

St. Joan of Arc, Farnham

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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9th August 2026

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Readings 2, Psalter Week 3

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

Saturday	8th August	
4.15pm	Confession	
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Gloria Ferreira RIP (anniv)
Sunday	9th August	Nineteenth Sunday in OT
9.15 am	Mass	Matthew & Miriam Legg Intentions (Wedding Anniversary)
11.15am	Mass	Tony Tunstall RIP
5.00pm	Mass	Seamus Foyle RIP
Monday	10 August	St Lawrence
11.00am	Mass	Anton Claude Motha Intentions
Tuesday	11 August	Church Closed
Wednesday	12 August	Church Closed
2.00pm	2:2 Club in the Centre	
Thursday	13 August	Church open for prayer
Friday	14 August	St Maximilian Kolbe
	No Adoration	
10.30am	Requiem Mass	Bill (William) French RIP
Saturday	15 August	
12 noon	Nuptial Mass	Idemudia Darius Egualeonan & Titilope Olukole
4.15pm	Confession	
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Elizabeth Richardson RIP
Sunday	16 August	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9.15 am	Mass	For the Souls in most need of Gods Mercy
11.15am	Mass	Stephen Calcott RIP
5.00pm	Mass	Holy Souls

Missionary Appeal will take place over the weekend of 15th/16th August.

Mass Count: 1st/2nd August: Saturday 5pm = 108;
Sunday 9.15am = 96 ; 11.15am = 106; 5.00pm = 74 **Total 384**

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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

What is the language of God?

In the 'Latin Rite' of the Catholic Church (*that's us!*) we often conflate God's language with the language of the Mass. If Latin is the language of God, what about Hebrew or Greek? Certainly, we still use them in the Mass (e.g. *Alleluia*, *Amen* and *Kyrie Eleison*) because they are the languages of the cross - the Mass its perpetual memorial. Pilate wrote the inscription, '*This is the King of the Jews*' above the cross in these languages, so all who passed by could read it.

For the past 60 years, we have enjoyed hearing and assisting at Mass in our own vernacular languages but we dispel the notion that '*Vatican II*' got rid of Latin, for it did no such thing, saying in '*Sacrosanctum Concilium*' (the document on the sacred liturgy) at paragraph 36, '*the use of the Latin language is to be preserved*'. Latin remains the universal and official language of the Church, and so, we should be able to pray the principal prayers of the Church in Latin, helping us participate more fully at '*International Masses*' with the rest of the Catholic World.

Still Latin is not the language of God! The first book of Kings suggests **silence** is God's language. When we make space for God; when we unplug from our headphones, TVs, smartphones and Tablets, we hear the thumping silence of God revealing his plan for us. Silence, then, is also the language of the Mass (*along with the music, gestures, rituals, and colour of the vestments*). Silence allows us to hear, listen and discern our response to the Lord *who calls us out of darkness into his own wonderful light*. In the silence of our hearts we bring our joys, hopes, sufferings and fears and bring them before the Altar as an offering to God.

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.

Mary Burland RIP whose funeral will be on Monday 17th August at 12 noon.

Bill (William) French RIP whose funeral will be on Friday 14th August at 10.30am.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Elizabeth Barton, Douglas Hosegood, Anne Harrison, Cynthia Beynon, Agnes Tunstall, Gerald Blyth, Peter Dobson, Lesley Dixon.

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

Readings – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a**

Psalm: **Ps 85(84):9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14, R8**

2nd Reading: **Romans 9:1-5**

Gospel: **Matthew 14:22-33**

Daily Readings can be found www.universalis.com

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

This week: There is no Mass in St Joan's on Tuesday or Thursday, Fr. Simon will be in Edinburgh to see his ecclesiastical supervisor. It will also give him a chance to catch up with one of his seminary *compadres*, who currently serves at St Patrick's, The Cowgate, Edinburgh.

Next weekend (15th & 16th August): we welcome a priest from the Columban Missionaries, who will give the annual appeal. He will celebrate all four of our Sunday Masses at St Joan of Arc. While he does this, rather than concelebrate with him, I will go and celebrate the Masses for the communities at Holy Family & Holy Angels, enabling Fr. Robin to have a weekend off.

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.**

2:2 Club:

Takes place in the the Parish Centre on the Second Wednesday of each month at 2.00pm. Come along on **Wednesday 12th August at 2.00pm** for games, tea and a chat. Open to all over a certain age and retired!

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

Foodbank: www.farnham.foodbank.org.uk

This month Foodbank are requesting: Tinned vegetables; UHT juice; Squash; UHT milk, Savoury items such as pot noodles, crackers, crisps. **Thank you for your generosity.**

Diary Dates:

2:2 Club: 12th August 2.00pm Wednesdays.

Parish Sunday Lunch: 6th September.

Arcaid Cake Sale: Sunday 13th September.

Parish Quiz Night: Friday 16th October.

Christmas Bazaar: Sunday 22nd November.

If anyone would like to organize a Parish event do speak to Fr. Simon or email the Parish Office.

New WhatsApp channel for news from the Diocese:

Created especially for members of our family of faith who don't use other social media but would like to stay up to date with news from the Diocese, a new WhatsApp channel has been launched. News is shared there regularly and WhatsApp channels don't have comments or replies so are very safe spaces. No one who isn't in your phone's address book can see your membership or activity there. Click here to subscribe: [whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbDWbIR5a241kOVyff0E](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbDWbIR5a241kOVyff0E)

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:

Takes place every 2 weeks during the 9.15am Mass. The next Liturgy sessions **will be on 9th August/23rd August/6th September**. These are for Parents 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 Holy Communion 2027

9.15am Mass - Every Sunday.

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

Confirmation Group 2026

We will gather to **celebrate on Sunday 27th September** at the 5pm Mass for our certificates and follow with some 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.**

Youth Mass - 5.00pm - Every Sunday

Stop assisted suicide being legalized:

Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11th September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on **11th September**. **Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide:** <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

Mass for Altar Servers at Arundel Cathedral, Saturday 12 September at 12 noon:

Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan Director for the Guild of St Stephen, invites all diocesan altar servers to a special Mass at Arundel Cathedral. The occasion will offer an opportunity to celebrate and thank servers for their service to our parish communities. 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

Marriage Anniversaries Mass – Saturday 3 October at Arundel Cathedral:

E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. To book your free place, you can scan the QR code on the poster. Mass followed by a small drinks reception in the Cathedral Centre. Family & Friends are welcome to attend.