

St. Joan of Arc, Farnham

Parish Priest: Fr. Simon Dray

Email: simon.dray@abdiocese.org.uk

19 Tilford Road, Farnham, GU9 8DJ

Tel: 01252 716711

Website: www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk

Parish Secretary for St Joan of Arc Church: Cecilia

Email: farnham@abdiocese.org.uk

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th August 2026

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Readings 2, Psalter Week 2

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

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	Personal Intention
Monday	31 August	Bank Holiday
10.00am	Mass	Mary Murphy RIP (anniv)
Tuesday	1 Sept	
11.00am	Mass	Audrey Haarer RIP (anniv)
7.30pm	Rosary	
Wednesday	2 Sept	Church Closed
Thursday	3 Sept	
11.00am	Mass	James Kelly RIP
Friday	4 Sept	
9.15am	Whole School Mass	
10.30am	Adoration	
11.00am	Mass	Sheila Dray RIP
Saturday	5 Sept	
4.15pm	Confession	
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Emma Green RIP (anniv)
Sunday	6 Sept	Twenty-Third Sunday in OT
9.15 am	Mass	John Atkinson RIP (anniv)
11.15am	Mass	Mary Dunn RIP (anniv)
12.15pm	Parish Sunday Lunch	
5.00pm	Mass	Kathleen & Oliver Price RIP (anniv)

Mass Count: 22nd/23rd August: Saturday 5pm = 103; Sunday 9.15am = 105 ; 11.15am = 135; 5.00pm = 67 **Total 410**

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.

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A 2026

'Get behind me Satan'

In the 1995 film the 'Usual Suspects' one of the main characters says, 'the greatest trick that the devil ever pulled was convincing the world that he didn't exist'. It is not a film that I recommend watching but the quote has become a cultural reference to discussing themes of deception and identity and is seen as a clever and satirical commentary on the nature of evil and the human tendency to dismiss it as mere superstition or myth.

Scripturally, Satan or the Devil is portrayed in two ways:

- 1) As the accuser. He will test our fidelity to God and seek to unveil our hypocrisy.
- 2) As a Tempter. He leads us away from God by manipulating truth, virtue and goodness.

Whether or not you believe that the devil is a real person (although the Church is convinced that the devil does exist), it is apparent that Christians are being pulled in two directions:

- a) Into a Kingdom of Righteousness; one of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love and peace.
- b) Into a Kingdom of sin, one of lies and death, of sin and selfishness, of injustice, hate and conflict.

Unfortunately, that choice is not always obvious for us, for the temptations are often subtle, a manipulation of the truth for our own ends. Our desires and passions are wounded; we often choose things that are good but in the wrong measure, at the wrong times, and without reference to our neighbour. And so, Christianity will always be demanding and counter-cultural for as Jesus calls us to a life of service and sacrifice: 'if anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me'.

Readings – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 20:7-9**

Psalm: **Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9. R2b**

2nd Reading: **Romans 12:1-2**

Gospel: **Matthew 16:21-27**

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

from the 9th September – 17th September inclusive – emails will be monitored during this time.

farnham@abdiocese.org.uk

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:

Will meet on **Tuesday 1st September at 7.30pm** in the Church. Everyone is welcome to come along. Next dates are the **1st & 22nd 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. john dick187@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 all those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Canon Douglas Calver, Helen Power, Mary O'Leary, John McIntyre, Elinor Sully, Elizabeth Williams, Francis McKeown, Mary Lynch, Elizabeth Gimble, Rolande Emilienne De Fraix, Kathleen Price, Sydney Traylen, John O'Leary, Joan Christofany.

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/U5SijpKB/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 6th & 20th 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.**