

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 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
Mon 03 Feb	9.30	MASS Well-being of Frances Kelly
Tue 04 Feb	12.00 18.30 19.30	June Ellis' funeral Adoration and Reconciliation MASS
Wed 05 Feb	9.30	St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr (Memorial) June Ellis RIP Rosary
Thu 06 Feb	NO MASS	St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs of Japan (Memorial) NO MASS
Fri 07 Feb	NO MASS 10.00	NO MASS Divine Mercy Prayer
Sat 08 Feb	9.30 10.00 16.45 18.00	St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin MASS Adoration and Reconciliation ITALIAN MASS MASS For the Abolition of Modern Slavery
Sun 09 Feb	9.15 11.15	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time MASS Sandra Jane Colon RIP (Anniversary) MASS For the Abolition of Slavery

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

1-2 FEBRUARY 2025



Welcome back Fr Ruslan!

In case you've been wondering - **the crib** will stay up until after the Sunday Masses this weekend to celebrate the Lord's presentation at the temple, but we'd love some **help to take down the decorations** and clean up the church this **Saturday 1 February** from 11am-12pm. Please do come along if you can.

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 this Sunday 2 February (9.15). Please do join him in the hall afterwards for coffee/tea and cake to congratulate him!

STOP PRESS - PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM!

Fr Ruslan will be leading us in a parish pilgrimage to the Holy Shrine of Walsingham from **10-11 July**. Details to follow, but do put it in your diaries!

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

Flame is a 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. Tickets are fully sold out - but we managed to get some! **Some of our confirmation candidates will be going** with Fr Ruslan, and we would love for other young people from the parish to join them - **please contact the parish office as soon as possible to nab a ticket!**

MODERN SLAVERY

Next **Saturday 8 February** we celebrate the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, who had a prolonged encounter with slavery. 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 life will be featured. Do sign up for the talk here: <https://cpg.churchsuite.com/events/rcfx1ryf> See this video for more information about St Josephine. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxQWjDNvs-Y&t=3s>.

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. All are very welcome - please sign up on the sheet in the porch or online: <https://sterconwalds.churchsuite.com/events/he7sa10>

JUBILEE REFLECTION SESSIONS - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

These continue on Wednesdays at 10.30 or at 7.45pm. All are welcome. Our reflections have been moving and insightful as we have been looking at the Good News that Jesus brings and how he is the liberator of those suffering and the oppressed.

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Ruslan Kurdiumov

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tue - Fri 10:00 -13:30

WEBSITE

www.sterconwalds.org.uk

PARISH SCHOOLS

CARDINAL NEWMAN SCHOOL

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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 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, Eileen Mulqueen, 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.

June Ellis' funeral is this Tuesday 4 February at 12pm in the church. June was a well-loved parishioner and her daughter Simonne is an active member of our parish. June will be truly missed. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time. RIP dear June.

Tony Lanzisera's daughters Teresa & Angela would like to thank Fr Ruslan, the folk group & those parishioners that attended his funeral & also for their support, prayers & good wishes.

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH!

Youth-led masses will now take place **every 4th Saturday of the month at 6pm, starting on Saturday 22 February.** These Masses are for you! **We invite and encourage you to join in - whether reading, welcoming, music, etc.** Please do contact Fr Ruslan - and let him know what else our parish can do for you.

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. Please support our youngsters as they continue their confirmation journey.

DIVINE MERCY REFLECTION AFTERNOON

Mark the date in your calendars! On **Saturday 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. We'll have refreshments in the hall afterwards. See the poster in the porch. It's an ideal opportunity to **come along and see** and would be a prayerful way to start your **Lenten journey.** See the website for the full programme.

<https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/parish-retreats.html>

Our **divine mercy prayer group** meets for half an hour on a Friday morning- do pop along!

DROP IN WELCOME COFFEE MORNING!

Do join us anytime from 10-11.30am on **5 March** in the hall for a cuppa and a chat - the first of our monthly coffee mornings! 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!

FUNDRAISING 100 Club

We are looking to launch St Erconwald's 100 Club, similar to many parishes and clubs up and down the country. Members of the 100 Club will be entered in to a lottery each month to win cash prizes. If you would like more information about joining the club please contact the office.

Silent auction - apartment in Italy

Want to visit Italy/Rome during the Jubilee year?! One of our parishioners has generously offered a week's use of their apartment north of Rome as a silent auction prize - it's an easy day visit to Rome. Contact the office, more details to follow!

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 7 MARCH

This year the ecumenical Service will be held by our friends at the Methodist church in terrace Road, Walton at 10am. All will be very welcome. We shall have a special Stations of the Cross in our parish that Friday - details to follow.

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 during Lent.** If you'd be interested in this, or in helping out, please let the office know. Further details and sign up next week.

OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

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.**

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. 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.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT

The annual Walton and Hershams Irish Society St Patrick's Night will be on **Saturday 15 March** at All Saints in Hershams. This is a family friendly event; profits raised go to 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/thehershamswaltonstpadysfamilyshindig/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. Please see their website for details: www.teachsoutheast.co.uk

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. See here for details: <https://www.sterconwalds.org.uk/get-involved.html>

**YOUR OFFERINGS
PLATECOLLECTIONS FOR
26.01.25: 551.56**

**STANDING ORDERS
FOR DECEMBER: £4705.67**

THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATES

23 FEB: PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH
7 MAR: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
8 MAR: DIVINE MERCY REFLECTION/RETREAT
15 MAR: FLAME CONGRESS
10-11 JUL: PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM
20 SEP: FESTIVAL OF HOPE