.15 11.15	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS Parishioners MASS Maureen Compton RIP (Anniversary)
Mon 27 Jan	NO MASS	NO MASS
Tue 28 Jan	18.30 19.30	Adoration and Reconciliation MASS
Wed 29 Jan	NO MASS 10.00	NO MASS Rosary
Thu 30 Jan	11.00	Antonio Lanzisera's funeral Mass
Fri 31 Jan	9.30 10.00	St John Bosco (Memorial) MASS Tony Lanzisera RIP Divine Mercy Prayer
Sat 01 Feb	9.30 10.00 16.45 18.00	MASS Adoration and Reconciliation ITALIAN MASS MASS Parishioners
Sun 02 Feb	9.15 11.15 13.00	The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas (Feast) MASS The Driessen Family MASS Anthony Fisk, John Ellis & Jan Van der Lijster RIP POLISH MASS

TODDLER PRAISE AND PLAY

The toddler group meets on Fridays during term-time for toddlers and their parent(s)/grandparent(s) etc. **Please sign up** online: <https://sterconwalds.churchsuite.com/events/iqgv3pov>



ST ERCONWALD'S NEWSLETTER

25-26 JANUARY 2025

PLEASE NOTE:

Fr Ruslan will be taking a much needed break from **25-29 January**. We pray that he will be able to relax, and return to us refreshed and re-energised! The parish office will be open as usual; Fr Bill will say Mass this weekend, and Fr Stephen will say Mass on Tuesday evening. **Thank you** to both of them!

PARISH NEWS/EVENTS

WHY ARE THE CRIB AND DECORATIONS STILL UP?!

Although the Christmas Season ended on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the crib may be left in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) on 2 February - next Sunday. We'd love some **help to take down the decorations** and clean up the church this coming **Saturday 1 February** from 11am-12pm. Please do come along if you can.

FLAME (<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame>)

Did you miss hearing Fr Ruslan speak about Flame last weekend? It is biannual youth event, next on **15 March 2025** for 10,000 young people at Wembley Arena, full of joyful music, powerful speakers sharing their stories, and a chance to meet other young Catholics from around the country. **Some of our confirmation candidates will be going** and we would love for other young people from the parish to join them. Tickets are almost sold out! Please contact the parish office as soon as possible if you're interested/would like more info.

SYCAMORE PRAYER COURSE - THE POWER OF PRAYER

Join us for a cuppa and time to talk about all things prayer; its power, in the mass, with the Bible, how to start. Sessions continue on **Sunday evenings** at 8pm in the hall. Join one session or all 5. All are very welcome - please sign up in advance on the sheet in the porch or online: <https://sterconwalds.churchsuite.com/events/he7saf1o>

JUBILEE REFLECTION SESSIONS

These continue on Wednesdays at 10.30 or at 7.45pm. All are welcome. Our discussions and reflections have been moving and insightful as we have been looking at the Good News that Jesus brings, and where we can find hope.

PARISH PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

This year's confirmation candidates would once again like to invite the parish to a Ploughman's lunch on **Sunday 23 February at 12.30 in the hall**. The young people will prepare and serve the lunch. If you would like to attend, **please sign up in the porch**. This event has proved very popular in past years and we hope it will continue to do so this year. Please support our youngsters as they continue their confirmation journey by giving of their service, in the spirit of Christ.

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Ruslan Kurdiumov

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PARISH DEACON

Deacon Joseph Côté

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micheljoseph.cote@abdiocese.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE

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MOB: 07494 749 833

EMAIL:

walton@abdiocese.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tue - Fri 10:00 -13:30

WEBSITE

www.sterconwalds.org.uk

PARISH SCHOOLS

CARDINAL NEWMAN SCHOOL

Arch Road, Hersham

Surrey, KT12 4QT

TEL: 01932 222536

EMAIL:

office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk

SALESIAN SCHOOL

Guildford Road, Chertsey

Surrey, KT16 9LU

TEL: 01932 582520

EMAIL:

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 or the QR codes in the pews. 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, Teresa Azouz, Baby Elm, Roger Blishen, Christopher Clifford and Catherine Browle, Katherine Cawley, Trish Claxton, Rose Collins, Jimmy Connaughtoin, Thérésè Crumpler, James De Leons-Hopkins, Maureen and Bill Dodds, Julia Donaldson, Mary Edenborough, Manuel and Jackie Faraldo, Michael and Cathy Flynn, Carole Frost, Carmen Galanty, Sophie Giannini, Franky Goes, Gloria Gowen, Ann Griffin, the Hansford family, Yvonne and Michael Johnson, Karen Lane, John Lydon, Rita McGloin, Oscar Menezes, Christian Misuraca, Sarah Mitchell, Maureen Moriarty, Colleen Murphy, Louise Nettleton, Arlo Nolan, 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.

PARISH RAFFLES

Thank you to all who donated prizes and purchased tickets! You've helped us raise £373 much needed funds for our parish.

DIVINE MERCY REFLECTION AFTERNOON

Mark the date in your calendars! On **8 March from 1.30-4.30pm** we'll be led by Marian Fathers in an afternoon reflection. This will include Mass, Benediction and a talk on Divine Mercy and hope during this Jubilee year. If you've never experienced this way of praying before, it's an ideal opportunity to **come along and see** and would be a prayerful way to start your **Lenten journey**. It's a way to retreat from the busy-ness for just a short while.

We also have a **divine mercy prayer group** that meets for half an hour on a Friday morning. See the website for the full programme; more information to follow in the coming weeks: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/parish-retreats.html>

FEEDBACK WANTED PLEASE!

During Advent our welcomers handed out around 200 **'Walk with me'** booklets to you (children/adults) to help reflect and pray in preparation for Christmas. Did you use one, by yourself or in your family? Were they useful/helpful or not, and do you have another suggestion for us? Please email Helen McHugh with any feedback at all, however brief: Helen.babar@btinternet.com

DROP IN WELCOME COFFEE MORNING!

This will take place on the first Wednesday of the month starting in March. So do join us anytime from 10-11.30am on **5 March in the hall** for a cuppa and a chat! We'd warmly like to invite all parishioners, with or without babies/toddlers, young or not so young, and especially those who have joined our parish more recently. Come and say hello!

Antonio Lanzisera's funeral will be on Thursday at 11am in the church. Antonio was a well loved and active parishioner. He will be truly missed. Please have Tony and his family in your thoughts and prayers in this very difficult time. RIP dear Tony.

FR BILL'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Fr Bill, who was our priest before Fr Ruslan, will be celebrating his 40th anniversary as a priest. He'll be concelebrating Mass **next Sunday 2 February** (9.15). Please do join him in the hall afterwards for coffee/tea and cake to congratulate him!

RAISING OUR CHILDREN TO KNOW JESUS

An Alpha Faith Parenting Course (a mixture of zoom/in person) is planned to support all parents of children aged 0-10, to start **after the February half-term**. If you'd be interested in this, or in helping in any way, please let the office know.

JUBILEE FOR YOUTH - PILGRIMS OF HOPE - ROME 2025

Young adults from all over the world aged 18-30 will be gathering in Rome from 28 July-4 August to celebrate the special Jubilee year. Join other like-minded people as part of the Diocesan group. Full details are on the diocesan website. Parish support is available - contact the parish office.

PLEASE HELP A PARISHIONER FIND A PROPERTY

One of our parishioners is urgently seeking a property in the area. If anyone knows of a one or two bedroom house to rent or is an estate agent, please contact Susana in the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN/OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Applications for this summer's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (**25-31 July** by air or own transport, **24 July-1 August** by coach/jumbulance) are now open on the diocesan website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home> Our pilgrimage to Lourdes is one of the most significant pastoral events in our annual Diocesan calendar. In the context of this Jubilee year, the Lourdes theme is 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'. We are invited to set out on our pilgrimage journey with our Lady and St Bernadette, in the 'hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ.' (Pope Francis, Spes non Confundit 2025)

Lourdes is a place of renewal. Unlike tourists, visiting a popular attraction, we are pilgrims, making the journey together, we laugh together, break bread together, and we enter a space in which we can be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in ways that, perhaps, we would never have thought possible before. **We warmly encourage parishioners to apply; financial support is available.** Please contact the parish office. Over the next few weeks we hope to hear from some of our parishioners who have been on this pilgrimage, sharing its impact on them.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT

The annual Walton and Hersham Irish Society St Patrick's Night will be on **Saturday 15 March** at All Saints in Hersham. This is a family friendly event; profits raised goto local charities. Always a great night with a live band, licensed bar, Irish shop, kids disco, face painting, Photo Booth, raffle, pizza truck and much more. Come along and enjoy the craic! **Tickets go on sale on Sunday 2 Feb at 8pm** here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thehershamwaltonstpa/ddysfamilyshindig/1545561> Tickets sell out fast so mark this date in your diaries! Tickets: Adults £10; children £2.50

TEACHER TRAINING

The Xavier trust of schools, of which the Salesian School in Chertsey is part, is running a series of open mornings in January and February, particularly encouraging people interested in a **career change** to this rewarding career as a teacher to attend. Please see their website for details: www.teachsoutheast.co.uk

MODERN SLAVERY

On 8 February we celebrate the Feast of **St Josephine Bakhita**. On **7 February** there will be a talk at Pius X Hall in Guildford on Modern Slavery and how to recognise and help combat it; St Josephine's whose prolonged encounter with slavery and subsequent life will be featured. Do sign up: <https://cpg.churchsuite.com/events/rcfx1ryf>

COMMUNICATIONS

Please send any newsletter/website/porch/social media items or any amendments to: comms.sterconwalds@gmail.com by Thursdays 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. For details: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/get-involved.html>

YOUR OFFERINGS PLATECOLLECTIONS FOR 19.01.25: 298.11

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS UKRAINE TBC

STANDING ORDERS FOR DECEMBER: £4705.67

THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATES

23 FEB: PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH
8 MAR: DIVINE MERCY REFLECTION/RETREAT
15 MAR: FLAME CONGRESS
20 SEP: FESTIVAL OF HOPE