



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

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week2.
SIXTH 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

*How does placing our trust in God
makes us more happy?*

+Young People/Adults

*Why are the poor guaranteed the
kingdom of God?*

LENT 2010

We are beginning, on Ash Wednesday, another 40 days of Lent. The purpose of Lent is to prepare us to fall in love once again with the Divine. Lent is a time of great possibility if we could only allow our souls, which are shy, to be exposed to the grace of God.

Recently, I came across a story about Michelangelo, who once went to buy some marble for one of his masterpieces. He came to this shop and saw a piece of marble lying in a corner. He was gripped by this abandoned piece. The shopkeeper was surprised and apologised for not throwing the old broken piece out long ago. It had been lying there forgotten and collecting dust for some time. Michelangelo insisted that he have it, but when the shop keeper wanted to know why, Michelangelo simply said that there was an angel hidden in it and he wanted to set it free. Many of us can feel gripped by abandonment, forgotten, broken in body and spirit. However, there is an angel in us all that silently screams to be set free. This can be an angel of doubt, but by consciously living the forty days of Lent, we can help to set that angel free.

It has been part of the Church's tradition for centuries to carry out works of kindness. These acts of kindness will help to chisel away at the marble of our souls and on Easter Sunday the risen Christ will come to visit and renew our weary souls and set them free.

Our First Holy Communion children have been given a list of good deeds that they can carry out during Lent. I feel that we are not too old to take on some of these ideas ourselves, e.g. *Pray for Peace. Work fairly. Do not judge. Thank your husband/wife for being your friend. Pray for the sick. Don't complain. Say 'yes', more often. Remember your CAFOD envelope. Pray for those you resent. Remember Mother's Day. Be on time. Smile more often, etc. etc.*

On behalf of Father John, Father Michael and myself, may I wish you a very holy and happy Lent.
Father George.

The Parish Office in Chandler's Ford is closed Mondays. 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

BISHOP CRISPIAN'S PASTORAL LETTER FOR LENT, 2010, will be read at Masses this weekend. Copies are available in the welcoming area of all our churches.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Luke 4: 1-13. Deuteronomy 26: 4-10. Psalm 90. Romans 10:8-13.

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: Enquiries please to Elizabeth Nash on 01962 712022, or Anne Owen on 023 8065 8251.

EARLY MORNING MASS AND FRIDAY EVENING MASS DURING LENT - St. Edward the Confessor Church:

Tuesdays, Mass at 6.30am, followed by breakfast (donations) in aid of CAFOD, and **Fridays**, Mass at 7pm, preceded by Stations of the Cross. Supper of bread, cheese and home-made soup (£3.50) in aid of CAFOD, will be available for those who wish to stay.

MASS DURING LENT: Holy Cross Church: Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday** evenings at 7.30pm instead of at 10am.

HOLY HOUR: St. Edward the Confessor Church: Commencing Wednesday, 24 February, from 7.30pm-8.30pm, with Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN 3 RIVERS PASTORAL AREA: There will be a meeting for Catechists and anyone wishing to help, on Thursday, 25 February, at 7pm, at the Parish Centre, Romsey. If you are interested, please come along. 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.

LENTEN PRAYER: Holy Cross Church: Lent is a time where we are called to give more time to Prayer which prepares us for the celebration of Easter. On Sunday Evenings at Holy Cross Church, at 6.30pm, there will be a time of quiet prayer and reflection which everyone is very welcome to come and take part.

LENTEN PRAYER MEETINGS - St. Edward the Confessor Church: The Diocese has prepared a set of reflections for use at weekly Lenten meetings. These will be held as follows: **Monday**, 23 February, 10.30am, at 10 Sir Lancelot Close, Knightwood.

Thursday, 4 March, 10.30am, at 4 Woodlands Close, Hiltlingbury. **Wednesday**, 10 March, 7.30pm, at 3 Merdon Court, Merdon Avenue. **Tuesday**, 16 March, 7.30pm, at 11 Alexandra Road, Scantabout. **Thursday**, 25 March, 10.30am, at 9 Danebury Gardens, off School Lane. All parishioners will be welcome to attend some or all of these as part of our Lenten preparation. Please make an effort to come along. See also notice in Cloister area of church.

❖ Stations of the Cross

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN 3 RIVERS PASTORAL AREA DURING LENT

- 10.00am **Mondays**, at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak, followed by a Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Service.
- 07.00pm **Mondays**, at St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley, commencing 22 February and concluding 22 March.
- 09.30am **Thursdays**, at Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh, followed by Mass.
- 06.30pm **Fridays**, at St. Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford, followed by Mass and supper, in aid of CAFOD.
- 07.00pm **Fridays**, at St. Joseph's Church, Romsey, with Communion Service, commencing 19 February, concluding Friday, 26 March.
- 07.00pm **Fridays**, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, followed by Mass.



❖ Ecumenical

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.

Churches Together in Eastleigh - Lenten Prayer Meetings: All meetings will be at All Saints Church, Eastleigh, on Wednesdays from 24 February to 24 March, starting at 7pm and lasting about 30 minutes. The church groups leading the meetings will vary each week as follows:

24 February,	All Saints Church, Church of England.
3 March,	Emmanuel Church, Baptist
10 March,	St. Andrew's, Methodist
17 March,	Community Church
24 March,	Holy Cross Church, Catholic

Christian Aid are meeting in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church on Monday, 22 February, at 7.30pm. Please come along and learn about the work of Christian Aid. Everyone welcome. You may feel inspired to help out in May and be one of the 300,000 people collecting money for very desperate people in the Third World. Enquiries please to Alain Hunt on 023 8060 1362, or Eric Hyom on 023 8061 0345.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service: Friday, 5 March, at the United Reformed Church, Chandler's Ford, from 1.45pm-2.45pm.

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.

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: There will be no meeting on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, our fellowship meetings will be suspended to allow people to attend Lenten Study groups, which will be held at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, beginning on Wednesday, 24 February, from 7.45pm-9.30pm. Fellowship meetings will resume after Easter. Enquiries to Peter Baggott on 023 8069 4060, Bob Birtles on 023 8069 2416, or Steve Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

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.

❖ Ongoing Formation for All

'COME AND SEE' Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church: Father John, in conjunction with Luciana O'Neill, will be running a course commencing on Ash Wednesday, 17 February, at 7.30pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church. The course is for Catholic Adults, baptised, but not yet Confirmed. If you feel you would like to explore our Faith, please come along.

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.

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, 18 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 GROUPS: Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church: There are three groups commencing 22 February, for 5 weeks. If you are interested, please see the lists in the Welcoming Area. Times to be advised shortly.

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. 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.

❖ 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. Lunch will be served from 12.30pm-1.30pm. Adults £3.50. Children free.

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

THE WISHING WELL QUIZ: 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.



❖ Street Pastors

STREET PASTORS are starting to make a difference in Eastleigh. God is challenging Christians to be real and relevant in communities, acting with compassion for fellow human beings. With street pastors as old as 86, young people are so impressed to see older people out on the streets caring for them. Could you help one Friday evening a month and be part of a team. We undergo training and the next sessions starts on 6 March. Please contact Eric Hyom on 023 8061 0345 or Google - eastleigh street pastors

❖ Finance

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 7 February, 2010.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,176.47, (Loose plate: £277.16, Envelopes: £125.50, & Standing Orders: £773.81).

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £962.14, (Loose plate: £196.24, Envelopes: £205.90, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

200 CLUB: No. 97, Mrs. P. McMahon, £25.

St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's: Gift Aid £758. Non Gift Aid: £300.

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 Patorial Area
Sunday 14	THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 9.00am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) Jeanette Butcher (anniversary) 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Michael Lane RIP and Derek Hadley RIP
Monday 15	9.15am (SE) Father Maurice Twomey RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion followed by the Rosary</i>
Tuesday 16	9.15am (SE) Tom Kelleher RIP 10.00am (HC) Funeral Mass for Bob Brockway RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SA) Requiem Mass for Jean Pawlik RIP 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> Beginning the Season of Lent
Wednesday 17	9.15am (SE) Mary McGinty RIP <i>followed by the Rosary</i>
Ash Wednesday	10.00am (HC) Francesco Papallo RIP A day of fasting and abstinence 10.00am (SA) MASS 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (OLQoA) MASS 7.00pm (SJ) MASS 7.30pm (SE) Sick Child 7.30pm (HC) Anne Quinn
Thursday 18	9.15am (SE) Mary E. Cosgrove RIP After Ash Wednesday 9.30am (HC) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 10.00am (HC) Josie and Peg McDonald 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.00pm (SJ) Bernard and Susan Walsh - 40th wedding anniversary
Friday 19	10.00am (HC) Private Intention After Ash Wednesday 10.00am (SA) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion with Morning Prayer</i> 6.30pm (SE) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by Mass for David McCardle RIP</i> 7.00pm (OLQoA) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by MASS</i> 7.00pm (SJ) <i>Stations of the Cross with Communion Service</i>
Saturday 20	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 5.00pm (SW) Mary Webber RIP 6.00pm (SJ) Barry Cashman (ill) 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) In thanksgiving - St. Philomena
Sunday 21	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.00am (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) MASS 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) MASS 11.00am (HC) Antonio Cicu FM 6.30pm (HC) Quiet Prayer and Reflection

*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.*

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RETIRED PRIESTS
Fr Clement Marshall
Fr David Whitehead
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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered Charity No. 246871