

# ST ERCONWALD'S NEWSLETTER 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

St Erconwald's 22 Esher Avenue Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 2TA  
Telephone 01932 221101 email: [walton@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:walton@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Priest responsible for pastoral care at St Erconwald's: Fr Bill Muir CJ Tel: 07513594588

## Parish Primary School:

Cardinal Newman School  
Arch Road  
Hersham  
Walton-on-Thames  
KT12 4QT  
TEL: 01932 222536  
Email: [office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk](mailto:office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk)

## Parish Secondary School

Salesian School  
Guildford Road  
Chertsey  
Surrey  
KT16 9LU  
TEL 01932 582520  
[info@salesian.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@salesian.surrey.sch.uk)

## Mass Intentions and Mass Times: Week starting 30<sup>th</sup> May

Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	Parishioners who helped Dottie & Paddy Brady
	6.00 pm	Mass in Italian
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	9.15 am	Donald Hill RIP
	11.15 am	Parishioners
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	9.30 am	Good health of Alex Nerohna and family
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	7.00 pm	
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	9.30 am	<b>Liturgy of the Word</b>
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30 am	Intentions of Venita and Frank Goes
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30 am	
	6.00 pm	Mass in Italian
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	9.15 am	Jim May RIP
	11.15 am	Parishioners

**The Church is open for public Masses and booking is required for Sunday Masses. Please book no later than Thursday evening for the following Sunday.**

## Please pray for those in the Parish who have asked for our prayers:

*Michael Snee, Margaret Hawkes, Anna Sartori, Maureen Lloyd, , Sheila Day, Nicoletta Lanzisera, Patrick Duggan, Rose Collins, Carmen Galanty, Patrick Russell, Ann Griffin, Ann Lane, Dina Yates, Rose Collins, Manuel and Jackie Faraldo, Andres Gomez, Christian Misuraca, Christopher Clifford and Catherine Browle.*

Dear Parishioners,

My name is Fr Ruslan Kurdiumov, and I am delighted to be appointed by Bishop Richard as the new Parish Priest of St Erconwald's in Walton-on-Thames.

Originally from Ukraine, I came to the UK in 2011 to study Philosophy at the University of London. Since my arrival in England, I have been serving at St Joseph's Parish in Epsom. I am very grateful to all the Priests who have served St Erconwald's, and I look forward to building on their work and serving as your Parish Priest.

I am looking forward to the next chapter in my priestly life, serving the community of St Erconwald's in Walton-on-Thames. I would like to ask all Parishioners for their support and prayers in my first appointment as a Parish Priest. So, please bear with me as I find my feet among you and get to know all of you in due course.

With Prayers and Best Wishes

fr. Ruslan

**Fr Bill writes:** Fr Ruslan and I have arranged to meet during the coming week to facilitate a smooth transition. The date of the handover has yet to be determined. It is like a house chain when moving house. Until all moves are known and co-ordinated none can take place.

**Please note that on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June home-made jams and home grown plants will be on sale between the two Sunday Masses.**

With the relaxation of the pandemic restrictions **30** people are now allowed at Baptisms. The **Offertory Procession** can now take place and the priest will at Communion now say “**Body of Christ**” to which each person responds **Amen. Altar Servers** can now start to fulfil their role. However there can be no singing on the part of the Congregation and masks and social distancing regulations are still in place.

I am very grateful for the work of the stewards in ensuring that we are all safe and that social distancing is maintained as far as is possible. Without their generous help the church would not legally be able to open. It is important therefore that we show our appreciation for what they do by complying with their instructions. **It would be very helpful if some of you could help with the cleaning of benches after Mass on Sundays so that it is not left to the generous few.**

Please note that we are in the process of changing the parish email address from [mail@sterconwalds.org.uk](mailto:mail@sterconwalds.org.uk) to the official diocesan email address [walton@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:walton@abdiocese.org.uk) As from now if you wish to contact the parish office please use the official diocesan email address. For the time being we will be receiving emails from the old email address but in time this will be expected to reduce.

**First Communion and First Reconciliation:** I will be meeting groups of parents and children on the Sacramental Preparation Course face-to-face to introduce them to the Church and to what will happen when they Make their First Communion in July. These meetings will take start at 5.30 pm on Wednesdays and 3.30 pm on Saturdays and last no more than an hour.

In the post Easter period there will be Exposition and Confessions after the 9.30 am Mass on Saturdays.

*Any notices for this newsletter to be sent to Fr Bill at [walton@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:walton@abdiocese.org.uk)*

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION 16<sup>th</sup> May: £624.50 banked Offertory  
£204.50**

For those who are able you can either put your donations through the presbytery letterbox at the side of the house or you can make a donation online.

The Diocese has a scheme at:

**<http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory>.**

In the message section you mention St Erconwald's Walton-on-Thames and the donation will come to the parish. If it is an Easter offering then mention Easter Offering in the message section.

**Alternatively make a bank transfer.**

Parish sort code 40 05 20

Account No 01126393

Payable to A&B Diocesan Trust St Erconwalds

## **Announcements**

**Cardinal Newman in Hersham** is a friendly oversubscribed two-form entry Catholic primary school, serving the children of our local Catholic parishes.

97% of our pupils are Catholic and we work closely with our parish priests to support their faith development through a Catholic RE curriculum, Mass in school and regular charity work. We are a feeder school for Salesian School in Chertsey and about 90% of our pupils go on to Salesian in Year 7.

In our recent Teaching and Learning Review, the outcomes were extremely positive:

**"The quality of teaching is very strong with fantastic consistency."**

**"All lessons were well paced and optimised learning."**

**"All pupils are actively engaged in their learning."**

**Due to families moving out of the area over the summer, we are likely to have one or two spaces in Y4 and Y5 for September 2021.** If you are interested in finding out more, please visit our website [www.cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk](http://www.cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk) or arrange to meet us in person by emailing: [admissions@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk](mailto:admissions@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Climate Change Petition:** We all know about the climate change emergency. Because of the Climate Change emergency Pope Francis has called on us all to take action. CAFOD and other development charities are also at the forefront of campaigning, because climate change is already hitting the some of the poorest countries hard.

Please will you click on the link below and sign the petition to the UK government to take a strong lead on this issue. Why now? Because the UK is hosting two major conferences of world leaders this year- the G7 in June and the UN "COP26" climate talks in November.

The eyes of the world will be on Britain and with a massive campaign showing popular support, our government will be more likely to push for stronger measures to combat climate change.

Please sign at [cafod.org.uk/reclaim](https://cafod.org.uk/reclaim) and encourage friends and family to do the same.

Thank you!

**CAFOD Opportunities:** Step into the Gap with CAFOD's gap year programme. Applications are open until 31 May 2021. It's an opportunity for 18–30-year-olds: learn more about yourself and global justice whilst gaining skills and work experience. Accommodation, travel expenses and stipend included. More info at: [www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear](https://www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

**Parish Jam and Plant Sale** returns on **Sunday June 6th.**

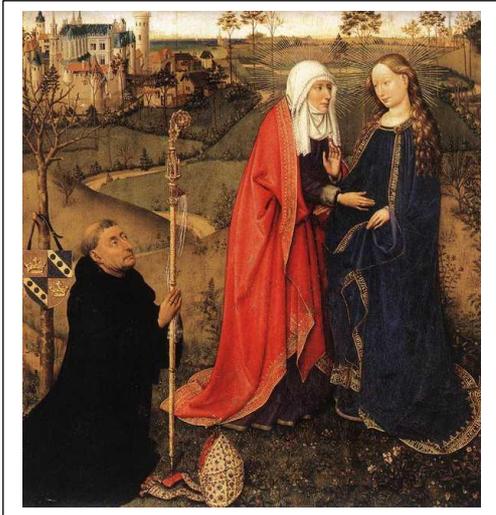
Homemade jams, and home-grown plants (tomatoes, courgettes etc.) will be available in the Church Car Park, between the 9.15 and 11.15 Masses, with proceeds in aid of CAFOD.

Donations and buyers very welcome! (To maintain COVID safety, exact cash would be appreciated).

Thank you for your support.

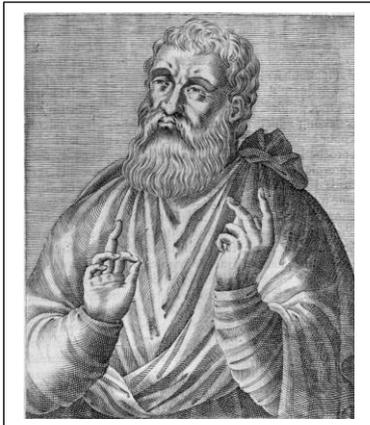
## Forthcoming Feasts

### *31<sup>st</sup> May The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



In Luke's Gospel we read about the journey made by Mary to see her cousin, who was also expecting a child. The Messiah and the Forerunner of the Messiah are seen together with their mothers both giving thanks for the favours received by God.

### **1<sup>st</sup> June Justyn Martyr**



He was born at the beginning of the second century in Nablus, in Samaria, of a pagan Greek family. He was an earnest seeker after truth, and studied many systems of philosophy before being led, through Platonism, to Christianity. While remaining a layman, he accepted the duty of making the truth known, and travelled from place to place proclaiming the gospel. In 151 he travelled from Ephesus to Rome, where he opened a school of philosophy and wrote defences and expositions of Christianity, which have survived to this day and are the earliest known writings of their kind. In the persecution of 165, in the reign of the emperor Marcus Aurelius, he was denounced as a Christian, arrested and beheaded. The transcript of his trial by the prefect of Rome, Rusticus, has also survived: it can be found in today's Office of Readings.

### *3<sup>rd</sup> June St Charles Lwanga and Companions*



Many Christians, Catholic and Protestant, were killed by the Ugandan king Mwanga. Some of them were servants in the king's palace or even his personal attendants. Charles Lwanga and his twenty-one companions (the youngest, Kizito, was only 13) were executed for being Christians, for rebuking the king for his debauchery and for murdering an Anglican missionary, for "praying from a book". They died between 1885 and 1887. Most of them were burned alive in a group after being tortured.

Within a year of their deaths, the number of catechumens in the country quadrupled. St Charles Lwanga is the patron of Catholic Action and of black African youth, and the Ugandan martyrs' feast day is a public holiday in Uganda.

### *5<sup>th</sup> June St Boniface*



For the first forty years of his life Boniface was known as Wynfrith. He was born in Devon and educated at the monastery at Exeter, and then joined the Benedictine abbey at Nursling, near Southampton. He was a teacher and preacher, but he desired to preach the gospel in a foreign land. In 718, Pope Gregory II commissioned him to do so, at the same time changing his name from Wynfrith to Boniface.

Boniface left England, never to return, and took the gospel to the heathen tribes of Germany, where he had great success. He himself was created Bishop of Mainz, and he founded or restored dioceses in Bavaria, Thuringia, and Franconia. In his later years he worked with King Pepin the Short to reform the Frankish church, and then, over seventy years old, set out to evangelize Friesland (part of modern Holland) where he was set upon and murdered, on 5 June 754.

He is buried at Fulda, near Frankfurt, in the monastery he founded himself, and is honoured as the apostle of Germany.

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

## **Old and alone and needing help...**

An old Italian priest lived alone. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was so hard. A member of his church, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. So the old priest wrote a letter to his parishioner and described his predicament:

*Dear Vincent, I am feeling pretty sad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days. I remember you in my prayers!*  
Fr Louis

A few days later he received a letter from his parishioner.

*Dear Fr Louis, whatever you do, don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried. Thanks for your prayers.*  
Vinnie

At 4 am the next morning, the local police arrived and dug up the entire area, without finding any bodies. They apologised to the old priest and left. That same day the old priest received another letter.

*Dear Fr Louis, You can go ahead and plant your tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.*  
Vinnie