



Parish Newsletter **25th Sunday in OT Year A**

Evangelii Gaudium – Feast of Our Lady of La Salette

Mass Intention 19th August – 27th September 2026

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

Feast of Our Lady of La Salette Saturday	9.00am	People of the Parish		
	6.00pm	Barbara Zolcik & Janula Antoniade (RIP, Ann)		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	George Reynolds (Birthday, SI) Robert Baranowski (RIP)	8.30am	Kay (RIP)
Monday	9.00am	Richard Kartey (Birthday, SI)		
Tuesday	9.00am	Valerie & Jozef (SI)		
Wednesday	7-8.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00am	Sr Ann Doherty (sick)
Thursday	9.00am	Suffering Souls in purgatory		
Friday			10.00am	Sr Marie O'Donnell (sick)
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Esther Kiernan (RIP) For those who have a devotion to Our Lady of Rosary		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Fr James Cassidy (60 th Ann.of Priesthood) Janina & Ryszard Kosakowscy (RIP, Ann.)	8.30am	People of the Parish



Isaiah 55: 6-9: The Prophet makes this point when he wrote "my thoughts are not your thoughts; my ways are not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks". Down through the centuries, various attempts have been made to present God as an avenging judge ready to pounce on the slightest offense. There can be no doubting divine justice; however, that only comes into play when there has been no effort on our part to respond to the proven generosity of God's love.

Phil: 1:20-24,27: St. Paul is well aware of this. At the time of writing the passage read this morning, he was in prison awaiting judgement; but he is quite at ease. Whatever happens he is reconciled; despite his failures, and aware of God's generosity, he has no fear of dying because he has made some effort to serve God. Death would be a fulfilment; if, on the other hand, he is freed, he will continue to work for the Lord.

Matthew 20: 1-16: But it is the gospel that hammers home this message of God's generosity. By our standards, His behaviour is not on. I mean - what about 'equal pay for equal work'? Or could this be an early example of workplace agreement? Whatever! The point is that God will never be outstripped in generosity. Good will in any measure will not go unrewarded.

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette

Fr Bogusław Kot MS: Parish Priest, Fr Leszek Gamracy MS: Assistant Priest

The Presbytery, Howard Way, Harlow, Essex SS17 1NS • Tel:01279 426017 Email: harlowolf@brcdt.org

HALLS BOOKING

Our Lady of Fatima Hall olfharlow@gmail.com 07399846607

St Thomas More Hall cruzblessen@gmail.com 07399846607

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - STM: Wednesday, Friday 9.30am-10am OLF: Saturday 5pm - 5.50pm

This Weekend Second Collection: Evangelii Gaudium Day ("The Joy of the Gospel")

In his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* ("The Joy of the Gospel"), Pope Francis encouraged every Christian to rediscover the joy of a personal encounter with Christ and then to take up the mission of spreading the message of the Gospel with a renewed vigour.

FEASTS of the Week:

Monday 21st September – St Matthew, Ap, Ev – Feast

Wednesday 23rd September – St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) Pr – Memorial

Thursday 24th September – Our Lady of Walsingham – National Feast

First Holy Communion 2026/27

Any parents who would like to enrol their child in the forthcoming preparation program for The First Holy Communion, please make an appointment with Fr Bogdan. The child should be year 3 or above and attending OLF or STM churches.

RCIA

The RCIA course for those interested in joining the Catholic Church, or those wishing to know more about our faith. For further details contact Fr. Bogdan. The first meeting will start on Tuesday 6th October at 7.00pm in the Presbytery.

The Bethlehem Nativity Group. A missionary from Bethlehem, The Holy Land will visit us on the weekend of 26th/27th September to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of olive wood to help support the poor Christian families. Any help you could give to them will be highly appreciated. ("When you help the poor, you help Our Lord")

To celebrate **St Vincent De Paul's** anniversary on the 27th September, the Harlow SVP team will be serving refreshments and cakes after the Sunday 10.30 mass in Our Lady of Fatima's Hall, along with The Bethlehem Nativity Group's religious articles, everyone is welcome.

CHURCH CLEANING – OLF Friday 25th September at 6.00 pm **Team D**

CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS

Contactless payments are now available at Our Lady of Fatima Church. You will find the DONA machine at the back of the church. If you are able to **Gift Aid** your donation, please answer **Yes** and follow the instructions. An email will be sent to you which will need to be completed. You can now also donate at both churches using our **QR Code** – please see the posters. If you have any queries, please see Kay.

Pray for the sick: Kevin Sainsbury, Xi, Brian Gomes, Ryan Gomes, Josie Cronin, Keith Harris, Pam Barnard, Ivan Pirnak, J.C. Nkosa, Teresa Lamb, Noreen Wright, Grace Fisher, Kathleen Evans, Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Mary Kelly, Pam Matthews, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter Ryan, Adele Ryan, Nial Briody, Maria Lunnon, Fabian Andrade, Eileen Rowan, John Brickley, Helen Doherty, Philip Ketedzi, Caroline Berry, Anna Sweeney, Stanislaw Kostecki, Carmel Delaney, Donnah Dris, Conrado Shea, Ryan Tomlin, Mat Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Slota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alica and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

Please pray for the repose of the souls: Anne Dearle, Jessica Nelson, Margaret Brian, Maria De'Incarnacion, Aroujo Herbert, David Creak, Elsie Ovenden, Carl O'Connor, Bridget Egan, Anna-Maria Gould, Shoni George, Haward John, Victors Keviss, Sharon Brown, Eileen Dempster, Eladia Castro Dumayag, Maria Kunicka, Margaret Sackett, Frederick Pipkin, Gwendoline Middlecoat, Joseph Dawood Thomas, Patricia Delahunt, Mary Patterson, May Aitken, Thomas Mulligan, Romualda Ratajczyk, Bp Thomas McMahon, Frank Taliana, Maria Cooper, Alice (Dow) Insch, Nick Cronin, Tony Poole, Mathew Joseph, Helen Noyo Owie, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Mary Sage, Hayley Wright, Patricia Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

MEMORARE TO OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears you shed for us on Calvary. Remember also the care you have taken to keep us faithful to Christ, your Son. Having done so much for your children, you will not abandon us. Comforted by this consoling thought, we come to you pleading, despite our infidelities and ingratitude. Virgin of Reconciliation do not reject our prayers, but intercede for us, obtain for us the grace to love Jesus above all else. May we console you by a holy life and so come to share the eternal life Christ gained by his cross. Amen.



The Story of the Apparition of Our Lady of La Salette

On September 19, 1846, Our Lady appeared to two small children on the mountain of La Salette in the French Alps. There, she gave them a message for the world to hear and follow. Mary's message to the two children at La Salette was the warning of a mother concerned over her wayward children.

She complained: "If my people refuse to submit, I will be forced to let go the arm of my Son" and more specifically: "Those who drive the carts cannot swear without using my Son's name...they labour all day Sunday...there are none who go to Mass... when they do not know what to do, they go to Mass just to make fun of religion..." She warned: "If the harvest is ruined, it is only on account of yourselves...If you have wheat, you must not sow it. Anything you sow the vermin will eat...A great famine is coming..." She promised: "If [my people] are converted, rocks and stones will turn into heaps of wheat, and potatoes will be self-sown in the fields..." She pleaded: "Well, my children, make this known to all my people..." Through the children she gave her message of "Reconciliation" to the world. She insisted that this message be made known to all her people.

On September 19, 1851, after "a precise and rigorous investigation" of the event, the witnesses, the content of the message, and its repercussions, Philibert de Bruillard, Bishop of Grenoble, pronounced his judgment in a pastoral letter of instruction. He declared that "the apparition of the Blessed Virgin to two shepherds, ... *bears within itself all the characteristics of truth and the faithful have grounds for believing it to be indubitable and certain.*"



Consequently in 1852 the Congregation of Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette was founded to serve as a "perpetual remembrance of Mary's merciful Apparition."

The apparition and message inspired the Catholic Religious Community, the Missionaries of La Salette, whose ministry is based on reconciliation. The La Salette Missionaries have a congregation of about 1,000 priests and brothers, and 200 LaSalette Sisters, serving in more than 20 countries.

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Invocation: ***Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of Sinners, pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to you***

Happy Feast Day La Salette Fathers