

Services This Week

Sacred Heart

ALL SUNDAY MASSES will be celebrated in the CHURCH whilst all other Masses (including the Saturday Vigil Mass) will still be celebrated in the Parish Room until further notice.

Monday 19th October

St Paul of the Cross
12.00 Noon

Tuesday 20th October

No Mass

Wednesday 21st October

12.00 Noon

Thursday 22nd October

St John Paul II
12.00 Noon

Friday 23rd October

St John of Capistrano
(Exposition 11.30 a.m.)
12.00 Noon

Saturday 24th October

St Anthony Mary Claret
11.00 a.m.
6.15 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday 25th October

10.30 a.m.

St Anne's

Sunday 25th October

12.30 p.m.

Sacred Heart & St. Anne's Parish Newsletter

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 18th October
2026



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MESSAGE FROM FR. JIM: On this World Mission Sunday, we remember missionaries who proclaim the Gospel throughout the world. Some do this through preaching and sacramental life; others through education, healthcare, community development and accompanying people through suffering. I feel it's important on a day like today to be mindful that the Church's mission is to make Christ known and to witness to the love of God. Today we give thanks to God for all those missionaries who are working all over the world. But there is a question worth asking: is mission simply about what happens within the Church, or does it also concern how we engage with the world beyond it? In today's Gospel we are reminded "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." The coin bears Caesar's image. But the human person bears the image of God. That gives us a powerful way to reflect on our relationship with people outside the Church. We do not have to share another person's religious beliefs to recognise their dignity, appreciate their contribution to society or work alongside them for peace and justice.

The first reading, Isaiah 45, offers a particularly interesting connection. God works through Cyrus, a foreign ruler who does not know God, to accomplish a purpose in history. This challenges us to be humble. We should not assume that God can work only through those who belong to our own religious community.

For Christians, Jesus Christ remains at the heart of our mission. Yet we can also recognise that people outside the Church may work for values that resonate deeply with the Gospel: justice, compassion, peace and the protection of human dignity.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

St Paul of the Cross (Monday) : Born in Italy at Piedmont, he was a convert to Christianity and is best known as the founder of the Passionists Order, priests who as the name suggests had a special devotion to Christ's passion and death. Numerous Passionist 'Retreats' were set up, twelve houses in all by the time of his death, as well as a community of nuns. Paul had a special interest in England and prayed consistently for its conversion.

St John of Capistrano (Friday) : Born in 1386, he married in his youth but the union was later annulled. He gave up a promising career to become a Franciscan and earned a reputation as an accomplished and popular preacher in Italy and beyond. He was often entrusted with papal missions. He preached a crusade after Constantinople was captured by the Turks and also exhorted the victorious Christian troops at the Battle of Belgrade in 1456. He died shortly afterwards of the plague while in Croatia.

St Anthony Mary Claret (Saturday) : Born near Barcelona in 1807, he is remembered as the founder in 1849 of the Claretians (the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary). Appointed Archbishop of Santiago (Cuba), he worked hard to spread the Gospel and to ensure better conditions for slaves. Such was the anti-clerical mood at the time that no fewer than fifteen attempts were made on his life. In 1857, he returned from Cuba to Spain and became the confessor of Queen Isabella II.

ANNIVERSARIES: Adeline Holden, Bert Ter Haar, Phillip Backhouse, Breda Golding, Marie Dingle, Kathleen Rogers, Alice Dodd, Frances Irene Jepson, Ethel May Clarkson, Hugh Fitzpatrick, Patrick Giles, Nan Cross, Betty Crilley, Edward Hughes, Beatrice Kennedy, Patricia Ann Black, Pat Magee. May they rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS: Offertory £500.60 (Sacred Heart £323.30; St Anne's £177.30). Parish Pound (Sacred Heart) £147.35, this contributes to the cost of maintenance to the interior of the building - a recurring problem. Many thanks for your continued generosity.

PARISH LUNCH: On Thursday a full complement of diners enjoyed a meal of minced steak pie with mixed vegetables, followed by trifle and ice cream. Many thanks as usual to all who helped cook, make the tea/coffee, wash up etc.

CARD/CONTACTLESS TERMINALS: We now have online card terminals in both of our churches; at St Anne's in the rear area near the side door and in Sacred Heart on the left hand side when facing front door (from central aisle), by the statue of St Thérèse. Both machines are capable of accepting card and contactless payments for various donations and for piety goods. Donations can also be gift aided, if selected you will need to enter your name, house number and post code (this will be a one off exercise as the terminal will remember your details for future visits). The terminal is simple to use, just tap the screen and follow the prompts.

CAFOD: This Family Fast Day, we are sharing a story of work in northern Zimbabwe, where drought has left communities facing severe food and water shortages. Twelve-year-old Tayla, along with her peers, would often arrive at school hungry and tired after fetching water for her family. Without enough to eat and drink, she struggled to concentrate and feared she would fall behind in her studies. But thanks to the generosity of parishes like ours, her local Caritas partners worked with Tayla's school and community to build a solar-powered water system. Now the school has safe water for drinking and for growing vegetables, meaning they can provide nutritious meals to the children all year round, helping them to stay in education and develop their God-given talents. Please donate to help more children like Tayla to stay in school and have access to safe water and nutritious food. You can donate online, through the QR lanyard at the back of the church or via the envelopes. Thank you.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: Here is some additional information regarding World Mission Sunday celebrated last week. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'One in Christ, united in mission' to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of mission and give what you can to this vital collection. To donate, please use the designated Missio envelope available at the back of the church or call on 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit mission.org.uk to give a gift, set up a direct debit and gift-aid your donation if possible. Thank you for your support.