

The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA
borehamwood@rcdow.org.uk www.catholicparishesofborehamwood.org

24th September 2023: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Dominic McKenna Parish Priest Tel: 020 8953 1294
Sue Partington Parish Admin Tel: 020 8953 1294
Monday to Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm. suepartington@rcdow.org.uk

St Teresa's church is monitored by CCTV cameras 24 hours a day. Live streaming of all services takes place at St Teresa's and SS John Fisher & Thomas More. These can be viewed at www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood or through the link on our website

FIRE SAFETY NOTICE: If anyone has difficulty in hearing, walking or anything else that may slow down safe exit in the event of a fire, please let us know before the service starts, so that we can arrange for assistance for you.



Services for the forthcoming week

Saturday 23rd September	Vigil: 25th Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Eanna Starcken RIP
Sunday 24th September	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am (SSJFTM)	Simon Glowotz RIP & deceased Visitnin & Kragher families
		10am (St T)	Tony Mitchell RIP (Bday)
		Noon (St T)	Julia Purcell RIP
Monday 25th September	Communion	9.15am (St T)	<i>Rita Wynn RIP MOVED</i>
Tuesday 26th September	Communion	9.15am (St T)	<i>Michael Brady RIP MOVED</i>
Wednesday 27th Sept.	No service		
Thursday 28th September	Communion	9.15am (St T)	<i>Fernandes (Thanksgiving) MOVED</i>
Friday 29th September	Communion	9.15am (St T)	<i>Peter O'Shea RIP MOVED</i>
Saturday 30th September	Vigil: 26th Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Eanna Starcken RIP

THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

No confessions this weekend

Liturgy of the Word - 24th September 2023

Entrance Antiphon:	I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.
Responsorial Psalm:	The Lord is close to all who call him.
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!
Next Sunday Readings:	Ezekiel 18:25-28, Psalm 24:4-9, Rsp. V6, Philippians 2:-11, Matthew 21:28-32

Reflection for 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - The unfair parable?

Our natural reaction to today's parable is that those who worked the longest, should have received the most pay. But this isn't about justice, it's about God's call & our response. Historically it explains why the Gentiles were entering the kingdom and experiencing forgiveness & grace (the latecomers) as well as the Jewish people who had stayed faithful to the covenant for centuries (the early morning workers). What is important is not how long they worked but that they answered the call when it came.

The parable can of course be applied to ourselves; people are called to Christ at different times in their lives. Baptism as babies (mornings), others experience a call in their teenage years (mid morning), adults would be mid afternoon, senior citizens would be the evenings. God calls people at any hour of their life.

Everyone in the parable was paid the same because they answered the call, no one was compared with the other. The same is true of us, God does not compare, we all have a unique combination of talents, challenges & opportunities in life. "Each of us has a story of our life that is our own; & each of us has a story of our soul that is our own" (Pope John Paul II) When we answer God's call, we should do it as best we can & not look at the person next to us to see how they answer the call.

Finally, each time of our lives, be it morning, noon time or late afternoon, brings a special strength to our work in God's vineyard. When we are young, we bring enthusiasm, inquiry, imagination & energy. As we grow older it's a reappraisal, we refocus & stabilise, bringing judgment, maturity & focus. In our senior years we bring wisdom & tolerance. As we get older, friendships become more important, it's a time of candour, honesty & contemplation as we gather together the experiences of a lifetime and appreciate God's grace & goodness.

This parable is not just about Jew & Gentile, or different times when people find God, nor the uniqueness of the call. It is also about the seasons of life & whatever our age, we all bring strengths & gifts. At each hour of the day & at each season of our life, God is calling with a place for us & work for us in his vineyard.

Monthly Standing Orders: £3,885

Offertory for the last fortnight

Envelopes £ 547.70

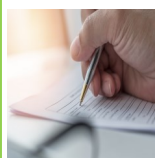
Loose Plate £ 688.05

Contactless donations £ 710

Total for weekends of 10th & 17th September £1,945.75



Still scrabbling around for cash for the Offertory? Keep forgetting to bring your envelopes?, **why not think about donating by Standing Order?** All you need to do is pick up a standing order mandate & complete & return to us. **Some planned giving envelopes still to be collected.**



Certificates of Catholic Practice: If you would like a certificate for school applications, please pick up one of the form requests in either church & return it to Sue with the relevant documentation. Certificates will not be issued without the request form and any accompanying documents if needed.



St Vincent de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

SVP are still active in borehamwood and are here to help anyone in need. We are available to talk if you are lonely or if you need support in any way.

St Vincent De-Paul
phone number is:

07479 847130

Email:

SVPBorehamwood@gmail.com



LORETO COLLEGE Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3RQ OPEN EVENING (SECONDARY TRANSFER 2024) The Open Evening for prospective pupils applying to Loreto College for September 2024 will take place on **TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2023 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm.** Tours during the school day will take place between 2nd - 13th October (by appointment only). Appointments can be made by calling 01727 856206.



International Lunch: Sunday 1st October is St Teresa's Feast Day, (although as it is a Sunday it isn't mentioned this year), this can only mean the return of our the International Lunch, to be held on 1st October at St Teresa's Parish Centre after midday mass. Please bring your home cooked family dishes to share with the congregation, the hall will be open on Sunday morning for you to drop off beforehand. Don't forget to wear your traditional costumes! This is a wonderful occasion for us to celebrate our rich, diverse and welcoming community. **HELPERS NEEDED TO SET UP THE HALL 4PM ON SATURDAY & TO CLEAR UP AFTERWARDS**



Marriage Encounter non-residential enrichment weekend for couples: 30th Sept & 1st Oct at St. George's Parish Centre - Sudbury. (Saturday 9am to Sunday 5.00pm). This is a great opportunity as a couple to affirm, enrich and explore your unique relationship (NB: There is no group sharing). For more information go to: <https://wwme.org.uk/book-a-weekend/>



BAPTISMS: We welcome Grace who is being baptised this weekend. Our baptisms take place on a Saturday afternoon, at either Noon, 1pm or 2pm, with a Rite of Welcome at your usual Mass the weekend before. They are individual ceremonies. If you would like your child to be baptised, please complete the registration form over the website (under Sacraments). You will also need to attend a Baptism Preparation Course. **There are just a few dates left in 2023, please make sure your date is arranged & confirmed by Sue before you invite guests!**

Fr Dominic- an update from Sue.

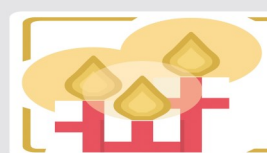
A big thank you to all the Priests who are helping us out in Fr Dominic's absence. There will be still be no week-day masses. Sr Avril will take a service of communion once a week and Nick is also taking Communion Services during the week. If there are any Eucharistic Ministers who would be happy to take a service and give Nick a break, please let me know.

Fr Dominic is still struggling with lung & kidney infections. The doctors feel that at last we have some signs of improvement. Whilst the infection remains acute, the team are concentrating on this. I am going to visit him on Saturday so will let you know next week. It is still only family visiting at the moment., but I am happy to pass on any cards. & wishes from you, just let me know.

We expect him to be away from the parish for the foreseeable future as he will need a long period of convalescence.



Applications for the 2023-24 FHC & Confirmation programmes have now closed. Due to the high volumes we cannot accept any latecomers. We will send you a programme of events by email & dates of the first meeting very shortly.



EVENTS

*Curry Night: Saturday 18th November
7pm-10pm, more details to follow*

*Senior Citizens Party:
Sunday 10th December*

The Parish Office is closed on Monday 25th September

- just for the day, then it's business as usual.



Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School looks forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to their **Open Evening on Thursday 5th October 2023 from 5.30pm to 8.30pm**