Ordinariate and Parish Church
MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
13th September 2026

In the gospel reading today, we hear that Christ is the perfect example of forgiveness. He died for us when we were still his enemies by sin and through his death we are brought to life. His life and death have an influence on all of us. Now we must forgive each other as Christ forgives us since we ask God to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Forgive from your heart.

Welcome back, if you weren't back last week. Welcome too to any who have moved locally for study to work. Where did the summer go?

Daily Mass continues, and our open church policy. Use the opportunity to visit the Lord.

Thank you, a huge thank you to those who wrote to your MP about the assisted suicide bill in Parliament last Friday. Thank you too to those who prayed. It was a great result and just goes to show, that prayer does work.

Saints of the Second Spring, book launch. Ever been to a book launch? Come! 24th September 18.30 here at MPB. RSVP to Joanna at: catholichistorywalks@gmail.com (for catering purposes)

The image of St John Henry Newman was carved especially in Italy. There's still time for a contribution. Accnt name: Ordinariate OLW Sort code: 40 04 09 Accnt no: 92046563

St JHN's image will be installed on the first evening of his feast, ie Thursday 8th October by Bp David. Solemn Evensong at 19.00

A Novena, for St John Henry will be begin on 30 Sept. Do you have any special petitions and requests for our heavenly patron?

#RedWednesday has become the strap-line for *Aid to the Church in Need*. Have you ever thought of doing a sponsored fund and awareness raiser? A swim, a run, a silence, a head shave, a bungee-jump?

Aid to the Church in Need, special History Walk today, Sunday, 13th September from MPB to the Tower of London. Starts 15,00 acn.org.uk

Post Mass Quiet is an important part of Mass. Please maintain a prayerful space after Mass in Church. Chat over coffee.

Lost or lapsed? The summer is a time when it's easy to fall away. Keep an eye out for each other. If there used to be someone sitting near you who you haven't seen for a while, give then a call. It's nice to be missed.

Thank you for to those who give by cash for not putting coins in the collection. The bankers and counters are very grateful!

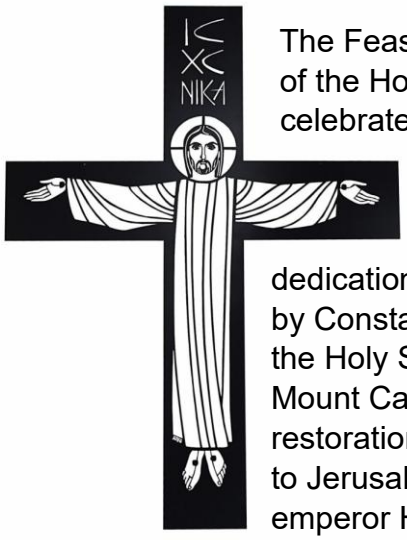
The Angelus Bell rings three times each day at 9am 12noon and 6pm as a reminder of the Annunciation – and a call to thank God for the Incarnation: for coming in Jesus. Do you know it by heart?

Could you be a host? FrC is seeking parishioners who could accommodate a group of seven to twelve people to meet once every four to six weeks. Do you have an office at work, or a common room, or maybe a home with space. All we need atm is a space.

We give thanks after the Harvest on the last Sunday of September and support the Manna Centre. There's a list at the back of their needs.

Evangeli Gaudi Sunday is next week with a second collection.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross:



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by St Helena; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the means of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

The history this Feast begins at the death and resurrection of Christ. Both the Jewish and Roman authorities in Jerusalem made efforts to obscure the Holy Sepulchre, Christ's tomb in the garden near the site of His crucifixion. The earth had been mounded up over the site, and pagan temples had been built on top of it. The Cross on which Christ had died had been hidden (tradition said) by the Jewish authorities somewhere in the vicinity.

According to tradition, first mentioned by St Cyril of Jerusalem in 348, St Helena, nearing the end of her life, decided under divine inspiration to travel to Jerusalem in 326 to excavate the Holy Sepulchre and attempt to locate the True Cross. A Jew by the name of Judas, aware of the tradition concerning the hiding of the Cross, led those excavating the Holy Sepulchre to the spot in which it was hidden.

Three crosses were found on the spot. According to one tradition, the inscription *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum* (Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews) remained attached to the True Cross. According to a more common tradition, however, the inscription was missing, and St Helena and St Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem, assuming that one was the True Cross and the other two belonged to the thieves crucified alongside Christ, devised an experiment to determine which was the True Cross.

In one version of the latter tradition, the three crosses were taken to a woman who was near death; when she touched the True Cross, she was healed. In another, the body of a dead man was brought to the place where the three crosses were found, and laid upon each cross. The True Cross restored the dead man to life.

In celebration of the discovery of the Holy Cross, Constantine ordered the construction of churches at the site of the Holy Sepulchre and on Mount Calvary. Those churches were dedicated on 13th and 14th September 335, and shortly thereafter the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross began to be celebrated on the latter date. The feast slowly spread from Jerusalem to other churches, until, by the year 720, the celebration was universal.

In the early seventh century, the Persians conquered Jerusalem, and the Persian king Khosrau II captured the True Cross and took it back to Persia. After Khosrau's defeat by Emperor Heraclius II, Khosrau's own son had him assassinated in 628 and returned the True Cross to Heraclius. In 629, Heraclius, having initially taken the True Cross to Constantinople, decided to restore it to Jerusalem. Tradition says that he carried the Cross on his own back, but when he attempted to enter the church on Mount Calvary, a strange force stopped him. Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem, seeing the emperor struggling, advised him to take off his royal robes and crown and to dress in a penitential robe instead. As soon as Heraclius took Zacharias' advice, he was able to carry the True Cross into the church.

For some centuries, a second feast, the Invention of the Cross, was celebrated on 3rd May in the Roman and Gallican churches, following a tradition that marked that date as the day on which St Helena discovered the True Cross. In Jerusalem, however, the finding of the Cross was celebrated from the beginning on 14th September, which is Monday this week.

Do you have a Crucifix in your home?

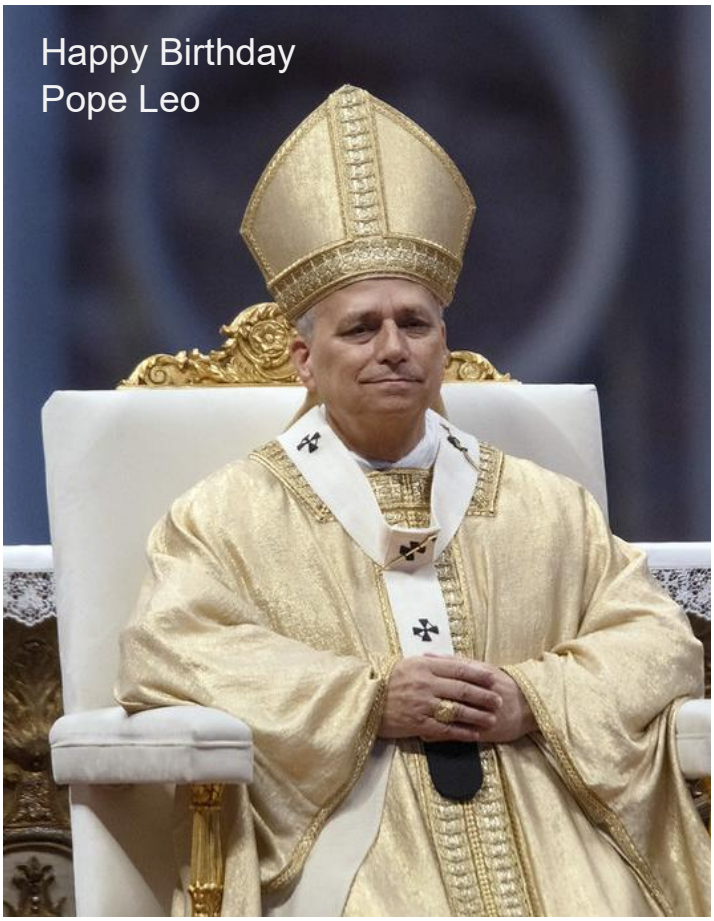
The 2026/7 Lecture Series
St Anselm's, Pembury

Monthly lecture series on a Wednesdays
19.00 Mass
refreshments
20.00 Lecture

16 Sep - Fr. Stephen Langridge
Disciples who make disciples: the key to parish renewal

21 Oct - Bp Gerard Bradley
Music & Silence in the liturgy, drawing on the poetry of St John of the Cross

Saint Anselm's, Lower Green Rd, Pembury



MANNA DAY CENTRE

Harvest Festival list 2026

Needs in order of priority

(Most important items in bold type)

FOOD
Sugar
Tomatoes (Tinned)
Vegetables (Tinned)
Rice
Pasta Sauces
Baked Beans
Meat (Tinned)
Corned beef
Chopped ham
Luncheon meats
Fish
Pasta

Tinned Food
Soup
Stewed steak
Hot Dogs
Fruit
Rice pudding

Non-Tinned Food
Curry Sauces
Porridge oats
Breakfast cereals
Tomato sauce
Jelly
Cooking oil
Biscuits

DRINKS
Coffee
Dilutable drinks
Tea

TOILETRIES
Bodywash
Soap
Deodorants
Shaving Foam
Shampoo
Disposable razors
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes

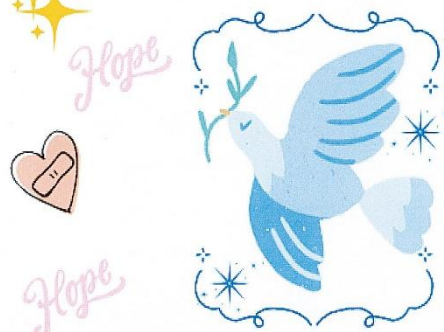
MEN'S CLOTHING
Jeans (Waist 30-38)
Socks
Jogging bottoms
Trainers
Fleeces / Hoodies
T-shirts
Shoes
Underwear
Trousers (Waist 30-38)
Coats

MISCELLANEOUS
Toilet Rolls
Tea Mugs
Novels
Oyster cards
(Unregistered preferably)

ARCHDIOCESE of SOUTHWARK

You are warmly invited to our annual

SERVICE FOR THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN HARMED BY ABUSE



An evening of hope & healing

Led by Archbishop John Wilson

Wednesday 30th September 2026
6.30pm
St Georges Cathedral, SE1 7HY

"Many times the pain of the victims has been greater because they were not welcomed and listened to." Pope Leo XIV Jan 2026

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day			Time	Intention
Sunday - 24th of the Year ***Trinity XV***			09.30 **11.00**†	Christine Brooksby ✠ *d.2018* Parishioners
Mon	14th	***Exaltation of the Holy Cross***		
Tues	15th	*OL of Sorrows*	13.05	Rosaline Corderio ✠
Wed	16th	*Sts Cornelius & Cyprian*	13.05	Bertha ✠
Thur	17th	*(St Hildegard)*	13.05	Monica Janicek ✠
Fri	18th	*(St Edith of Kemsing)*	13.05	Rene Fish ✠ *recently* (et al)
Sat	19th	*OL on Saturday*	10.30	Fr Michael Carey *foundation*
Next Sunday - 25th of the Year ***Trinity XVI***			09.30 **11.00**†	Wilma Lambert ✠ *d.2019* Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 55:6-9 Philippians 1:20-24.27 Matthew 20:1-16

Sacrament of Confession. Tue - Fri, 12.30 - 12.55 & Saturday 10.00 - 10.25

† **Mass in the Ordinariate Use** of the Roman Rite

Last week: £870.55 *(cash £112.55 card £179.00 standing orders £580) $30* ***Thank you***

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Representatives: Pamela Gatti, Aminata Keita & Daniela Guzzardo.
www. preciousblood.org.uk/safeguarding

Holy Father's Intention for September 2026: ***For the care of water***
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Live-streaming is done regularly for the Solemn Mass. The earlier Mass on Sunday and weekdays are not live-streamed.

For your prayers:
In priestly formation: Fr Philip Gerlomes OP, Iwan Williams
Peace: In Ukraine, the Holy Land, Syria, the Middle East
Those who are Sick: Mary, Chi Chi, Rita, Amaogechi, Kathie, David, Norma
Recently Departed: Harry Bramma, Rene Fish, Timothy Kelliher

Find us on: *Facebook*: "preciousbloodSE1"
YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

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