

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8 September 2024

Thought for the Week

Our Readings today reflect on how our encounter with God changes us and our world. In the 1st Reading from Isaiah we see images of this: the blind, deaf, lame and dumb are all healed, water and streams filling and transforming the dry, parched land. In the 2nd Reading, we hear from St James how our faith changes us so that we should respond to others in charity. And in today's Gospel we hear the account of Jesus reaching out to and healing the deaf man and enabling him to speak.

Faith in God changes us – it must! From the moment of our baptism we have been touched and transformed by the Lord's presence in our lives and our world and he continues to strengthen us through the Church and in the other sacraments. With this comes the responsibility to live our lives in faith and to help bring others closer to Jesus, so that they too may be touched and transformed by his presence in their lives.

The people who witnessed Jesus' healing of the deaf man in the Gospel could not keep quiet about what they had seen. We too should be witnessing to the world around us, living our faith, not deaf and dumb to what we have received, because Jesus has reached out to each one of us by opening wide his arms for us on the Cross as Lord and Saviour. Let us joyfully proclaim our faith in him to our world in our daily lives.

Fr Phillip Harris

Date 8 - 15 Sep	Time	Mass Intentions St Edwards & St Marks	Time	Mass Intentions St Francis of Assisi
Sat 7 Sep <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	18:00	Margaret Bogue - RIP	10:00 17:30	People of the Parish
Sun 8 Sep <i>23rd Sunday Ordinary Time</i>	09:30 11:00	Tom Costello - St Marks People of the Parish	08:30 10:00	Margaret Anne Moore – RIP Deceased Members Berkeley Family
Mon 9 Sep <i>St Peter Claver</i>	10:00	Eucharistic Service		No Mass
Tues 10 Sep	18:30	Hilda Krajewski - RIP	18:30	McLoughlin Family – INT
Wed 11 Sep	10:00	Eucharistic Service	10:00	Christopher 'Barry' Sillett – RIP
Thur 12 Sep <i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	10:00	Moira Thompson - RIP - St Mark's	18:30	Kathleen, Ross & Eloise James – INT
Fri 13 Sep <i>St John Chrysostom, Bishop</i>	12:00	Joe O'Toole - RIP	10:00	Holy Souls - RIP <i>New Term - School Attending Mass</i>
Sat 14 Sep <i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	18:00	Gabor & Pawlik Families - RIP	10:00 17:30	People of the Parish
Sun 15 <i>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	09:30 11:00	People of the Parish - St Mark's Armando Mannone & Filomena & Antonio Esposito	08:30 10:00	Veronica Shand – RIP Barry Sillett – RIP

Pastoral Area Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with hearts full of faith and hope as we pray for the successful joining of our two Parishes in this Pastoral area.

Lord, we seek your guidance and blessings for this journey as we strengthen our faith community and fulfil your mission to evangelise and bring people closer to Jesus Christ.

May your wisdom enlighten our journey as we join together in faith, love, and unity.

In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we offer this prayer.

Amen

DATE	TIME	Diary – St Edward’s & St Mark’s	TIME	Diary – St Francis of Assisi
Sat 7 Sep	11:00 -11:30 13:00 17:30 -18:00	NO Reconciliation Wedding: Marie Von Prittwitz & Oliver Karg Reconciliation	09:30 10:30	Rosary prayed Reconciliation after 10:00 Mass
Sun 8 Sep	12:00	Tea & Coffee - P/C	10:00	Children’s Liturgy Resumes September 8
Mon 9 Sep	18:30	Catenians - P/C		No event
Tues 10 Sep	10:30 18:00 18:00-18:30	UCM Meeting - P/C Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel Reconciliation	11:00 - 12:45	Little Franciscan Toddler Group (<i>term-time only</i>) Resumes September 10
Wed 11 Sep	09:30 19:00	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel Men’s Group - St Brigid’s Room		
Thur 12 Sep	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid’s Room		
Fri 13 Sep	10:00-16:00 12:00 12:30 19:30	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of the Sick - during Mass Rosary prayed after 12:00 Mass The Marriage Course - via Zoom	10:00 10:30 - 11:30	<i>New Term – School Attending Mass</i> Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Sat 14 Sep	11:00 -11:30 11:30 17:30 -18:00	Church open for 'Ride + Stride' sign-in's Reconciliation Youth Event with One Hope Project - P/C Reconciliation	09:30 10:30	Rosary prayed Reconciliation after 10:00 Mass
Sun 15 Sep	12:00 12:15 15:00	Tea & Coffee - P/C Baptisms - Rosie Hughes and Leo Dunlap SVP Afternoon Tea - P/C	10:00	Children’s Liturgy (<i>term-time only</i>)

Further dates and info on our websites:

CatholicWindsor.org

StFrancisAscot.co.uk

Live Mass Link

<http://catholicwindsorandascot.org/stedwardsmass>

Live Mass Link

<http://catholicwindsorandascot.org/stfrancismass>

Pastoral Area Notices

RCIA

Are you, or someone you know, thinking about joining the Catholic Church, do you want to know more, or start your journey? The RCIA [Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults] programme which leads up to Easter 2025 will start on 15 October at 19:15 in St Brigid's Room in the Windsor Parish Centre. It's an opportunity to explore the faith and discover more about the Catholic Church. If you would like to know more and join the sessions please speak to Fr David, Fr Phillip, or Deacon Stephen.

The Marriage Course

The Marriage Course will be held via Zoom. It is designed to strengthen your relationship with each other and keep your love alive! There are catch-up links if you cannot attend all sessions. Please contact Kathy at kathyarundale@hotmail.com if you would like to find out more!

Special Collections

There will be a special collection this weekend 7/8 September for the **Catholic Education Service**, which supports our schools in the diocese. There will be a Special Collection for **Home Mission** next weekend 14/15 September. The Home Mission Office helps the local Church to share the joy of the Gospel. If you would like to give a gift to this collection, you can donate online at: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/home-mission-sunday-second-collection> or use your envelopes.

SVP Tea Party

One week to go before the afternoon tea party at the Parish Centre on Sunday 15 September at 15:00. If you are on your own, lonely, suffer anxiety or have dementia you are most welcome. Please make contact. The SVP are also looking for any **volunteer drivers** to pick up guests and drop them home again. Any bakers who would like to **bake a cake** - please contact, Barry Thompson on [07547 514467](tel:07547514467), or email jetbar@live.co.uk

Baptism Preparation

Windsor

Preparation is usually held once a month in the Parish Centre, Dorset Road, Windsor at 12.15 on Sunday. Classes run for around 45 minutes. Parents are invited to begin this process even before the birth of any child to be baptised. Please contact Deacon George for more details: dyoung@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Ascot

Preparation sessions are held on certain Sundays of the year at 11:15. Please contact Deacon Stephen for more details: spatterson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Season of Creation

This year takes the theme 'To Hope and Act with Creation'. In a weekend celebrating Creation, the Bernardine Sisters invite you to join them in reflecting on the words of Job who invited us to 'ask the animals' what they can teach us about our faith (Job 12: 7-10). All are welcome **at the Monastery of Our Lady and St Bernard, 27-29 September 2024** to come and enjoy 'Learning from the animals' and find hope and opportunities for action from the examples of small creatures that bring about significant change. Details at <http://www.bernardine.org/brownhill-programme> see poster at the back of the church) or contact sarah.gardnerlobo@gmail.com – please head your email 'Brownhill Retreat'. Thank you.

Parish Outreach Team - Please Can You Help?

Can you spare an hour or two to post a leaflet through doors in your Street/Road. If you can help please contact Lisa and Lucy on the parish email outreach@catholicwindsor.org

The Rescue Project - 1 October at St Edmund Campion, Maidenhead

You Matter. We live our lives based on the stories we believe... but what if there is another story? That story is the gospel, and it is explosive, extraordinary, life-changing news! [Register Now](#) for The Rescue Project, an 8-week experience of community, conversation, prayer and the gospel. They will meet every Tuesday evening at St Edmund Campion, Maidenhead. There will be a Mass offered first and the Rescue sessions start at 19:00. The intention is to include parishioners from Ascot, Maidenhead, Sunningdale and Windsor, bringing our local Catholic-Christian community closer together. The weekly format will include prayer, a simple meal, music, a video and discussion. Secure your place today via this link: [Register Now](#).



You can learn more by watching this [short informational video](#)

Note: If you have already tried Alpha (or have considered it, but never joined), perhaps The Rescue Project is for you? It is aimed at all levels of faith from priest to no faith at all, so all are welcome!

Created | Captured | Rescued | Response

You can also scan our QR code and complete the registration form.

St Edward's & St Mark's, Windsor

Save The Date

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is on 4 October 2024.

A New Version of the Lectionary

Starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the Bishops of England and Wales have given us a new version of the scriptures to be used in the Lectionary (the book that contains the readings that are proclaimed at Mass).

There are four volumes, and we need to purchase two sets which cost just over £1,600. So if there is anyone who might like to contribute to have one or more in memory of somebody please speak to Fr David.

First Holy Communion Programme - 2024 - 2025

Our FHC team are now accepting registrations for the 2024-25 First Holy Communion programme. Further details plus application forms can be found on the Parish website. Kindly send completed application forms and a copy, not original, of your child's Baptismal Certificate to fhc@catholicwindsor.org. **A meeting for parents will be held on 26 September at 18:30.** At this meeting of parents, you will receive the 'Commitment Card' that needs to be stamped when your child attends Mass. Further dates will be given at this meeting. **Please note the closing date for applications is Monday 16 September 2024.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FHC team at fhc@catholicwindsor.org

Give As You Live

Many thanks to the fifty-nine parishioners who have already signed up to 'Give As You Live.' Four of you purchase monthly, which is fantastic, and another seven have spent so far, this last resulting in hundreds of pounds a year for the Parish. It is so easy, all you do is download the link to your laptop, pc or phone and it does the rest for you. It is literally free money so why not join us now before you buy online again. Just click on [Donate to Windsor St Edward's R C Church | Give as you Live Donate](#). Any queries please contact finance@catholicwindsor.org Thank you.

St Francis of Assisi, Ascot

Little Franciscan Toddler Group

This resumes on Tuesday 10 September (term-time only), from 11:00 – 12:45. All welcome!

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday during the 10:00 Mass (term time only). This resumes on 8 September. We accept children from 3 years to Year 3. Enrolment forms are available in the Narthex. Further enquiries: email Sue Roche sue.roche1@btinternet.com

SVP Tabletop Sales:

The tabletop sale continues in the Narthex after all Masses. Lots of bargains. TAKE A LOOK. Thank you for your wonderful donations, the proceeds going to needy families locally.

The Knights of St Columba are recruiting new members from Ascot and Windsor Parishes - anyone interested can pick a form from the foyer - or please contact Tony Berkeley [07377 168 356](tel:07377168356) or council984@hotmail.com for more information.

Fatima Rosary on Zoom

If you would like to join others in praying the Rosary via Zoom, please contact Tony Berkeley. The Rosary is prayed from Monday to Friday at 13:30. Tony will then add you to the group and send you all the information you will need to join. This is being sponsored by the Knights of St Columba Prayer Group. For further information please contact [07377 168 356](tel:07377168356) or furtunato101@gmail.com or [KNIGHTS OF ST Columba, Knights, Columba, Ascot, Bracknell, Council, 590 \(council984.co.uk\)](http://KNIGHTS OF ST Columba, Knights, Columba, Ascot, Bracknell, Council, 590 (council984.co.uk))

The New Lectionary Books

If you would you like to donate towards the new Lectionary Books, there is a button named "Lectionary Books" at the **DONA Terminal** in the back of the church for those donating by card. You can also donate by cash using the designated envelopes available at the Church porch. *Thank you for your donations.*

Cleaner required for the Friary in Ascot

A vacancy has arisen for a cleaner to look after the Priest's house in Ascot and some of the Parish Rooms. The role is for six hours a week. For further details, please contact the parish office.

Would you like to receive the newsletter by email or join the Catholic Windsor and Ascot News WhatsApp Group?

Sign up on <https://catholicwindsorandascot.org/subscribe> to receive this weekly into your inbox.

We have set up a new WhatsApp group called **Catholic Windsor and Ascot News**. This will be dedicated to the weekly newsletter and important news such as Easter and Christmas services. Scan this QR Code with your phone's camera app, to access this group via WhatsApp.



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Patrica Brown: **Parish Secretary**

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Richard Flisher: **Finance**

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Parish Office: Ascot - 01344 620591

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