

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
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20th September 2026 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr.A)

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Services for the forthcoming week

Saturday 19th September	Vigil Mass: 25th Sunday Ordinary Time	(SSJFTM) 6pm A Special Intention
Sunday 20th September	25th Sunday of Ordinary Time	(SSJFTM) 8.30am Lourda O'Leary RIP
		(St. T) 10am Tony Mitchell RIP Birthday
		(St. T) 12pm Julia Ferreira Martins RIP
Monday 21st September	St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist	(St. T) 9.15am Lourda O'Leary RIP
Tuesday 22nd September	Feria	(St. T) 9.15am World Peace
	Funeral of Edita Dzidzeviciene RIP	(St. T) 11am
Wednesday 23rd September	NO MASS	
Thursday 24th September	Our Lady of Walsingham	(St. T) 9.15am Lourda O'Leary RIP
Friday 25th September	Feria	(St. T) 9.15am James Lineen RIP
Saturday 26th September	Vigil Mass: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SSJFTM) 6pm A Special Intention

Confessions on Saturdays: St. Teresa's 11-11.45am SSJFTM 5-5.45pm.
Pope Leo's September Prayer Intention: For the care of water.

Liturgy of the Word - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time P131

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of my people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress,
 I will hear them, and I will be their Lord forever.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is close to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.
 Open our hearts, O Lord,
 that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.
 Alleluia.

Next Sunday Reads: Ezekial 18:25-28 Psalm 25 (24): 4-5b. 6-7. 8-9. R.6a Philippians 2:1-11

Fr. Jude Writes: CHRIST OUR LIFE

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain... My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. (Philippians 1:21; 24)

This beautiful passage from the Second Reading of the 24th Sunday of the Ordinary time of the year highlights the life of total abandonment to the will of God, exemplified in the life of St Paul. He remained very joyful even within the walls of a Roman prison, from where he wrote the Letter to the Church at Philippi. This Epistle is regarded as the most joyful letter, albeit from a prison. This is paradoxical in every sense. But this could be explained, if we point out the fact that he had earlier declared that he had crucified himself with Christ and was therefore dead to the world. (Galatians 2:20)

St Paul therefore, places himself wholly in the hands of God. And this total surrender, to the sovereign will of God, gives him confidence to face the uncertain outcome of his impending trial. Whether the legal proceedings bring him release or execution, Christ will be honored either way, through what he underwent in his body. If the death sentence were to be passed, he would receive a glorious martyrdom and so be with Christ which was far better. If his biological life was spared, this would equally give him the opportunity to continue his missionary activity of making Christ known.

Beloved, what really matters in the present situation of things in this world is to belong fully to Jesus by trusting and entrusting our lives to him. Alive or dead, we belong to Jesus (Romans 14:8), and this should be our source of inner peace and confidence. Let us there continue to cherish and live by our dictum of **belonging to Jesus** as individuals and as a Family of Faith.

Thank you for your generosity with weekly offerings.

Loose Plate: £459.95

Envelopes: £118

Total: £577.95 **Weekend: 12/13.06.09.26**

August: Contactless = £918 (transaction fees to be deducted) Standing Orders: £2751

Thank you to our Counters.



If you would prefer to give your offertory by contactless and you can't get to the machine, please use the QR code here which is for St Teresa's.

Baptisms: Our Baptisms usually take place on a Saturday around 1pm. The Rite of Welcome is at your usual Mass, the weekend before. They are individual ceremonies. **If you would like your child to be Baptised, please complete an Application Form, at the back of the church, and return it to the Parish Office. Please read the form very carefully.** You will need to complete a Baptism Preparation Course, held on the first Saturday of every month, (St. Teresa's Church, the Our Lady Chapel). Fixing a Baptism date with family, before confirming with us, is discouraged as we may not be able to oblige your date.

MARRIAGE: For Marriage to be celebrated in our Church, we need to have a minimum of 6 months' notice. For Marriage Papers, you will be required to present documents which need to be dated within six months from the date of your Marriage. Do not request them too early, especially if you need to send them abroad, as we may not be able to use them. A Marriage Course must be completed. This can be arranged via the Parish Office. **In the case that there is a prior marriage, whether civil or religious, DO NOT arrange future marriages, unless the matter has been dealt with and you have a Decree of Nullity from a Church Tribunal. If this is the case, contact the Parish at once.** You can find more information on our website.

Mass Attendance Cards 2026-2027: Available at the backs of each church. If you are seeking a Catholic Certificate of Practice, because you desire Catholic Education for your child, you must have a stamped Mass Attendance Card. Volunteers are at the backs of each church, to stamp them after weekend Masses. First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates will also need to get these stamped, each weekend, after Mass. Without a photo, your Mass Attendance Card may not be stamped. The person who relates to the card, must be shown to the volunteer. Thank you.

Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel): Collections after this weekend's Masses. Please help the Church with its valuable work bringing the Gospel message to all. Thank you.

Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School—Open Evening: Thursday 1st October, 5-8pm. "The evening is an opportunity for prospective families to come and visit our school, meet members of our school community and find out more about what we have to offer. We would particularly welcome families with children in Year 6 who are currently considering their secondary school choices for Year 7, as well as families in Year 5 who may be starting to think about their options." For more details visit nbs.herts.sch.uk or scan the posters at the back of each church. There are take away leaflets too, while they last.

Parish Youth Mass: Saturday 3rd October at SS John Fisher & Thomas More Church. This Mass celebrates the youth of our parish but all are welcome! 5.15-5.50pm Adoration & Benediction. 6pm Mass. After Mass, a social gathering, for the youth, in the Crypt. Our youth do a lot to help our parish—THANK YOU SO MUCH! Thanks also to Josh for producing the BEAUTIFUL posters for this event and for our 'Mass of Roses'. Well done!



Parish Office: Will be closed on Monday 21st September. Please be patient if you are waiting for an email reply or call back from the previous Friday afternoon onwards. Please leave your number for a call back.

RCIA: Monday 21st September 2026, 7.30pm, Our Lady Chapel: A God Who Speaks'. All adults are welcome to join us!

Registration for First Holy Communion & Confirmation 2026-27 Programmes & Certificate of Catholic Practice—Appointments to see Fr. Jude: Thank you to those who have submitted forms. The schedule, offering appointment days/times, is displayed on the notice boards of each church. You need to attend **with your child**. Please phone or email the Parish Office to book your appointment, for Fr. Jude to verify your application, and inform you of whether or not it has been successful. If you need your appointment to be private (because you need to explain something sensitive), please let the Office know that you need a one-to-one appointment with Fr. Jude. If you have yet to provide proof of Baptism—and First Holy Communion as applicable—please bring the proof with you. **If your child received the sacraments in another church, and you do not have proof, please contact them and explain your situation, stating that we require proof. For the Certificate of Catholic Practice, you must bring your Mass Attendance Card with photo attached. Thank you.**

CONTINGENCY FUND: Thanks to your generosity, we aim to meet various maintenance needs. There are still issues we need to address. There will be retiring collections after 26th & 27th September weekend's Masses. There are envelopes at the back of the church, for UK Taxpayers, which means 25p can be added to every £1 that you give. Thank you.

Fire Marshals for Weekend Masses: We urgently need Fire Marshals. If you are already a Fire Marshal, or would like to be one, please let the Parish Office know: 0208 953 1294 or borehamwood@rcdow.org.uk. The Diocese will provide training on Saturday 17th October, from 11-12.30pm. The session will be in St. Teresa's Parish Centre (Fr. Dominic's Hall).

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 assistance for you.



PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. We now place before you all the sick and housebound of our parish. As they share in this Eucharist with us, we pray that they may come to know the depth of your love for them and, the joy, the peace and healing of your presence.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen