



**Pastoral Area
Newsletter**
www.3rivers.org.uk

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week 1.
FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

Welcome to our Pastoral Area

Churches in the Pastoral Area

Bishops Waltham - Our Lady Queen of Apostles,
Martin Street.

Fair Oak - St Swithun Wells,
Allington Lane.

Eastleigh - Holy Cross, Leigh Road.

Chandlers Ford - St Edward the Confessor,
Winchester Road.

North Baddesley - St Andrew's, Fleming Avenue.

Romsey - St Joseph's, Abbey House Drive.

Taking Today's Gospel Home +Children/Families

*Are you willing to leave everything
to follow Jesus?*



+Young People/Adults

*In what way are you being called to put out
into deep water?*

Looking Towards Lent

Lent begins on February 17th with Ash Wednesday. The season of Lent is an annual spiritual opportunity to return to God with all our hearts, as the first reading of Ash Wednesday calls us to do (Joel 2:12). With ten days to go before Lent begins we need to consider how we are going to avail of this forty day opportunity for spiritual growth.

The best way to begin Lent is to be at Ash Wednesday Mass and receive the ashes as a declaration of our intention to live a Lent centred on God. We wear ashes as a sign of repentance. We are all sinners in need of repentance and God always calls us back when we wander away from him. Not only does God call us back, he welcomes us with open arms, as the story of the Lost Son reminds us. (Luke 15:11-32).

Lent is the ideal time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament is a sacrament of healing. The human heart is sometimes heavy and hardened and only God can make it new. The human heart is sometimes wayward and broken, and the sacrament of God's love can restore it to wholeness. The Sacrament of Reconciliation imparts to the sinner the love of God who reconciles so that the sinner can in turn be reconciled with others.

We can avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation either by participating in a Penitential Liturgy or by availing of the sacrament which is celebrated on an individual basis with the priest. Both opportunities for the sacrament involve individual confession and absolution.

Lent is probably not the most popular time of the Christian year. Self-denial and repentance do not necessarily appeal to the modern mind-set. Yet there are enormous spiritual benefits to turning our minds to the goodness of God. Lent invites us to experience again the goodness of God rather than any kind of preoccupation with sin and punishment that only leads us to be guilt-ridden.

Instead of deciding what to give up for Lent perhaps we should decide what we are going to enjoy and relish so that we might love and serve God and other people more freely.

Father Michael.

*Items for inclusion in the Pastoral Area Newsletter are required please by Tuesday, noon, by post or phone, direct to the Parish Office at Chandler's Ford on 023 8027 3882, or email 3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
This newsletter can be sent to you by email service — just email website@3rivers.org.uk
Enlarged copies can be arranged by phoning 023 8027 3882.*

❖ Liturgy and Sacraments

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The next Baptism Preparation Session for 3 Rivers Pastoral Area will be held on Sunday, 7 February, 2010, from 4.30pm to 6pm, for parents seeking the Sacrament of Baptism for their child. This will be held in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 17:5-8. Psalm 1. 1 Corinthians 15:12.16-20. Luke 6:17.20.26.

Please read the Gospel during the week and listen as it is proclaimed on Sunday.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church: Enquiries please to Lucy O'Neill, on 01489 878760.

St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's Churches: Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office on 01794 513646.

St. Swithun Wells/Holy Cross/ St. Edward the Confessor Churches: The next children's session will be held on Monday, 8 February, from 6.30pm-7.30pm, at the church where the child is to make their First Holy Communion. Masses at St. Edward's Church and Holy Cross Church on Sunday, 14 February, will particularly involve children. Enquiries please to Elizabeth Nash on 01962 712022, or Anne Owen on 023 8065 8251.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Application forms for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2010, in 3 Rivers Pastoral Area, are available in the welcoming area of all our churches. Enquiries please to the Co-ordinator, Lyn Preston on 023 8090 9329.

SERVICE OF READINGS AND HYMNS: On Tuesday, 9 February, from 2.30pm, at Compton House Nursing Home, Compton, for the residents and staff. Parishioners are encouraged to come along and offer their support.

PREPARE FOR THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY: There will be an Information Evening led by Father Ronnie Mitchell, at 2 Hocombe Wood Road, Chandler's Ford, on Wednesday, 3 March, at 8pm. This is being held for those interested in finding out more about the devotion to Divine Mercy and to help us to prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday (which falls on the Sunday after Easter Sunday, this year, 15 April, 2010). Enquiries please to Eleanor de Melo on 023 8027 5645.

MILL HILL MISSIONARIES: Please see poster in all our churches giving details of the Annual Novena to St. Joseph (10-18 March, 2010), which is being held at St. Joseph's Church, 36 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7EG.



❖ Ongoing Formation for All

CAFÉ (CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLORATION): Meetings on Wednesdays, at 12.30pm in the Parish Centre, Romsey. Please bring a lunch to share while exploring the relevance of the gospels in our daily lives. All welcome. Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAMME: The next session, "Practical aspects of the Ministry of the Word" will be held on Wednesday, 10 February, 2010, from 7.30pm for 7.45pm, ending at 9.00pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham. Enquiries please to Giles Brady, call/text - 07816 569293, or Charles Forrest on 023 8069 4482.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: These meetings are for anyone who wishes to know more about the Catholic Faith, anyone who wishes to return to the practice of their faith, or anyone who would like to find out about becoming a Catholic. The next session at St. Edward the Confessor Church, 191/193 Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2DU, will be held on Thursday, 11 February, 2010, from 7.30pm to 9pm. Enquiries please to: Deacon Paul on 023 8065 8251 for *St. Swithun Wells, Holy Cross and St. Edward the Confessor Churches*. Deacon John on 01794 515688, for *St. Joseph's & St. Andrew's Churches*. Pat Taylor on 01489 895889, for *Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church*.

LENT STUDY GROUP: There will be Lent Study Groups at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, on Wednesdays, at 7.45pm, beginning on 24 February, 2010. There will be 5 Sessions entitled "**Spot the difference**" by Nick Fawcett. If you would like to attend please put your name on a sheet on the notice board in St. Swithun Wells Church, or contact Steve and Trisha Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

❖ Ecumenical

Association of Romsey Churches, AGM: Tuesday, 9 February, at 7.30pm, in Romsey Methodist Church. A short meeting followed by a talk on the Hillfield Project, a Christian environmental project in Dorset. All welcome.

Lent Ecumenical Discussion Groups: There are 13 groups meeting in the Romsey area on various days and evenings, each week in Lent, starting on 22 February. If you are interested, please contact Romsey Parish Office before 14 February for details.

Churches Together Lent Groups: If you wish to join a group, please put your name and phone number on the sheets displayed in St. Edward's Church, by **Sunday, 14 February**. Enquiries please to Philip Sheppard on 023 8026 1172.

Quiet Day: Thursday, 18 February, at Wisdom House, Abbey Water, Romsey, from 10am-4pm. £15 donation includes light lunch and all drinks. Led by Kathryn Turner. Tickets available or details from Heather New on 023 8026 5616.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service: Friday, 5 March, at the United Reformed Church, Kings Road, Chandler's Ford, from 1.45pm-2.45pm. Speaker - Rev. Tim Searle. All welcome.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service in the Bishop's Waltham Area will be held at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church on Friday, 5 March, from 2pm-3pm. The speaker will be Eileen Hughes. If anybody would like to join the choir for this event, come a little earlier for practice or contact Angela Fairweather on 01489 895968. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall. Help would be gratefully appreciated.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service in Romsey will be held on Friday, 5 March, at 1.30pm, in Romsey Methodist Church.

❖ World Youth Day—Madrid 2011

WORLD YOUTH DAY: Anyone interested in attending World Youth Day in Madrid in August 2011, or would like more information should contact Peter McGeedy, on 07769258378, or email him on pmcgeady@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk as soon as possible please, and no later than the end of February, 2010.

❖ Supporting each other

HOLY CROSS PASTORAL COUNCIL are anxious to start a rota of parishioners who are able to visit housebound members of the church community. This would be a social visit for chatting, not for taking the Eucharist. If you feel able to do this, or want more information, please talk to Ruby or Mimi after the 11am Sunday Mass at Holy Cross Church.

ST. SWITHUN WELLS FELLOWSHIP: The next meeting at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, will be on 10 February, from 7.45pm-9pm. This will be a Pastoral Visit Preparation meeting. Everyone is welcome. During Lent, our fellowship meetings will be suspended to allow people to attend Lenten Study groups. Meetings will resume after Easter. Enquiries please to: Peter Baggett on 023 8069 4060, Bob Birtles on 023 8069 2416, or Steve Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE: There will be an evening gathering at St. Edward's Church, on Wednesday, 10 February, from 7pm, for pilgrims who visited the Holy Land last year with Father Michael. Tea/coffee/biscuits will be served.

EASTLEIGH NORTH AND BOYATT WOOD WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP: The next meeting is being held on Monday, 8 February, at Marie's home, 7 The Quadrangle, Eastleigh, at 8pm, and you will be made most welcome if you wish to come along. Our meetings vary, but roughly take the form of an opening prayer, a Scripture reading - reflection and/ discussion, prayers offered individually by the group and a closing prayer followed by tea/coffee, cake and chat.

Enquiries please to Glenda Hinton on 01962 714626.

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA: The Cloister at St. Edward the Confessor Church will be in use for a meeting of the Knights from 9am to 4pm on Saturday, 13 February, 2010.

3 RIVERS PASTORAL AREA WEBMASTER: We are looking for a webmaster for the website. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Deacon Paul, on 023 8065 8251, as soon as possible.

❖ Lent Lunches

Lent Lunches in Bishop's Waltham/Meon Valley Area: These will commence on Friday, 19 February, at Wickham Church Hall. The Bishop's Waltham lunch will be on Wednesday, 3 March, at the United Free Church, Basingwell Street, from 12.30pm to 2pm. Please see poster in Our Lady Queen of Apostle's church hall with a list of other lunches in the area.

Lent Lunch in aid of CAFOD: St. Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford. This will be held on St. Patrick's Day, Wednesday, 17 March, 2010. More details later.

Christian Aid: Lunches are held every Friday in Lent at a difference venue each week. Please contact Arthur Roberts on 01794 516593, or Romsey Parish Office for details.

❖ Outreach

HELP FOR HAITI—Wisdom Centre, Wisdom House, Romsey, is holding an 'Afternoon Tea' on Thursday, 11 February, from 4pm-6pm. Monies raised will go to the Sisters working in Haiti. Please see poster in all our churches. For more information and/or to let them know you are coming (for catering), please phone Wisdom Centre on 01794 830206, or email reception@wisdomhouseromsey.org.uk

THE WISHING WELL QUIZ IS BACK! Come and join us in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church, on Saturday, 27 February, at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5, to include supper. Bar available. Everyone is welcome - come in teams of 6 or join a table on the night. Enquiries please to Carole Clarke on 023 8067 7245.



❖ Safeguarding Training

VULNERABLE ADULT AWARENESS AND CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS:

More training sessions are being offered in the local area for those volunteers who have not yet attended these events.

Vulnerable Adult Awareness:

Saturday, 13 March, 1.30pm-4pm, at St. Peter's Church, Winchester.

Saturday, 20 March, 10am-12.30pm, at The Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood, Southampton.

Child Protection Awareness:

Saturday, 13 March, 10am-12.30pm, at St. Peter's Church, Winchester.

Saturday, 20 March, 1.30pm-4pm, at The Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood, Southampton.

Please contact Clare Lasker on 023 8025 2138, as soon as possible, if you can attend any of these sessions.

❖ Finance

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 31 January, 2010.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,160.92, (Loose plate: £208.61, Envelopes: £178. 50, & Standing Orders: £773.81).

Catholic Education Service: £160.86.

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £986.61, (Loose plate: £311.51, Envelopes: £115.10, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

Catholic Education Service: £205.51.

200 CLUB: No. 129, T. Dunne, £25.

St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's: Gift Aid £406. Non Gift Aid. £212

Catholic Education Service. Gift Aid £142. Non Gift Aid: £28.

Please note: The Catholic Times, with effect from 7 February, 2010, will increase to £1.20.

Saturday	6	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>)	5.00pm (SW) Sick child 6.00pm (SJ) MASS 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area
Sunday	7	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 9.00am (SE) Paul Martin Bartlett RIP 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) Mary McGreevey RIP 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Kathleen and Bernie Malone RIP	
Monday	8	9.15am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion followed by the Rosary</i>	
Tuesday	9	9.15am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP 10.00am (HC) Albert and Violet Harrington FM 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SA) Sue Ball (intention) 7.00pm (HC) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i> <i>7.30pm Holy Rosary in the Oratory of Marie Louise House Newton Lane, Romsey</i>	
Wednesday	10	9.15am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP <i>followed by the Rosary in the Lady Chapel</i> 10.00am (HC) Vincent Cassey RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS	
Funeral Mass for Father Maurice Twomey at 12.15pm at St. Peter's Church, Winchester			
Thursday	11	9.15am (SE) 90th birthday wishes for Molley Tohor <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> 10.00am (HC) Ferreira Family 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.00pm (SJ) MASS	
Friday	12	10.00am (HC) Sick child 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SA) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion with Morning Prayer</i> 11.00am (SE) Funeral Mass for Mary McGinty RIP	
Saturday	13	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>)	5.00pm (SW) Alf Fryer RIP 6.00pm (SJ) MASS 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area
Sunday	14	THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 9.00am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) Mary McGreevey RIP 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Michael Lane RIP and Derek Hadley RIP	

HC: Holy Cross, SW: St. Swithun Wells,
OLQoA: Our Lady Queen of Apostles,
SA: St Andrew's, SJ: St. Joseph's,
SE: St Edward's.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

St. Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School 023 8026 6210
St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603
St Anne's Catholic School 023 8032 8200

Fr John Buckley

☒ The Presbytery, Martin Street,
Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN
☎/📠 01489 895889
✉ jrbuckley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Michael Dennehy

(*Co-ordinating Pastor*)
☒ 53 Leigh Road,
Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
☎ 023 8061 2430
✉ mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr George Lyons

☒ 53 Leigh Road,
Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
☎ 023 8062 0795
✉ glyons@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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RETIRED PRIESTS

Fr Clement Marshall

Fr David Whitehead

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DEACONS

Deacon Bob Birtles

☒ 3 Shorts Road,
Fair Oak, Eastleigh, S050 7EJ
☎ 023 8069 2416
✉ bob.birtles@gmail.com

Deacon John di Meo

☒ 'Kleines Tal',
Bridge Road,
Romsey, SO51 8JD
☎ 01794 515688
✉ jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen

☒ 34 Foyle Road,
Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh,
SO53 4QP
☎ 023 8065 8251
✉ paul.anne.owen@ukgateway.net

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PARISH OFFICES

Parish Co-ordinator, Pauline Parsons

☒ 191/193 Winchester Road,
Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU
☎/📠 023 8027 3882
✉ 3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary, Rosemary Peacock

☒ St Joseph's Parish Office,
26 Abbey Water,
Romsey, SO51 8EJ
☎/📠 01794 513646
✉ sasj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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