

## READINGS

**Reading I: Acts 8:5-8,14-17**

**Psalm: 65(66):1-7,16,20**

**Reading II: 1 Peter 3:15-18**

**Gospel: John 14:15-21**

*"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you."*

John 14:18-20

The feeling of being an orphan - of longing for belonging - reflects a deeper spiritual reality Jesus addressed with His disciples in today's Gospel. Those with close families are truly blessed, as a supportive family fosters personal growth and a sense of identity. When one is orphaned, the absence of these natural bonds can leave a lasting sense of loss. Yet even the strongest earthly family relationships point to a greater truth: our ultimate belonging is found in God's family.

Jesus understood the sense of loss His disciples would feel after His Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension. When He said, "In a little while the world will no longer see me..." He was preparing them for His physical departure through the Ascension. But He reassures them: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you...you will see me, because I live and you will live."

Initially, the disciples struggled to grasp the meaning of these words. Only after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit did they begin to understand. The same promise Jesus made to them applies to us today. Though we were not among those who witnessed His earthly presence, we too have a longing for His nearness - a longing to belong, to be loved, and to find our place within a family. This longing is fulfilled supernaturally through the gift of faith and our incorporation into God's divine family, the Church.

Faith is the key to this relationship. It is more than intellectual belief; it is the acceptance of a personal revelation from God and a choice to live according to that revelation. Jesus promises that those who love Him and obey His commandments will experience His presence and that of the Father. This experience begins through faith, which is a gift by which God communicates Himself to us, revealing His love and will. It is both certain and mysterious, a knowledge that leads us to divine hope and sustains us in the pursuit of God's will.

Faith also unites us with one another. Through faith, we are no longer orphans but brothers and sisters in Christ. Our natural longing to belong finds its ultimate fulfilment in God's glorious family, which begins on earth and is perfected in Heaven.

Reflect today on the desire in your heart to belong, to be loved, and to be part of a family. Recognise that this longing finds its ultimate fulfilment in the family of God. Though we await the fullness of this communion in Heaven, we can experience it even now. Commit yourself to respond to Jesus' invitation by embracing your place in His family through prayer, the sacraments, and daily acts of love. Recognize that He is in the Father, we are in Him, and He is in us. Embrace this reality, allowing the gift of faith to draw you more deeply into the divine family to which we are called.

*My revealing Lord, deep within my soul I long for  
You and desire to be one with You and Your  
Father through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.  
Please reveal Yourself to me so that I can know  
You, live according to Your commandments, and  
flourish in Your grace.*

*May my membership in Your family of faith,  
through the Church, begin now and become  
perfected in Heaven.  
Jesus, I trust in You.*



## Parish of Blessed Hugh Faringdon & Buckland SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

### North Downs Pastoral Area

#### Diocese of Portsmouth

Parish Priest: Revd Claro Conde

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Telephone: 01367 358895

Website: [www.blessedhugh.org.uk](http://www.blessedhugh.org.uk)

1 Coxwell Road, Faringdon, SN7 7EB

Parish email:

### Parish of Blessed Hugh Faringdon & Buckland



### Ministries

**Bible Studies** - Dr. Neill Taylor & Paul Padley & Team  
**Family & Youth Catechesis (Confirmation)** - Mrs. Helena & Emmanuel Boakye & Team  
**Children Catechesis (Children's Liturgy & FHC)** - Mrs. Kathleen Thomas & Team  
**Evangelization Catechesis (Adult Evening Studies)** - Dr JP Crilly & Team  
**Administrator & Maintenance** - Andrew Chell  
**Office Secretary** - Nerisa Gomez  
**Finance** - Lorraine Brabin,  
**PPC & Youth & Children** - Kathleen Thomas,  
**Safeguarding** - Ann O'Reilly -  
[safeguarding.buck@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.buck@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Mass Setting: Blessed Hugh  
Children: 770**

**Entrance: 229 Crown him with Many  
Crowns**

**Psalm: 65(66):1-7,16,20**

*Let all the earth cry out your praises,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**Gospel: 105 Alleluia, Alleluia, Give  
Thanks to ... V4**

**Offertory: 379 I will be with you  
Communion: 235 Deep calls to deep  
Recessional: 353 Lord of the Dance**

**Sunday Mass is at 10am.**

The Mass is usually also streamed on Facebook here:  
<https://facebook.com/blessedhughfaringdonchurch/>

You can follow Fr. Claro's daily international Masses from his home on Facebook here:  
<https://facebook.com/claro.conde/>

His current schedule (subject to change) is:  
6.30 am Regular Daily Masses Monday to Sunday.

### Bible Study

We have a Bible Study, reflecting on the coming Sunday Mass Readings, with Fr Claro on Zoom on Mondays from 7.00pm. To join please use the link on the Parish website home page.

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**

YOUTUBE LINK for the Bible Study and Commentaries  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGLEJ8sQcr0>



In John's Gospel, the word παράκλητος (Paraklētōs) belongs first to Jesus himself. When Jesus says at the Last Supper that the Father will give the disciples "another Paraclete," he is saying plainly that he has already been a Paraclete for them. Jesus then promises that this role will not end with his departure. The Father will give the disciples another Paraclete, the Spirit of truth, who will remain with them and continue the work Jesus has been doing among them.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**MAY**

14th May 6pm Mass Thursday **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**  
24th May **PENTECOST SUNDAY**, Shared Lunch  
31st May **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY**

**JUNE**

7th **CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY** and FHC (First Holy Communion) 2026

**First Holy Communion Meeting 2026:** 10 May (Confession Practice) 17 May Confession, 7 June Corpus Christ 1st Holy Communion at 10am Mass.

**CONFIRMATION 2026:** June 5th, Friday at 7:00pm at English Martyrs 15 Manor Cres, Didcot OX11 7AJ

**TRAINING HOW TO USE THE SUNDAY MISSAL** after the Mass with Dr. David Williamson

**PPC & Finance Meetings**, see in the parish website

**MONDAY BIBLE ZOOM** time 7pm

**FRIDAY LUNCH – OPEN KITCHEN** 12-2pm Blessed Hugh Parish Hall on 5th June.

**COLLECTIONS:** 17 May Obligatory for CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION NETWORK

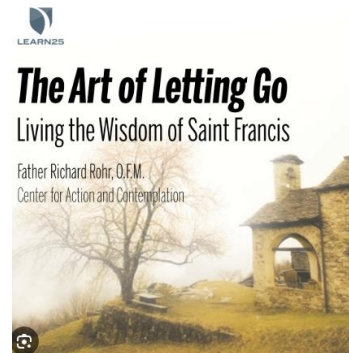
**Dates for your diary**

9th May- Retreat day for Catholic Fathers (Littlemore)  
10th May- St Edmund Campion pilgrimage Mass (Lyford Grange)  
16th, 23rd and 30th May- Catechesis training for catechists and parents (online)  
24th May- Pentecost (Faringdon)  
29th May- evening talk "Prayer in the poetry of R.S. Thomas" a talk by Dr Andrew Sargent (Faringdon)

**Essential Training for Catechists**

(The primary catechists of the children are the parents. The parish catechists are here to assist the parents and guardians of the children. So please consider attending these sessions and increase your knowledge in teaching your children.)  
Light of Truth –Dominican Sisters of St Joseph Offer Live Catholic Formation online for everyone  
Three Saturday sessions, 9.00am-12 noon, 16 May, 23rd May and 30th May covering the basic principles of catechesis. Suitable as an introduction for beginners, new volunteer catechists or as a refresher for experienced catechists. Session 1: What is Catechesis? Session 2: Using the Bible and the Catechism Session 3: Practicalities. Follow this link to register <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/essential-training-for-catechists-2026-05-16-09-00>

**BOOKS TO READ**



Richard Rohr's "The Art of Letting Go" is a spiritual approach focusing on detachment from the ego, false security, and the need for control to embrace true inner peace and spiritual growth. It emphasizes "falling upward" by letting go of passing, superficial attachments to connect with a deeper, divine reality

**St Edmund Campion pilgrimage Mass, 4 p.m., Sunday 10th May**

St Edmund Campion was a Jesuit priest, who ministered to the Catholic communities of the Thames valley during the reign of Elizabeth I. At this point it was illegal to be a priest in England, and St Edmund returned to the country knowing that he was at constant risk of arrest, torture and death. He was betrayed and arrested at Lyford Grange, near Wantage, and martyred at Tyburn.  
This year there is Mass at Lyford Grange (OX12 0EQ) at 4 p.m. on 10th May.

**Evening talk- Friday 29th May, 7.45 pm.**

Join us on Friday 29th May for the next in our series of evening talks. "Prayer in the poetry of R.S.Thomas"  
**Dr Andrew Sargent** R S Thomas (1913-2000) was a priest in the Anglican Church in Wales. He was also one of the foremost poets writing in English in the later 20 th century. As a poet he was prolific, with 23 collections of poetry to his name as well as publishing poems in many periodicals, and writing an autobiography, occasional prose, and many letters to the papers. He was often in the news as an outspoken Welsh nationalist, and delighted in nurturing a reputation as a difficult person!  
His religious poetry also confused many readers and critics who wanted something simpler and more clearcut. Despite that, prayer occupied a large space in his life and poetry, and this talk asks what it can tell us about the man and perhaps also about prayer itself.

christian aid week

**Cream Tea & Quiz**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
3:30pm to 5:00pm

Parish Hall  
Blessed Hugh, Faringdon  
(access via Portway)

Admission - £5.00  
Tickets Available From The Mustard Seed

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For further information please contact Julie Campbell on TEL 01367 242589 or EMAIL [iajuca.ca@gmail.com](mailto:iajuca.ca@gmail.com)

**Pentecost: Sunday 24th May**

There are several things to note about Pentecost this year.

1. There will be a shared lunch after Mass. Please bring food to share and if you can help either setting up in the hall beforehand, or tidying up afterwards, please let the PPC know. There is a sign up sheet on the noticeboard by the hall.
2. At the shared lunch there will be a presentation of the findings of the parish questionnaire.
3. There will also be the opportunity to find out more about the various ministries and services within the parish (e.g. eucharistic minister, reader, catechist (adult and children's), welcome, refreshments rota), and to volunteer for them.
4. In keeping with tradition, please wear red on the day, to symbolise the fire of the Holy Spirit.
5. There will be a second collection for Missio.

**Regina Caeli: English and Latin**

This is one of four Marian antiphons, with following versicles and prayers, traditionally said or sung after night prayer, immediately before going to sleep. It is said throughout Eastertide. (That is, from Easter Day through Pentecost, the seventh Sunday after Easter. The Regina caeli is also said in place of the Angelus during Eastertide.

Queen of Heaven  
V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.  
V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.  
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Regina caeli  
V. Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.  
R. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.  
V. Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.  
R. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

V. Gaude et laetare, Virgo Maria, alleluia.  
R. Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

Oremus. Deus, qui per resurrectionem Filii tui, Domini nostri Iesu Christi, mundum laetificare dignatus es: praesta, quaesumus; ut per eius Genetricem Virginem Mariam, perpetuae capiamus us gaudia vitae. Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.