



**ST FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC
CHURCH - 729 HIGH ROAD,
TOTTENHAM N17 8AG**

Telephone: 020 8808 3554

E-mail: tottenham@rcdow.org.uk

Website: <https://stfrancisdesaleschurch.co.uk/>

**A Parish part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster registered
charity number 233699**



**READINGS Isaiah 55:10-11: 65(64):10a-d. 10e-11.
12-13. 14; Romans 8:18-23, 11-13: Matthew 13:1-23**

**15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A – 12/07/2026**

The Parable of the Sower

The late Pope Francis reflected on today's Gospel saying, that Jesus was great teacher who taught and about the Kingdom of God using simple words and using familiar images to make it accessible for people, unlike the teachers of the Law. Today's parable of the sower is such a great example of this. "The sower is Jesus. With this image, we can see that he presents himself as one who does not impose himself, but rather offers himself. He does not attract us by conquering us, but by donating himself: he casts seeds. With patience and generosity, he spreads his Word, which is not a cage or a trap, but a seed which can bear fruit. And how can it bear fruit? If we welcome it. Therefore, the parable concerns us especially. In fact, it speaks more of the soil than of the sower. Jesus carries out, so to speak, a "spiritual X-ray" of our heart, which is the soil on which the seed of the Word falls. Our heart, like the soil, may be good and then the Word bears fruit — and a great deal — but it can also be hard and impermeable. This happens when we hear the Word but it bounces off of us, just as on a street: it does not enter.

Between the good soil and the street; the asphalt — if we throw a seed on the "*sanpietrini*" (cobblestones), nothing grows — there are however, two intermediate types of soil which, in different amounts, we can have within us. The first, Jesus says, is *rocky*. Let us try to imagine it: rocky ground is a terrain that "does not have much soil" (cf. Mt 13:5), so the seed sprouts but is unable to put down deep roots. This is how the superficial heart is: it welcomes the Lord, wants to pray, love and bear witness, but does not persevere; it becomes tired and never "takes off". It is a heart without depth, where the rocks of laziness prevail over the good soil, where love is fickle and fleeting. But whoever welcomes the Lord only when they want to does not bear fruit.

Then, there is the last ground, the *thorny* one, filled with briars which choke the good plants. What do these thorns represent? "The cares of the world and the delight in riches" (v. 22), as Jesus says explicitly. The thorns are the vices which come to blows with God, which choke his presence: above all these are the idols of worldly wealth, living avidly, for oneself, for possessions and for power. If we cultivate these thorns, we choke God's growth within us. Each of us can recognize his or her big or small thorns, the vices that inhabit the heart, those more or less deeply rooted briars that God does not like and that prevent us from having a clean heart. It is necessary to tear them out, otherwise the Word cannot bear fruit, the seed will not grow.

Dear brothers and sisters, Jesus invites us today to look inside ourselves: to give thanks for our good soil and to tend the soil that is not yet good. Let us ask ourselves if our heart is open to welcome the seed of the Word of God with faith. Let us ask ourselves if our rocks of laziness are still numerous and large; let us identify our thorns of vice and call them by name. Let us find the courage to *reclaim the soil*, to effect a nice conversion of our heart, bringing to the Lord in Confession and in prayer our rocks and our thorns. In doing this, Jesus, the Good Sower will be glad to carry out an additional task: purify our hearts by removing the rocks and the thorns which choke his Word." (Pope Francis Angelus July 16, 2017) © Copyright – Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

Parish Priest: Fr David Lucuy Claros

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Elisabete Veselovska Catechetical Coordinator: Mrs Marcelle Jemide

Safeguarding Representative: Ms Victoria Gowdie

Email: tottenhamsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Sanctuary lamp burning in honour of the Blessed Sacrament (Red) is offered for the repose of the soul of **Andrew Salami**.

Sanctuary lamp burning in honour of Our Lady (blue) is offered for the repose of the souls of **Dolores Salami**.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 9am Ozioma Nlewedum Thanksgiving **11am** Cynthia Davis Thanksgiving, Chuma Nwankwo Thanksgiving **MONDAY 10am** Gabriella Nasso RIP, Angela da Costa & Family Thanksgiving **TUESDAY 10am** Horace Haslam ANNIV, Bernadette Okafor RIP **WEDNESDAY** No Mass **THURSDAY 10am** Albert Alexander RIP, Albert Flak Thanksgiving **FRIDAY 2.30pm** John Adumatta-Sampanye RIP Requiem Mass **7pm** Monica Lewis RIP, Grace Agyemang & Family Thanksgiving **SATURDAY 10am** Louise's Family RIP, Slawek Special INT (**vigil**) **7.00pm** Bridie Conneely ANNIV, Fernando Camilo Duarte RIP **SUNDAY 9am** Theresa Alexander RIP, Catia Noronha Thanksgiving **11am** People of the Parish, Emeka Nwankwo Thanksgiving

PARISH NEWS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION AND RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA) 2026-

2027: The enrolment of children, young people and adults for Baptism, First Holy Communion (FHC), Confirmation and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) Sacramental programmes is now available online on the Parish website; until Sunday 13th September 2026. To enrol your child, please scan the QR code at the back of this newsletter or on the Parish Notice Boards at the back/entrance of the Church; or visit our Parish Website - <https://stfrancisdesaleschurch.co.uk/>; scroll down to Sacraments and click on the corresponding forms link. For FHC – please provide a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate; For Confirmation – please provide a copy of your child's Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates. For further information, please contact the Parish Catechetical Coordinator – Marcelle Jemide on tottenhamcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE OF ST EDMUND CAMPION'S RELIC -SUNDAY 19TH JULY AT 11AM MASS

As it is customary the Knights of St Columba have organised an annual pilgrimage of the Relics of St Edmund Campion which will visit our Parish on Sunday 19th July before making its way its final post at Tyburn Convent in Marble Arch.

There will be an opportunity to venerate the relic of the saint after Mass. Please do not insist on touching it as it is enclosed in a delicate vessel which can break easily. St Edmund Campion, pray for us!

MASS INTENTIONS

You can request a Mass for a loved one, thanksgiving, special occasion, or private intention. Intentions are published in the Parish Newsletter and announced at Mass. While you can request specific dates for anniversaries or birthdays, it is not always a guarantee. Use a **Mass Offering envelope** (available at the back of the church) or send an email to parish or **give it to the clergy or drop it in the parish office**. The Archbishop of Westminster has suggested a donation of £10 per Mass (Gift Aid if possible). Our contactless machines also have a specific donation for Mass intentions.

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH

Creating a safe environment is everyone's responsibility within our Parish community. It involves everyone, in promoting a safer environment and culture. Everyone has a role to play in safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults. If you have any safeguarding concern, please contact the PSR Victoria Gowdie at tottenhamsq2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk or leave a message on the Parish Phone 02088083554.

VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS NEEDED:

We are seeking dedicated and faith-filled people to join our Parish Team of Catechists, supporting sacramental preparation: Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, RCIA and RCIC – in helping to form and guide our children, young people and adults on their journey of faith and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all in our care. all Catechists must agree to undergo a DBS check and complete safeguarding training as required by the Diocese of Westminster. If you are interested, please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/e/B9QuEewdej> Or scan the QR Code.



SCHEDULED EVENTS AT SPURS STADIUM FOR JULY 2026

Concerts: Monday 13th and Wednesday 15th July – System of a Down, at 7pm. Parking restrictions will be in place. Please have a look on the link below:

<https://www.tottenhamhotspur.com/the-stadium/local/>

WEBELIEVE | FESTIVAL OF CATHOLIC LIFE - FRIDAY 24–MONDAY 27 JULY 2026 | ST MARY'S COLLEGE, OSCOTT, BIRMINGHAM

WeBelieve Festival brings the Church together in England and Wales. It is an unmissable opportunity to discover the traditions and charisms that flow through the Church, to experience the joy of community, and to encounter personally the Lord Jesus, our salvation. Join us from 24–27 July 2026 at the historic and beautiful setting of St Mary's College, Oscott, for a feast of the True, the Good and the Beautiful. **Book your tickets at <https://www.webeliefefestival.com/>**

Please check the poster and programme on the Parish Notice board.

NURSERY & RECEPTION ADMISSION TO ST FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL

Currently accepting Nursery and Reception applications for September 2026 and beyond.

We also have some availability in other year groups across the school.

Call us on 020 8808 2923 or e-mail office@sfds.haringey.sch.uk to arrange a visit - we look forward to welcoming you!

PARISH FINANCES

Supporting Your Parish & Donations

The best way to help us is by **setting up a Bank Standing Order** (details below).

We aim to **reduce cash use** due to extra costs. Instead, please donate by:

 **Card:** Tap contactless machines as you leave church

 **Online:** <https://stfrancisdesaleschurch.co.uk/donate>

 **Scan to Donate:** using the QR Code

 **Bank Transfer:** WRCDT Tottenham | Sort Code: 40-05-20 | Acc: 71264397

 Please consider **Gift Aid** to add 25p per £1 donated.



Donations Last Week:

 **Loose Plate:** £414.75  **Envelopes:** £171.85

 **Standing Orders & Online Donations:** £487.50  **Contactless:** £190

Gift Aid & Building Fund Update

☒ **Gift Aid Donors:** Thank you! We received an extra £8,649.14 for 2024-25 at no cost to you.

☒ **GASDS:** Additional £2,000 claimed on loose plate donations.

 **St Francis de Sales Building Fund:** Total raised £50,382.83 (includes £1,519.26 Gift Aid refund).

Thank you for your generosity!

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

INFANT BAPTISM COURSE: The next Baptism Preparation Course for parents intending to baptise infants will be on **Saturday 25th July 2026 at 12noon in church**. If you are intending to baptise your child, please send an email to the Parish Office with your details.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Applications for the 2026-2027 Sacramental programmes: First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) are now available online on the **Parish Website** <https://stfrancisdesaleschurch.co.uk/> If interested, scan the QR Codes below or on the Notice Boards at the back/entrance of the Church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026-2027:

<https://forms.office.com/e/bxA1QcsJzt>



CONFIRMATION 2026-2027:

<https://forms.office.com/e/d7wFan4YK8>



Deadline for submission of complete forms is Sunday 13th September 2026. Once the maximum number is reached, no further registrations will be accepted. Therefore, early submission is strongly advised.

ADULTS' CONFIRMATIONS AND RECEPTIONS INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH PROGRAMME - RCIA 2026-2027. If interested use this link <https://forms.office.com/e/q7xiasFTcB> or scan the QR Code below to apply.



FUNERALS For funeral arrangements, please contact the parish office and provide us with the name of your loved one so that we can pray for his/her soul.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Adumatta-Sampaney Requiem Mass on 17th July at 2.30pm.

Anita Armstrong Funeral Mass on Thursday 23rd July at 11.15am.

WEDDINGS:

If you are planning to get married, please call or send an email to the parish office. Couples wishing to marry here or in any Catholic Church need to give at least six months' notice of their intentions.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday 10am

Tuesday 10am

Wednesday No Mass

Thursday 10am

Friday 7pm

Saturday 10am

Saturday (Vigil) 7pm

Sunday 9am and 11am



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

After Mass at 10.30am to 11.15am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday after Mass at 10.30am to 11.15am

Saturday Afternoon 6pm to 6.45pm

Please pray for our beloved departed parishioners

Benjamin Katty, Antonia Orji, Mary Gallagher, Matilda Adams, Bridget Okpechi, Dorathy Egbuka, Antonio Mascarenhas, Mary O'Connor, Victoria Emelieze, Christopher Beaumont, Ajay Patel, Andrew Gallagher, Silvia Patricia Bohorquez, Gerald Emmanuel, Filomena Cuenco, Mary Hanley, Clifton Toal, Olga Britto, Daiane Cavalcante Clemente, Albert Alexander, Mary Healy, Lloyd Wayne Anderson, Virginia Ahaneku, Leana Mugisha, Patrick Bernard Ring, Theresa Valentine, Martin Rebello, Anne McDonagh, Gerry Walsh, Mary Carmel Fitzgerald, Jeanne Paternott, Raisa Todorenko, Nora Maughan, Ellen McDonagh, Denise Warne, Fr Colin Patrick McLean, Cecelia Mitchell, Bernadette Ahunna Okafor, Devandra Permelloo, John Adumatta-Sampaney, Carol Ann Holleran, Helena Dlugosz, Augustus Edwards, Cynthia Murray, Fr Michael English, Anita Armstrong and all our beloved departed who have fallen asleep in Christ.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen