



St John's Cathedral,
Portsmouth

CATHEDRAL PARISH NEWSLETTER

25 February 2024 **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

3 March 2024 **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**



The gospel of the Second Sunday of Lent speaks about the transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus took with Him Peter, James, and John, and led them up a high mountain. What did they go to the mountain to do? They went to the mountain to pray. A mountain is the traditional place where divine revelations happen, just like Moses went up Mount Sinai to encounter the Glory of God (Exod 24:12).

There in their presence He was transfigured. His clothes became dazzling white, and Moses and Elijah appeared, and they were talking to Jesus. Jesus in that transfiguration revealed His divinity to His disciples that He is truly the Son of God. The voice of the Father was heard from the cloud saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him."

Who is Jesus? Peter has already answered this question before in Matt 16:16, when he said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' But now it is the Father who gives the answer: Jesus is the Beloved Son; the Eternal love of the Father can only be satisfied by the Son who shares his own Divinity.

Jesus is the Saviour announced by the prophets. God Our Father has instructed us to listen to Jesus, the Eternal Word of God and through Him we will have eternal life.

Fr Paul Nwune

ONLINE DONATIONS

Please scan this QR code to donate to the cathedral parish.



WEST WINDOW: Thank you for donations to date of **£40,987**. Text **WINDOW** to **70560** to donate £10 or use the QR code. Total cost of project is over £100,000.



NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Sign up to receive the newsletter by email.

To date 300 have done so.



RIGHT TO LIFE POSTCARDS: Let us ask our MPs to support an amendment to reduce our abortion law time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born prematurely at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **Please act now:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the cathedral and post it to our MPs in support of this amendment!

Sunday 25 February: Parish Mass Books, readings begin on page 151.

Sunday 3 March: Parish Mass Books, readings begin on page 157.



Lent 2024 begins

This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord.

Pope Francis

Lent is a period of penance and self-denial as we prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord at Easter. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting (that is, eating only one full meal) as well as abstinence (not eating meat or taking alcohol, etc). The Gloria is not recited except on the Feasts of St Patrick, St Joseph, and the Annunciation. The word Alleluia is never uttered during Lent. The clergy wear purple vestments, and music and floral decorations are restrained. The key themes of the season are **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**, as well as reconciliation and acts of charity.

What will I do this Lent to grow in my faith?

PRAY: Why not attend our daily **12:15 weekday** Masses? There is also **Mass** every **Monday and Thursday** at **07:00** followed by 30 minutes adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 08:00. Pray the **Rosary** individually or as a family or in the cathedral from Mon-Fri after 12:15 Mass. Each Friday in Lent at **18:00** there will be **Stations of the Cross** in the cathedral. Spiritual reading can be found at 40 Days at the Foot of the Cross: A Gaze of Love from the Heart of Our Blessed Mother: mycatholic.life/books/40-days-at-the-foot-of-the-cross/

Lenten journey booklets '**My Day by Day**' and '**Walk with Me**' are now available to buy in the shop and parish office priced at £1 each for adults and children.

FAST: give God your sins and fast from returning to them in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In addition to the weekend times for Confession (see back page), a cathedral priest is usually available daily during Lent after 12:15 Mass. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1467) states that each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year, and Lent is the best time to do this. If you haven't been to Confession for a while, now is the time to start.

FRIDAY PENITENCE The Bishops wish to remind us that every Friday is set aside as a day of penitence, and that in England & Wales they have established that this is fulfilled by abstaining from meat (or something else if you don't eat meat) and uniting this to prayer. Lent is the ideal season to get into the habit of observing this precept.

ALMSGIVING: Give to **CAFOD** at the **Lenten Family Fast Day collection today** and add 25% to your donation by using CAFOD's gift aid envelope. Take part in the **Big Lent Walk** with our parish. Support our parish **InSight** project by donating the following food items: teabags, coffee, sugar, biscuits, tinned fruit, tuna, baked beans, toiletries and pasta sauces. Please take your donations straight to them in the CDC every Tuesday between 10:30 -13:30 or to the sacristy after every Mass.

TODAY AND THIS WEEK



CAFOD COLLECTION: After all Masses on the Second Sunday of Lent, there will be a second collection for monies saved from last Friday's Lent Fast Day. You may also donate online cafod.org.uk/lent.

NEWSLETTER: This is a double-issue newsletter. We will resume distribution on 9/10 March 2024.

YOUTH CLUB (13-17 YEARS): The next session for young people aged 13-17 will take place on **Friday 1 March from 18:30 -20:30** in the hall. It will include faith input, prayer, games, and snacks. Contact Jerrin on jerrinvarghese@port.ac.uk.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: formerly known, more accurately, as Women's World Day of Prayer will be on **Friday 1st March**. It is a day when Christian women throughout the world get together to pray. You are invited to take part at Holy Trinity Church, West Street, Fareham PO16 0EL at 14:00 and 20:00 for a service devised by Christian women from Palestine. All are welcome.



SVP: The Saint Vincent de Paul Society provides practical help and support whenever possible for those who need it. Are you lonely? Are you in need of help of any kind? Or do you know someone who is? If so, contact Emma on 0785 1701 806 to arrange a visit. SVP will next meet on **Sat 2 March at 13:00** in the conference room. New members are always welcome to join 'turning concern into action'.



REST IN PEACE: Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of:

- Clifford David RIP. His Requiem Mass will be held on **Monday 4 March at 12:15**.

- Sheila Robbins RIP. Her Requiem Mass will be held on **Thu 7 March at 12:15**.

Please keep Clifford and Sheila, their families, and friends in your prayers at this difficult time. May they rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS:

Thank you for the offertory on Sunday 18 Feb:



- Collections: £1,735.17 (cash: £809.17 and planned giving of 926).
- Please consider switching to a monthly standing order. The parish benefits from continuity of income.
- Our Bank details are: **Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account No: 0088 3884 A/C Name: CDP Portsmouth St John's Cathedral.**

FAIRTRADE: There will be a reception to celebrate Portsmouth's 20 years as a Fairtrade City on **Tues 5 March from 12:30-13:30** in the Lord Mayor's Parlour, Guildhall. RSVP: suejames1215@gmail.com. All are welcome.

CARITAS ONLINE NETWORKING LUNCH: **Tues 5 March from 12:30-13:00**. Live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor. Contact Jenny on 0782 4413 195 to register. All welcome.

NEXT WEEK AND OTHER NEWS

CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND: there will be a second collection on **9/10 March** to provide care for our clergy in their retirement, old age or ill health.



SYMPOSIUM: You are warmly invited to a symposium on *Medical Ethics and Social Care Today* to be held in Winchester on **Saturday 16 March** at 10:30. Tickets of £20 include lunch and light refreshments. Please scan the QR code to book a ticket.

CATHEDRAL MASS TIMETABLE

www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/livemass

Sun: 25 Feb 2023 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 18:00 (Sat) Private Intention
- 08:00 Marc Corlett Int *Latin Mass*
- 10:00 Barbara Mary North RIP
- 12:00 Eileen Whitworth RIP
- 14:00 Memorial Mass Luat Tran Doan RIP
- 18:00 People of the Parish

Mon: 26 Feb of the 2nd Week of Lent

- 07:00 William Bisset RIP
- 12:15 Fr Andrew McMahan RIP

Tue: 27 Feb of the 2nd Week of Lent

- 12:15 Private Intention

Wed: 28 Feb of the 2nd Week of Lent

- 12:15 Sylvia and Stewart Stirton Int

Thu: 29 Feb of the 2nd Week of Lent

- 07:00 Cyril and Ethel Patricia Knott **FM**
- 12:15 John, Brenda and Sean Short RIP **FM**

Fri: 1 March **ST DAVID**, Religious, Bishop, *feast*

- 12:15 Sheela Mathew RIP

Sat: 2 March of the 2nd Week of Lent

- 12:15 Florence Osuageu (Birthday) Int
- 18:00 Anne Dolby Int

Sun: 3 March **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

- 08:00 People of the Parish
- 10:00 Shirley White RIP
- 12:00 Patrick and Bridget Carrie RIP
- 18:00 In Thanksgiving Int

Mon: 4 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 07:00 Tony Pearce RIP **FM**
- 12:15 Funeral Mass of Clifford David RIP

Tue: 5 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 12:15 John Dunnett RIP **FM**

Wed: 6 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 12:15 The Saliba Family RIP

Thu: 7 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 07:00 Winnie Wood Int
- 12:15 Funeral Mass of Sheila Robbins RIP

Fri: 8 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 12:15 Sylvia Stirton Int

Sat: 9 March of the 3rd Week of Lent

- 12:15 Shaun Harkin Int

SANCTUARY LAMPS

This week the lamps have been donated for:

Blessed Sacrament Chapel:

William Bisset RIP
Anna Luat Tran Doan RIP

St Patrick's Chapel

Shaun Harkin Int

Our Lady Chapel:

Catherine Cassey Int
Maria Haig Int



CONFESSIONS: Saturdays from 11:00-12:00 and 17:00-17:45; also on Sundays for 30mins before Mass when a priest is available.

ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday from 10:00—16:00. **ROSARY:** recited every Monday-Friday after 12:15 Mass. All welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

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