

St Francis de Sales Church
 Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash Common,
 Newbury RG14 6NH
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory Road,
 Hungerford, RG17 0AF
 Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number 246871
 Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
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Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes

THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Feast of the Day</i>	<i>Mass Intention</i>
Sat Oct 18	5:15 pm 6:00pm	St F	Adoration & Rosary MASS	
Sun Oct 19	09:00 am	OLOL	MASS	Edward Wilmott RIP
	11:00 am	St F	MASS First Holy Communion Preparation - Lesson 1 after 11.00 Mass	Private Intention
Mon Oct 20				
Tues Oct 21	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	St F	Adoration & Reconciliation MASS	Private Intention
Wed Oct 22	9:30 am 10:00 am	OLOL	Adoration & Reconciliation MASS	Cynthia Gingell RIP
Thurs Oct 23	9:30 am 10:00 am - 10:30 am	St F	MASS Adoration & Reconciliation	Maurice O'Brien RIP
Fri Oct 24				

THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Sat Oct 25	5.15 pm 6:00 pm	St F	Adoration & Rosary MASS	
Sun Oct 26	09:00 am	OLOL	MASS	
	11:00 am	St F	MASS	Christopher Flynn RIP

Please help us to continue God's work by
 supporting us financially Lloyds Bank 30 93 04
 a/c number 00882993 CDP Newbury StFrancis
 de Sales Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

If you would like to set up a new Standing
 Order or Claim Gift Aid, please contact the
 Parish Office

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday,
 Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm Parish
 Administrator Yvonne Eaton

If your child needs to leave the church during
 Mass, they **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Luke 18: 1-8 Fr Mark Hogan

This week, we turn to the good news about prayer.

Most people pray. But we've all experienced the frustration of unanswered prayer. We want to believe God listens and responds - but sometimes, it feels like He doesn't, as if we're on mute. We wonder: is He too busy? Is He even there? Does He care?

Jesus understood this disappointment. In Luke 18, He tells a parable about a widow who persistently pleads with a corrupt judge for justice. She has no one to speak for her, no resources, no influence. Yet she keeps coming. Eventually, the judge relents - not because he cares, but because she wears him down. Jesus isn't comparing God to the judge - He's contrasting them. God isn't indifferent or corrupt. He's already chosen us, already given us His Son.

So why does prayer sometimes feel ineffective? Because prayer isn't just about getting what we want. It's about growing in relationship with God. Like work, family, and friendships, prayer takes effort. God may be using the delay to strengthen us, to deepen our character, to draw us into a richer life of faith.

Sometimes we need persistence in prayer:

To look beyond our own needs and align with God's greater purposes.

To recognise when we're asking for the wrong thing—God may say "no" because He knows what's best.

To be more specific - vague prayers are hard to recognise when answered.

To move beyond casual requests - God desires wholehearted relationship, not transactional exchanges.

Please pray for Lily Brooke, Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Mary Dykes, Chris Dykes, Emma Dykes, Joe Emery, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Elizabeth Sage, Arthur Mitchell, Malcolm Higgins, Sofia Joseph, Corbert Joseph, Gillian Spencer, Krzysz Zablocki, Margaret McGuire, Sean Early, Tony Lavers, John Huckle and Eveleen Softley who ask for our prayers. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Second Collection

World Mission Sunday 19 October. This year is focusing on Myanmar and the work of missionaries who are offering help and hope to communities who are suffering. Current political, environmental and humanitarian challenges have left thousands of people killed or injured and millions displaced from their homes.

Thursday 23rd October 7.30pm: **Third meeting of the RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Programme 2025/26 in the Parish Hall, St Francis de Sales', Wash Common. This programme is run jointly for the Pastoral Area for adults interested in exploring the Catholic Faith with a view to reception into the Church. Adult Catholics seeking Confirmation may also prepare for this sacrament via the RCIA. Please speak to your priest or email Francis Connolly (fjcon@btinternet.com)

Free On-line Course: Understanding the Bible from Start to Finish. Learn about the Old and New Testaments, free of charge, world-renowned course presented online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. The course started on Wed 1st October at 7pm UK time (x 8 Wednesday evening sessions). Information & Registration:
www.comeandsee.org

22nd & 23rd November - Save the date for the J&P Christmas Fayre.

Please save the date for the J&P Christmas Fayre which will be held in the Church Hall after 6pm mass on Sat 22nd Nov and 11am Mass on Sunday 23rd Nov. Donations of chocolate, bottles, wrapped sweets and small good as new gifts for children would be gratefully received. (Please place in the J&P box next to the food bank hamper in the Church Hall from 25th October)

Saturday 25th October: Douai Abbey Autumn Pastoral Programme: **Ecumenical Council of Nicaea AD 325** - A Day of information & discussion. The Council of Nicaea took place in Asia Minor in the year 325AD, the first time that the whole Church was summoned in consultation. It produced the creed which has become the distinctive expression of the Church's faith in Jesus Christ. Led by Br Simon Hill OSB, 10.30am to 4pm, with arrivals and coffee from 10am. Please bring own lunch. For bookings email pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk or visit the Abbey website. A contribution of £20 is payable on the day.

West Berkshire Pastoral Area

**St. Francis de Sales, Wash
Common/Our Lady of Lourdes
Hungerford.**

Sat 18 th /Sun 19 th Oct 29 th Ordinary Mission Sunday	Mass First Holy Communion Preparation Lesson One	0900 StF	1800/1100 After Mass
Thursday 23rd October	RCIA-Journey in Faith Meeting 3		1930
Sat 25 th /Sun 26 th Oct 30 th Ordinary	Mass Anniversaries Blessings	0900	1800/1100
Sat 1 st /Sun 2 nd November All Saints	Mass African Mass	0900	1800/1100 1300
Monday 3 rd November All Souls	Mass Blessing of graves Hungerford (note 2)	1000	1900
Tuesday 4 th November	Mass in Latin		1900
Thursday 6 th November	Mass Blessing of graves on site and at Acorn Ridge RCIA – Journey in Faith - meeting 4		0930 1030 1930
Sat 8 th /Sun 9 th November Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Remembrance Sunday	Mass 1100 Mass – 2 minutes silence and The Remembrance Blessing of graves – Shaw Cemetery	0900	1800/1100 1500
Tuesday 11th November	Pastoral Council		1930
Sat 15 th / Sun 16 th Nov. 33 rd Ordinary World Day of the poor	Mass	0900	1800/1100
Thursday 20 th November	RCIA – Journey in Faith 5th meeting		1930
Sat/Sun 22/23 rd Nov. Christ King of the Universe	Mass J&P Christmas Fayre	0900	1800/1100