



NEWSLETTER 11th October 2026

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUTTON GREEN

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Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle A: Last Sunday, Jesus challenged us to consider whether we are faithful stewards of the vineyard entrusted to us. This Sunday, He presents the Kingdom of Heaven as a wedding banquet, reminding us that God's invitation is an expression of His generosity and grace. In Isaiah 25:6–10a, the Lord promises a feast of abundance and the destruction of death itself. Psalm 23 proclaims the Lord as our shepherd, who guides, nourishes, and sustains us, while St Paul, in Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20, encourages us to trust in God's providence in every circumstance. In Matthew 22:1–14, however, Jesus makes clear that receiving God's invitation requires more than outward acceptance; it calls for conversion of heart and a life shaped by faith. The refusal of the invited guests warns us against complacency, while the wedding garment reminds us that responding to God's grace entails responsibility. God's invitation is generous, but it calls for a genuine response. We must not presume upon our religious identity or profession of faith, but allow God's grace to transform our lives. The question for each of us is therefore simple: *Am I merely receiving God's invitation, or am I living in a way that reflects His call?* To accept the invitation to the Kingdom is to embrace a life of conversion, faithfulness, and love.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 11TH OCTOBER 2026

Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration	Intention
Sat 10 th	9:30 am 6:00 pm	The Blessed Virgin Mary. Confessions after 9:30 am Mass. Vigil of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Beata Jadwiga Howe John & Monica McCauley RIP
Sun 11 ^h	9:30 am 11:00 am	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time St John XXIII	Catherine & Vina's Intentions People of the Parish
Mon 12 th	9:30 am	St Wilfrid	Elaine's Intentions
Tue 13 th	9:30 am	St Edward the Confessor	Holy Souls
Wed 14 th	9:30 am	St Callistus	Margaret Mary Hicks
Thur 15 th	9:30 am	St Teresa of Avila	Holy Souls
Fri 16 th	9:30 am	St Hedwig & St Margaret Mary Alacoque Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 10 am-11 am.	Private Intentions Fr O'Connor's Intentions
Sat 17 th	9:30 am 6:00 pm	St Ignatius Antioch. Confessions after 9:30 am Mass. Vigil of the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Holy Souls People of the Parish

Our Lord: I was in prison, and you visited me. Matthew 25:36. Prisoners' Sunday – 11

October 2026: A Message from Archbishop Richard Moth, President of Pact. As President of Pact, the national Catholic charity supporting people in prison and their families, I invite you to join me in supporting this year's Prisoners' Sunday on 11 October. Pact supports people throughout England and Wales, regardless of their beliefs. Its work includes caring for children whose parents are in prison and providing practical assistance to people leaving prison as they seek to rebuild their lives and make a fresh start. **Pact's workers serve in prisons, courts and communities. A vital part of their work is helping prisoners and their families maintain strong family bonds, recognising the anxiety, isolation and hardship that can arise when a loved one is imprisoned. This support also plays an important role in reducing reoffending and helping people rebuild their lives. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our responsibility to those in prison: "I was in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:36). Pact relies greatly on the support of Catholic parishioners. I encourage you to contribute through prayer, volunteering or financial support. In doing so, we put the values of the Gospel into practice and work for the common good.** Archbishop Richard Moth, President of Pact

What is Prisoners' Sunday? Prisoners' Sunday is an opportunity for us, as individuals, as a Church and as communities, to reflect on our responsibility towards people affected by imprisonment. Prisons face serious challenges, including overcrowding, violence, self-harm and a lack of meaningful activity. Many people are released without secure accommodation, employment or adequate support. Meanwhile, their families, including children, can experience profound emotional and financial hardship. Prisoners' Sunday reminds us that people in prison and their families must not be forgotten. Through its work, Pact seeks to uphold their dignity, strengthen family relationships and support the possibility of rehabilitation.

How to support Pact: Parishioners are invited to support Pact's work through prayer and financial contributions.

(1) **Online:** Donate using the QR code or through the Pact website: <<https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/latest/events/prisoners-sunday-2026/>>. (2) **By bank transfer:** Account name: Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact) Bank: NatWest Sort code: 60-00-01 Account number: 49089307. (3) **By cheque:** Please return your cheque in the attached prepaid envelope. Gift Aid envelopes may also be enclosed. **Payment reference:** Please use **PS26** and your postcode for all payment methods.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping to put the Gospel call to care for those in prison into practice.

PARISH INFO: New Parishioners - Welcome to Holy Family Parish!

Parish Office Hours This Week: Tuesday & Thursday 10am-1pm. Coffee after 11:00am Mass this Sunday.

PARISH LEDGER: Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our parish. If you have not yet done so, please consider supporting the parish through a Standing Order, which provides a reliable source of income and helps us plan responsibly throughout the year. For your convenience, online giving is now available, so there is no longer any need to write cheques. Last weekend's offertory: Plate £417.84; Contactless £220.00. Standing Orders £615.00. Second Collection CAFOD £250.00. Hong Kong Mass £204.81. The cake sale total will be announced next week. *Ira, Gift Aid Organiser & Bookkeeper* (suttongreengac@rcaos.org.uk). Donations to the Building Fund can be made using the contactless giving machine at the back of the church. Every gift, however large or small, helps us move these important projects forward and is sincerely appreciated. Thank you once again for your generosity and continued commitment to the life and mission of our parish. May God bless you and your families.

Dates for Your Diary: (1) 🕯️ ✨ CHRISTMAS PARISH LUNCH/RAFFLE. Let's Celebrate Together! This Christmas, we are considering replacing our traditional Christmas Bazaar with a festive Parish Christmas Lunch - a wonderful opportunity for our parish family to come together, enjoy good food and fellowship, and celebrate the joy of Christmas. 🕯️ 🕯️ 10 CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO BE WON! 🎁 As part of the celebration, we will hold a raffle draw for 10 Christmas Hampers. 📅 HELP US CHOOSE THE DATE! The date is still tentative: [1] Sunday, 29 November. [2] Sunday, 6 December. [3] Sunday, 13 December - Gaudete Sunday. 🕯️ This weekend, after each Mass, parishioners will be invited to choose their preferred date by a show of hands. Your voice matters! Come and help us choose the date and make our parish Christmas celebration a joyful occasion for everyone. Food • Fellowship • Fun • Christmas Spirit. (2) Fr Patrick's Presentation: Wednesday, 2 December 2026 - Mass at 6:30 pm, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Please join us as we thank Fr Patrick for his ministry among us and offer him our prayers and best wishes. Donations towards his presentation may be made via the contactless machine or collection box in the porch.

RCIA & Synodality at Holy Family Parish. Thursday, 15 October. **RCIA:** 6.00–7.00pm. Held on the second Thursday of each month, these sessions welcome anyone wishing to explore the Catholic faith, deepen their relationship with Christ, prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation, or discern full communion with the Catholic Church. **Synodality:** 7.00–8.00 pm. All parishioners are invited to reflect together on communion, participation and mission, and how we can listen to one another and contribute more fully to the life of the Church. *May the Holy Spirit guide us ever more deeply into communion with Christ and His Church.*

First Holy Communion Preparation - begins on Sunday, 11 October 2026. We thank the 21 parents and guardians who registered last Sunday and for their commitment to their children's faith journey. Those who have yet to submit their child's Baptism Certificate are kindly asked to do so as soon as possible.

Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation: Begins in the New Year. Further details will be announced in due course.

Parish Surgery: Fr Michael will be available without prior appointment every Monday from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm for parishioners who wish to: have school forms signed; discuss the reception of the Sacraments; raise any pastoral or personal matter or seek pastoral guidance. All parishioners are warmly welcome to come along during these hours.

Tai Chi & Qigong Sessions. **Holy Family Parish Hall:** Regular sessions resume on Mon 2nd November, 7:30–8:30pm & Wed 4th November, 10:15–11:15 am. All most welcome!

...Excerpt from Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* ("Magnificent Humanity"), No. 16. I address this heartfelt appeal to all the Catholic faithful, to all Christians and to all men and women of goodwill. Let us not be afraid to get our hands dirty on the "construction site" of our time. Like Nehemiah, let us pray, plan wisely and work perseveringly, placing God at the forefront of our actions and the human person at the center of our choices. Thus, the "rejected stones" - the poor, the sick, the migrants and the least among us - will become the cornerstone, and a solid, welcoming common home will emerge on the earth, where love and faithfulness will finally meet, and righteousness and peace will embrace (cf. *Ps* 85:10). This is the blessing we implore from God; and the task that stands before us is that of being builders of communion, rather than architects of Babel. We are to be servants of the coming Kingdom, instead of lords of towers destined for ruin. With the heart of a shepherd and a father, I ask everyone to abandon the construction of yet another Tower of Babel and to join forces in building up the common good, so that humanity will never lose its beauty, and the world once again will come to recognize the human heart as the place where God desires to dwell.

OCTOBER: A MONTH OF PRAYER, MISSION AND HERITAGE. October is dedicated in the Catholic Church to the Holy Rosary and World Missions, inviting us to deepen our faith through prayer, support missionaries and renew our commitment to spreading the Gospel. In the UK, October is also Black History Month, celebrated since 1987, recognising the history, heritage and contributions of Black communities. Together, these observances encourage us to strengthen our faith, celebrate diversity, and promote unity, justice and mutual respect

HUMOUR: Someone stole my antidepressants. Whoever they are, I hope they're happy. [Richard Scott, Edinburgh Fringe Funniest Joke of 2019]

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