ST. PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH

33 Walpole Road,
Cambridge CB1 3TH
+44 1223 211235
SPH Office Email: sphcambridge@gmail.com
Web: www.sphcambridge.org.uk

22ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, 30 August 2026

Lectionary:
Sundays: Year A – Weekdays: II – Psalter: Week 2



CLERGY

PARISH PRIEST:
The Revd Father PHILIP JOHN
33 Walpole Road
Cambridge
CB1 3TH
Tel: **(01223) 211235 | 0771 313 9350**
Philip.John@rcdea.org.uk

Mgr. TONY ROGERS
40 Dunstan Court
Wulfstan Way
Cambridge
CB1 8QD
Mobile: **07778221509**
tonybrucerogers@gmail.com

DEACON:
The Revd Dr JOHN BELL
3 Applewood Close,
CB1 9NU
Mobile: **07919247977**
deacon@sphcambridge.org.uk

PARISH OFFICERS

Fabric and Finance Chairman
joanmariamilne@icloud.com

Treasurer and Gift-Aid Officer
Prasanth Francis
Tel: 07877 378104
Email: **treasurer@sphcambridge.org.uk**

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Hugh Bradley
Tel: (01223) 244222
hughdbradley@gmail.com

DATA PROTECTION If you have contact details printed in the newsletter that you do not want published on our website, please inform Fr. Philip John *(details above)*.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Fulbourn
Phoebe Vargas 07796 893 558
Alistair Milne 01223 894997
Cherry Hinton
Nicky Marks 07876 713558

HOSPITAL POLICY

PLEASE contact the Chaplaincy Office directly on (01223) 217769 to inform them of any Catholic family members who may have been admitted to ensure that they are registered as a Catholic and that the patient has ticked the box giving permission for a priest or a member of the Chaplaincy Team to visit. More information at:

www.addenbrookes.org.uk/serv/nonclin/chaplaincy/

JUBILEE EMAIL ADDRESS

A **dedicated email address** has been set up for parishioners wishing to submit photos or other media for the Diocesan Jubilee display:

Email: **jubileesph@gmail.com**

DONA & GIVING TO THE PARISH

If you have a **Mass intention**, you can use one of the small brown envelopes for your offering and give it directly to a priest or post it through the priest's door. If you pay for a Mass intention through **Dona**, please also fill out a brown envelope *clearly* and mention on it that you have paid via Dona. Other ways of giving to the parish include **standing orders**, **gift aid** and through a **legacy** in your will.

- **Sunday collection: £567.11**
- **CAFOD: £40**



CONFIRMATION CLASSES IN 2026/27

The new Confirmation class schedule has been announced with the first class on **17 October**. The full schedule along with registration forms is **here**.

CATECHISM CLASSES IN 2026/27



Catechism classes for children in school years 1 to 5 will start in September/October. The full schedule of classes in 2026-27 is available below. You can also find the dates for your child's class, the registration form and information about the programme.

Please register your child in advance by sending your form to the class teacher listed on the webpage.

- **Schedule of classes for 2026/27**
- **Registration form (PDF)**
- **Registration form (Word)**
- **General information**

SPH YOUTH SUMMER SOCIAL

5.30-9pm, Saturday, 29 August



After the Vigil Mass, join us for a relaxed evening of board games, quizzes, good food, and great company. Whether you're competitive or just looking to have fun and meet new people, there's something for everyone. Food will be provided. This event is for anyone between the ages of 13 and 25.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church or use the following link: **https://forms.gle/bg7d7mTWh92TMdpu5**

Would you like to **support** this event? Parents and parishioners wishing to sponsor food and drinks for the evening can make a donation via **Dona** or directly in cash to Fr. Philip.

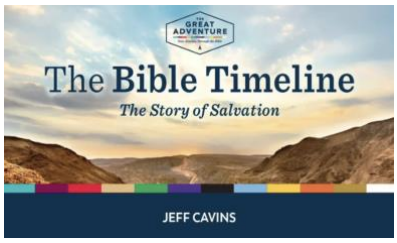


OUR LADY OF PEÑAFRANCIA

Sunday, 30 August

- **11.30am**: Procession
- **12pm**: Holy Mass
- **2pm**: Novena & Rosary

SPH BIBLE STUDY STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

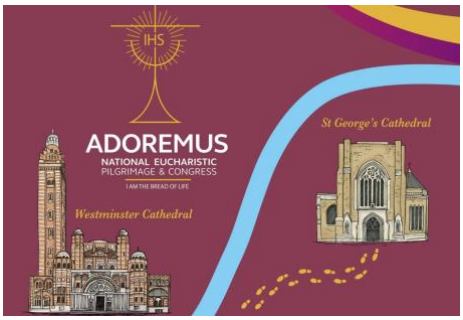


The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation is a powerful journey through Scripture from Creation to the establishment of the Church. Filmed in breathtaking locations across the Holy Land, Egypt, Rome, and beyond, this updated edition brings God's Word to life.
To register, and to express an opinion about your preferred time and day for the sessions, follow this link: **https://forms.gle/ffgzNZkpCZrYY8XW7**

The study will be held at **7pm every Tuesday** (repeated on Saturdays) in the Community Hall, starting **29 September**. You can also attend on the same day via Zoom if you're unable to make it to church. There is also a **workbook** you can purchase costing £31.50 (£35 less 10% bulk discount). The workbook is not compulsory but it will help you revise long after the study is completed.
Sheldon has a copy of the workbook for those interested. It is also hoped to have a trial session of one episode, most probably after the Vigil Mass on Saturday, 19 September.

ADOREMUS NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Saturday, 10 October



The Diocese is delighted that fifty places are available for participation in the **National Eucharistic Congress** in London on 10 October this year. The day begins at midday with Mass in St George's Cathedral, Southwark, followed by a keynote address by Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe.

After a picnic lunch, the day will culminate with a historic Eucharistic Procession, through the streets of London, from Southwark to Westminster Cathedral where devotions will continue into the evening.

Those who would like to register interest in participating in this momentous celebration of our faith are asked simply to email the Diocesan Adoremus Representative, **peter.wygnanski@rcdea.org.uk** to receive further information. (Those taking part will need to arrange their own transport to and from the event.)

WYD 2027

3-8 August 2027

The next World Youth Day takes place in Seoul, South Korea and the Diocese of East Anglia will be taking a group along.

Download the information pack **here**.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK

London, Saturday, 5 September



Click **here** for the day's events.

CAMBRIDGE NAZARETH TRUST

This Trust was established by members of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem to provide education and development of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

HOLY FAMILY CRÈCHE

Donation envelopes for this project are available in the display unit in our porch.

OPUS DEI

Women's group meets monthly.
Contact: Laura Roldán:
mlauramarchessi@gmail.com

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

Contact: Jaci Agarwala
Tel: 01223 213895 or
ofs.assisi@yahoo.com

CARMELITE GROUP

Contact: Antonia Braithwaite
carmelite.cambridge@gmail.com

CATECHISM LATIN-RITE

Year 1 Beate Gürtler-Green:
beate@guertler-green.co.uk
Year 2 Anne Manning
ammanning15@gmail.com
Year 3 Phoebe Vargas
janphoebe5@gmail.com
Year 4 Lauren DesRuisseaux
laurenruisseaux@btinternet.com.
Year 5 Carol Kelsall
ckelsall@btinternet.com

SYRO-MALABAR COMMUNITY

Contact: Santos Mathen
Email: mathensantosh@gmail.com
Mobile: 07958139920
Contact: George Paily
Email: meringerin4@gmail.com
Mobile: 07737465958

Syro-Malabar Catechism
Years 1-5 Shiji Jenson
Email: Shijijenson78@gmail.com
Years 6-10 Bigily Joy
Email: bigilymerlinjoy@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile: 07915607421

AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Contact: Dominic Oyeniran
oad74@yahoo.com

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

antonia.braithwaite@gmail.com

MISSIO (APF)

Contact: info@missio.org.uk

ANNUAL AFRICAN MASS

5.30pm, Saturday, 12 Sept.

After the Vigil Mass, there will be a bring-and-share food & drinks reception. All are warmly invited!

JUNIOR CHOIR SCHEDULE

Junior Choir starts again in September. You will find the full schedule of practice sessions combined with the catechism class schedule **here**.

CAMBRIDGE CATHOLIC PARISHES

Our Lady and The English Martyrs
Hills Road, CB2 1JR
Tel: (01223) 350787
or (01223) 448780

Saint Laurence
91 Milton Road, CB4 1XB
Tel: (01223) 704640

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Contact: Fr Philip John:
Philip.John@rcdea.org.uk

https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-preparation/

USE OF CHURCH PREMISES & NEWSLETTER ITEMS

For information contact:
sphcambridge@gmail.com

CAFOD & JUSTICE & PEACE

For information contact:

Bernard Shaw on **(01223) 240207**
or Sheila Brookes at
Sheila.brookes@btinternet.com
or **(01223) 503948**

Meetings are held online on the second Tuesday of each month at **19h30**.

J&P Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/people/Cambridge-Justice-and-Peace-Group/100064618067019/

PARISH MUSIC

Contact Fiona Kirker:
sphparishmusic@gmail.com

REPOSITORY ITEMS

Contact :Antonia Braithwaite:
antonia.braithwaite@gmail.com

SPH KNITTING GROUP

From January, **the SPH Knitting Group** will meet in the **Community Room at St Philip Howard Church** on the first Tuesday of every month from 2pm to 4pm. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Nicky Marks (07876 713558) or Anne Manning (07742 758095).

DIOCESAN LISTENING & PRAYER MINISTRY



Whatever you are going through right now it can help to talk; it can ease the burden and help you to see the way through. The Diocese offers a Ministry of listening and prayer for parishioners in need.

- Click **here** for a booking form.
- Click **here** for other sources of support.

GOSPEL REFLECTION — The Cross of Jesus — *(Mt. 16:21-27)*



What a turn-around! Last Sunday Peter was being congratulated on at last realising the Jesus was the Christ. He was promised the keys and authority to make decisions valid in heaven. Now Jesus shoos him away and tells him that he is Satan, the Tempter.

Why the change? Jesus had told Peter that his role as Christ Messiah was to suffer and die in order to achieve his purpose, and Peter shied away from it. What is that particular soft option which you find it so easy to take? What is the difficult task Christ is asking of you, and you are avoiding? We are no better than his first disciples! It happens twice more in the gospel that Jesus foretells his passion and each time the disciples simply fail to understand. Each time Jesus puts it bluntly that you cannot be a Christian without following Jesus in carrying a Cross. We see people suffering the whole time, physical disabilities, breakdown of relationships, heartless treatment from others, financial worries - and then we grouse at a twinge of pain or a hurtful word. Carry the Cross behind Jesus? Yes, of course I will, but if you don't mind, I'll just take that section which is well padded and fits my shoulder nicely. No point in unnecessary splinters in my neck!

REFLECTION: READING 1

Jeremiah 20: 7-9
Jeremiah Complains to God

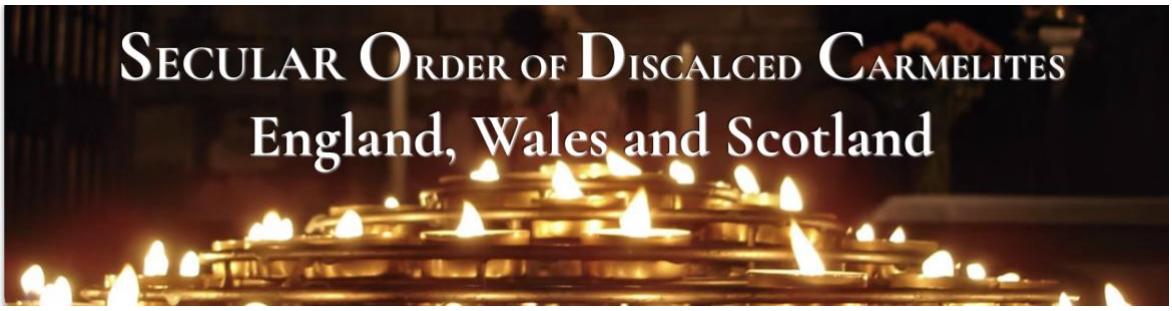
As we saw some weeks ago (in the first reading of the 12th Sunday of the Year), Jeremiah had a tough time, telling the citizens of Jerusalem that their city was to be besieged and destroyed, and that they themselves were to be dragged into exile. He tried to evade his duty of announcing this dire message, but the Lord gave him no peace, no matter how much he attempted to drive the message from his mind. So God overpowers or 'seduces' the prophet and compels him to proclaim the message. Jeremiah almost has a sort of love-hate relationship with the Lord. In the same way, Paul says he has no choice but to proclaim the message of Christ. In the gospel reading Peter suggests to Jesus that he should avoid the way of suffering, and Jesus refuses to take any escape-route. In all these cases the natural human tendency to take the easier path crashes headlong into the brick wall of God's will. We are always slow to accept the way of suffering. In the gospel, each time Jesus teaches that he can achieve his glory only through suffering, the disciples seem to refuse to listen.

REFLECTION: READING 2

Romans 12: 1-2
God's Wisdom & Knowledge

Paul has concluded his account of the saving work of Christ and its consequences for Israel. Now he goes on to detail some of its implications for the Christian life. The overall banner-headline is that Christian behaviour must be totally different from that of the world, for the Christian is a new creation with a new set of values. Two aspects are most striking in this introductory passage, first the novelty, second the motivation. In chapter 8 on the Spirit, Paul repeatedly stresses that not only Christians, but the whole of creation is straining to be set free from slavery to corruption. The presence of the Spirit of Christ makes all things new; it is a totally new world. In today's passage again he stresses the renewing of our minds. Secondly, Paul emphasises that the motivation comes from within; it is a matter no longer of the external compulsion of the Law, but of inner compulsion, for the Christian has become a living sacrifice, dedicated to God with mind transformed, discerning personally the will of God and acting upon this discernment. This is Christian personal responsibility; we must 'discern for ourselves what is the will of God.

SECULAR CARMELITES TO START NEW COMMUNITY IN CAMBRIDGE



From Sunday, 4 October

Want to Go Deeper in Prayer?

Are you inspired by the spirituality of the Carmelite saints? Have you felt drawn towards a deeper life of prayer and contemplation? You may be interested in the **Secular (Lay) Order of the Teresian Carmelites**, a community of lay people and clergy who seek to live the Carmelite spirituality in everyday life.

A regular monthly group will begin soon in Cambridge; meeting at **St Philip Howard Church**, CB1 3TH, from **5.15pm-7.30pm on the first Sunday of each month**. The meetings will begin on Sunday 4 October.

To learn more about the Secular Carmelites: **https://www.secularcarmel.org.uk/**

For further information about the monthly meeting, please email **Carmelite.cambridge@gmail.com** or phone Cyprian on 07714 651756.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS FOR CATHOLIC CHURCHES

11-20 September

Catholic churches across the Diocese of East Anglia will be opening their doors this September as part of **Heritage Open Days**, giving visitors the chance to discover centuries of faith, architecture and local history. For an article about the event, click **here**. To access the Heritage Open Days website, click **here.**

heritage open days



Tuesday, 1 September

"They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks" (*Is* 2:4) is Pope Leo's theme for the 2026 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (1 September).

This marks the start of the Season of Creation, ending on 4 October, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. Pope Leo highlights the connection between armed conflict and environmental degradation. He says only through a renewal of our hearts will "what has been used for destruction" be "redirected toward life, the care of the poor, the nourishment of the hungry, and the safeguarding of creation."

You can read more of his message **here**.

DEBT JUSTICE PETITION

Thank you to everyone who signed the CAFOD petition last week calling for urgent action to reform the unjust global debt system. Many of the world's poorest countries are in crisis, with governments forced to cut healthcare, education and other essentials to pay wealthy banks and other private lenders.

- You can still add your name online **here**.
- You can find out more **here**.

GOLDEN JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME



27-31 October

The Diocese will celebrate its Golden Jubilee with a pilgrimage to Rome in October led by Bishop Peter Collins.

Full details can be found at **this link**.

FOODBANK DONATIONS

Monetary donations can be made through the **CCFb web-site**. Food items can be taken to the warehouse at Milton Road and there are also drop-sites at Sainsbury's (Eddington & Coldham's Lane), Asda and Waitrose.

READERS		
Aeola Fernandes Antoinette Asante	Vigil Mass 5.30pm	Saturday, 29 August
Mary Sinclair Philip Fallon	10am	Sunday, 30 August
Evelyn Triunfante Didith Amper	12pm	

COUNTERS FOR THE WEEK OF 30 AUGUST

Antony Pichai & Sheldon DSouza

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
The Passion of St. John the Baptist	Saturday, 29 August
SPH Youth Summer Social (5.30-9pm)	Saturday, 29 August
Our Lady of Peñafrancia (from 11.30am)	Sunday, 30 August

The Sacred Liturgy This Week (29 Aug.–6 Sep.)

29 AUG. SATURDAY PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Monica Cheney (F)
17h30 **Vigil Mass**: +Theresa Williams (M. Archibald)

30 AUG. 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Psalter Week 2
07h40 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: +Jacek Rokitnicki (Family)
12h00 **Holy Mass**: People of the Parish

31 AUG. MONDAY FERIA
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: +Ann Carolan & Sally Cosgrove (Nora)

1 SEP. TUESDAY FERIA
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: +John Kelly (C. Donoghue)
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

2 SEP. WEDNESDAY FERIA
09h30 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: Vicki Munnelly (F)
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

3 SEP. THURSDAY ST. GREGORY THE GREAT PpD. Feast
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Thanksgiving Chantal & Judex (W.A.)
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

4 SEP. FRIDAY ST. CUTHBERT B
09h30 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: Holy Souls
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

5 SEP. SATURDAY FERIA
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Holy Souls
17h30 **Vigil Mass**: People of the Parish

6 SEP. 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Psalter Week 3
07h40 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: James Ritchie (F)
12h00 **Holy Mass**: +Audrey Davies (M. Horton)

SEPTEMBER 2026

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

His Holiness Pope John Paul I, Giuseppe Acanfora, Sheila Allan, Rogelia Barasona, Sr Barbara Batten, Peter Bond, Ethel Bragg, Ray Brooker, Katherine Camping, Lanfranco Canali, Kathleen Cardwell, Eric Chatfield, Florence Chave, Roy Clark, Dennis Cleary, Ellen Cleary, Antonio Cobelli, Thomas Comiskey, Matilda Connolly, Margot Cook, Michael Cooper, Edward Cryan, Patrick Deane, Annie Dunnigan, Edward Egan, James Flaherty, William Fotheringham, John Gavin, Alice Gleeson, William Gleeson, Maura Grosvenor, Ann Halligan, William Hempstead, Henrietta Hoskin, Sean Houlihan, Susan Hunt, Lucy Jabbie, Marie Jackson, Ginette Jeeves, Thomas Johnson, Kathleen Jones, Fransisco Kavanagh, Patrick Lally, Angela Latham, Alfred Maker, Amparo Malubay, Kathleen Manns, Jackie Martin, Mildred McCarthy, Jack McCausland, Noreen McCullam, Patrick McMahon, Patricia Mulhern, Thomas Munnelly, John Francis Murray, Damian Nicholls, George Noble, Enegide Lugard Nwaiku, Patrick O'Brien, Consolata Pascuzzi, Audrey Potter, Percy Radford, Kitty Rusk, John Sharp, Dora Shell, Mary Spelman, Wilfred Sylvester, Helena Szychter, Hilda Thurston, Bridget Vesey, Elsie Walker, Catherine Walsh, Lawrence Williams, Paul Winkcup, Pasqualina Undicino,Steve Keady, Ruby Keady, Joyce Banks, Dick Clayton, Wendy Pabis, James Ritchie, Helene Reynolds.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Owen Crouch, Teresa Margaret Creet, Angela Fordham, Simon Janos, Beth Malubay, Joseph Mashapure, Monica Nwaiku, Sr. Noreen O'Connor, Lucy Richardson, Vyramuthu Sabanathan, Jayne Stewart, Michelina Starace, Frances Wiseman, and all others.

PRAYER

Loving God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. May all who suffer pain, illness, disease, and the frailty of old age realise that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Amen