

St. Joan of Arc, Farnham

Parish Priest: Fr. Simon Dray

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Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd August 2026

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Readings 2, Psalter Week 1

We gather to worship God in union with Leo XIV, Our Pope.

Saturday	22 August	
4.15pm	Confession	
Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Michael Brothers RIP (anniv) & Kathleen Twine RIP
Sunday	23 August	Twenty First Sunday in OT
9.15 am	Mass	Georgina Herson RIP
11.15am	Mass	Patricia Atkinson RIP
5.00pm	Mass	Martha Madigan Intention
Monday	24 August	
11.00am	Mass	Lydia Woellwarth Intention
Tuesday	25 August	
11.00am	Mass	Hannah Fogell Gil RIP
7.30pm	Rosary	
Wednesday	26 August	Church Closed
Thursday	27 August	
1.00pm	Requiem Mass	Mary Ditchburn RIP
Friday	28 August	
10.30am	Adoration	
11.00am	Mass	Holy Souls
Saturday	29 August	
4.15pm	Confession	
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	William (Bill) French RIP
Sunday	30 August	Twenty-Second Sunday in OT
9.15 am	Mass	Mairi O'Connell RIP
11.15am	Mass	Amiti Grech RIP
5.00pm	Mass	Holy Souls

Mass Count: 15th /16th August: Saturday 5pm = 117; Sunday 9.15am = 87; 11.15am = 114; 5.00pm = 79 **Total 397**

2nd Collection Stella Maris – Huge thank you for your support £541.24 Dona + £520.50 Cash: **Total £1061.79** plus + £100 cheque. Many thanks.

2nd Collection Colomban Missionaries: £831.53 Dona + £1080.40 Cash: **Total £1911.93** plus £50 cheque. Many thanks.

Premium Bonds:

A very generous parishioner has taken to donating their premium bonds certificates, and we have quite a few now. Unfortunately we cannot cash these as, only the Bond Holder can. So please would the Bond Holder contact the Parish Office 01252 716711 opt 2 / 07484114716.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where Peter is, there is found the Church.

Jesus left us a Church, entrusting it to Peter and the Apostles. In changing Simon's name to Cephas (*Peter / Rock*), he not only changes his name but provides him with an identity, a primacy in which, as first among equals, he sustains and leads the other Apostles. As '*Vicar of Christ*', Peter is the '*keeper of the Keys*' and by apostolic succession this office is continued by the Pope, the Bishop of Rome, his '*See*' holding Primacy over the universal Church.

The '*Acts of the Apostles*' describes the procession of the Church from Jerusalem to Rome, for if the gospel takes hold in centre of the Empire, it spreads to the world. The doctrine of Papal Primacy took time to develop fully and has faced opposition in history. There is a fine line claiming a primacy and imposing it! A Catholic (*both Latin & Eastern Rite*) has no problem in accepting that Peter's successors reside in Rome and no other city. Being the place of Peter and Paul's martyrdom, their burial sites quickly gain a reputation for pilgrimage. Indeed, many other bishops travelled to Rome to consult the Pope about issues affecting the Church, the Roman Church soon gains a pre-eminence and responsibility in leading the other Churches.

Even today, when the Pope speaks, people notice, including those in the secular arena; they listen (*if not agree*) in a manner not afforded to any other bishop. Whether you believe the Pope maintains this primacy depends on your ecclesial politics (*e.g. Anglican & Canterbury, the Orthodox, both Greek and Russian*). As Catholics, we believe that the Pope, as '*Vicar of Christ*' has full, supreme power over the Church, for where Peter is, there is found the Church!

Readings – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading: **Isaiah 22:15, 19-23**

Psalm: **Ps 138(137):1-2a, 2bc, 3, 6, 8bc, R8bc**

2nd Reading: **Romans 11:33-36**

Gospel: **Matthew 16:13-20**

Daily Readings can be found www.universalis.com

Fr Simons Daily Reflections are on the website. www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk

12th & 13th Sept and 19th & 20th Sept: Fr. Simon will be on his summer holiday. Our supply priests are Fr. Chris Dobson and Fr. Gilmour McDermott. On these two weekends, they will celebrate 3 of our 4 Sunday Masses. **On these weekends there is no 5pm Sunday evening Mass.**

The Parish office will be closed 26th- 28th August and from the 9th September – 17th September inclusive – emails will be monitored during this time. farnham@abdiocese.org.uk

Catholics do good at every opportunity.

Catholics pray every day.

Catholics come to Mass every Sunday.

FRIDAY IS A DAY OF ABSTINENCE FROM EATING MEAT

Life in the Spirit Prayer Group:

Every **Wednesday 8.00-9.00pm** in the Parish Centre. Come and refresh your prayer life. Everyone welcome. Information online at stjoanlits.webstarts.com

Scripture Study Group:

Will resume on **Wednesday 2nd September** after the Summer Break.

Rosary Group:

Meet on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm** in the Church. Everyone is welcome to come along. Next date is on the **1st & 15th September**.

Parish Sunday Lunch

6th September 12.15pm in the Parish Centre.

Please contact Nikki to book. £10pp.

07969189381 nikkimfarnham@gmail.com

200 Club:

Contact John Dick to join St Joan of Arc 200 Club it's £12 a year for one number. [johndick187@btinternet.com](mailto: johndick187@btinternet.com)

Arcaid: Arcaid is St. Joan of Arc's very own overseas Aid Charity.

Cake Sale on behalf of Arcaid

Sunday 13th September after the 9.15am & 11.15am Mass.

If you would like to support Arcaid in any way please have a look at their work on our website.

www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk/your-parish/parish-charity-arcaid leaflets and forms are in the church porch.



SCAN ME

Catholic Parish of Guildford Congress:

'Growing as a Welcoming Community' St Polycarps School, 3rd October 2026 10.00-3.30pm for all those involved or wishing to become involved with catechesis, formation, liturgy. Sign up information on the Church noticeboards.

Mass for Altar Servers at Arundel Cathedral, Saturday 12

September at 12 noon: Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan, invites all diocesan altar servers to a special Mass at Arundel Cathedral. The Mass for Altar Servers is for all those who have served, all those who are serving, and anybody who would like to serve - all are very welcome to attend. Please bring a cassock/cotta or an alb, if possible. Holy Mass will be followed by light refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Please contact Fr Aaron to confirm attendance and numbers E: aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk

Diary Dates:

Parish Sunday Lunch: 6th September.

2:2 Club: 9th September; 14th October; 11th November.

Arcaid Cake Sale: Sunday 13th September.

Parish Quiz Night: Friday 16th October.

Christmas Bazaar: Sunday 22nd November.

*If you would like to come and join the **planning team** for the bazaar or have any new ideas, please get in touch with the Parish Office.*

Foodbank: www.farnham.foodbank.org.uk

This month: Tinned vegetables; UHT juice; Squash; UHT milk, Savoury items such as pot noodles, crackers, crisps.

Let us pray for those in our families who are unwell at this time and especially for: Michael Pattie, Sheila Thorp, Ariane, Brian Fernando, Suzanne Eames, Robin Eames, Kate Pontifex, Carol Tutte, Donna Lawson, Anne Cheesman, Jennifer Flack, James Flack, Art Attwood, Elizabeth Murray, Peter McCormick, Elizabeth Leavy, Margaret Connolly, Andrew Torjussen, Siobhan Gorman, Francis Galliano, Eileen Farebrother, Noreen Yelland, and for all in our Parish community who are unwell.

Please let the Parish Office know if any names can be removed.

We pray for the recently deceased:

Mary Ditchburn RIP whose Requiem will take place on Thursday 27th August at 1.00pm.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Michael Brothers, Celia Morgan, Patricia Pennicott, Nancy Bull, Pam Chaniana, Ronald McDermott, Luis Ferreira, James Sables, Pat Padilla, Barbara Ward, Betty Evans, Peggy Priseman, Ricardo Seone, Daniel Evans, Stanley Burford.

May the Lord grant them all a place in His Kingdom.

Easyfundraising:

Amazing news! **St Joan of Arc Farnham Parish Centre Fund (Roof Fund)** has received **£74.48** this Donation Day!

A huge thank you to everyone supporting us. If you haven't joined yet, all your online shopping this year could raise **free donations for us - at no extra cost to you.**

Please sign up to support us on easyfundraising today, it'll take you two minutes and **we could win a £5,000 donation when you join:**

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/st-joan-of-arc-farnham-parish-centre-fund/3XQ1FX/dda1/U5SipKB/Q226V/textcopy/74.48>

Sacristans – especially at 5pm Sunday Mass:

More sacristans are needed for the 5pm Mass on Sunday evening. Although, new volunteers are being trained as sacristans, there are gaps appearing in the sacristy provision. As the pastoral plan continues to be implemented and embedded, for any Mass to remain viable, the community needs to provide the necessary readers, servers, musicians, welcomers, **and sacristans**. Please discern if you can serve in these roles. A DBS check and training is required for the role of Sacristan.

Childrens' Liturgy:

Will take place on the 23rd August & 6th September during the 9.15am Mass. These are for a Parent/Carer with Children in Reception to Year 2. **A Case 4 form must be completed on the first visit and a parent must accompany their child.**

First Confession & First Holy Communion 2027

9.15am Mass - Every Sunday.

*Sign up Sunday for 2027 First Confession & First Holy Communion – **Sunday 13th September 2026***

Confirmation 2026

We will gather to **celebrate on Sunday 27th September** at the 5pm Mass. Certificates and refreshments.

Confirmation 2027

For those who will be in school years 10, 11 or 12 from September, and are contemplating receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2027, now is the time to ensure that the Holy Mass, especially on a Sunday is the source and summit of your life. **Applications will open in October.**