



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

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week 1.
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

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.

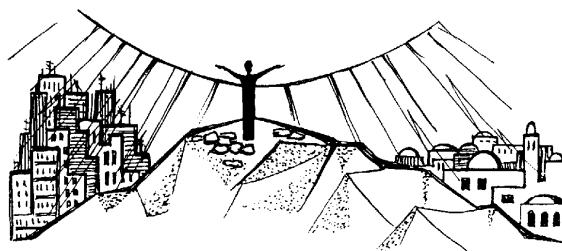
Eastleigh - Holy Cross, Leigh Road.

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

*What difference does it make to us that
Jesus has endured temptation?*

+Young People/Adults

What do you think God expects of you?

The Year of the Priest

You may not be aware, but this year has been dedicated as the Year of the Priest. Co-incidentally, Father John is marking his 45th anniversary to the Priesthood and Father Michael and I are also celebrating our 20th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. In total that is 85 years experience of ministry.

When I reflect on the past 20 years I am still in awe and encouraged by the people I meet who have to live with their own brokenness. Maybe it is because I can empathise with them. I guess we are all broken in our own individual way. Things do not always go the way we plan. Not that we don't try to make them work. Somehow, well made plans make us feel better, more presentable, more acceptable. Bad things happen, life turns left, plans, dreams, relationships break and shatter. Hearts are broken. When this happens to me I want it all to go away. Truth be told sometimes I deal with my own fear of brokenness by trying my hardest to fix other people. I should know better. I have two great teachers. Love and suffering.

If the Lord gives me another 20 years as his priest I pray he will give me the courage to embrace life on life's terms. Some years ago, while visiting a hospital, a stroke patient told me "Father, this isn't where I expected to be. My vision of myself and my life didn't have this". Can you relate to this insight? I can. No matter how life is going for us we can always try to pray.

With this in mind it is proposed that we have 40 hours of continuous prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament beginning on Tuesday, 4 May, following the 10am Mass at St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley, and concluding on Wednesday, 5 May, with Mass at 7pm. Each of the six churches in the Pastoral Area will be invited to take responsibility for a given amount of hours. I can think of no better way than to celebrate the Year of the Priest than by praying for your priests before the Blessed Sacrament during this time.

It is also hoped that we will have an art competition for the children on the theme of "The Year of the Priest". All other realistic ideas will be most welcome. Please do not leave it to others to show your support for the Year of the Priest.

Father George.

Thought for the week: *You have to go out on a limb sometimes, because that's where the fruit is. 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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: We welcome into the family of the Church, Jonjo Thomas McNamara, who is being baptised on Saturday, 20 February, at St. Andrew's Church and Julia Grace Growcott, who is being baptised on Sunday, 21 February, at St. Edward the Confessor Church.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Luke 9:28-36. Genesis 15:5-12.17-18. Psalm 26. Philippians 3:17 - 4:1.

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 meeting for parents will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 23 February, at St. Edward's Church. 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 IN LENT: St. Edward the Confessor Church: Wednesday evenings 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: **Please note revised dates and times:** 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, Hiltingbury.

Thursday, 11 March, 7.30pm at 11 Alexandra Road, Scantabout. **Wednesday,** 17 March, 7.30pm, at 3 Merdon Court, Merdon Avenue. **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.

GOOD FRIDAY PASSION MIME: If you would like to take part or help in the Good Friday Passion Mime at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm, at St. Andrew's Church, please contact Margaret French on 01794 514629 or Romsey Parish Office.

❖ 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
- 07.00pm **Fridays,** at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, followed by Mass.



❖ Ecumenical

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 in Romsey will be held on Friday, 5 March, at 1.30pm, in Romsey Methodist Church.

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

Women's World Day of Prayer Service in the Bishop's Waltham Area will be held on Friday, 5 March, from 2pm-3pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service in Eastleigh will be held on Friday, 5 March, at 2.30pm, at All Saints Church, Derby Road, Eastleigh.

❖ Holy Land Pilgrimage

Would you like to make up a group of 10 pilgrims to the Holy Land for 8 days, October, 19-26, "fairly leisurely" with Maranatha Pilgrimages. Basic price £1050. Please contact Father Clement Marshall, a.s.a.p. phone 01794 518118.

❖ 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 on Wednesdays throughout Lent, gathering for tea/coffee at 7.30pm, starting at 7.45pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham. 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): 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 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, 25 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.

Please note: St. Swithun Wells Fellowship meetings are suspended until after Easter.

❖ Lent Lunches

Lent Lunches in Bishop's Waltham/Meon Valley Area: . 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 different venue each week. Please contact Arthur Roberts on 01794 516593, or Romsey Parish Office for details.

❖ Outreach

THE WISHING WELL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wishing Well Quiz: Saturday, 27 February, at 7.30pm, in the Resource Centre, behind Holy Cross

Church. Tickets £5, includes supper. Great Fun—all welcome! Enquiries please to Carole Clarke on 023 8067 7245.

Beetle Drive: 24 April, at 7.30pm, in the Resource Centre, behind Holy Cross Church. Tickets £3 each or family ticket (4) for £10. Fun for all! All welcome! Please contact Kath Cunningham on 023 8061 6340.

The Phil Talbot Golf Tournament at East Horton Golf Course will this year be on Friday, 9 July. More details to follow. Please contact Ron Clarke on 023 8067 7245, or Brian Forrest on 023 8025 5051. Plenty of notice to practice!

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT: 22 FEBRUARY-7 MARCH: There will be a Fair Trade Stall after Mass in the Cloister of St. Edward the Confessor Church on Sunday, 28 February. Please take time to see the goods for sale on display.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST: St. Edward's Church: This year CAFOD celebrates the 50th Anniversary of Family Fast. Since 1988, St. Edward the Confessor's parishioners have given a very impressive £30,000 to this twice yearly collection. This year CAFOD has produced 4 different envelopes suggesting savings initiatives through Lent and you will receive one with your newsletter. We propose to take the collection as usual next weekend, 27/28 February, and any money accumulated after that can be put in your pyramid box. Please ignore the CAFOD address on the envelope, as the parish will forward all proceeds together.

MINI-MARKET IN AID OF 'LIFE' St. Edward's Church: Cakes, plants, jams, gifts for mothers, etc. will be on sale on the weekend of 13/14 March after Mass. Donations of cakes and gifts would be very welcome before Mass on the day.

HAITI- Many thanks to everyone who supported the fund-raising Afternoon Tea at Wisdom House on 11 February. We are delighted to say that we raised almost £500 for the Daughters of Wisdom working with those most affected by the earthquake in Haiti. Please continue to hold the Sisters, the Montfort Fathers and all who continue to rebuild lives in Haiti in your prayers.



❖ World Youth Day—Madrid 2011

Anyone interested in attending World Youth Day in Madrid in August 2011, or would like more information should contact Peter McGeady, by the end of February, 2010, on 07769258378, or email him on pmcgeady@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

❖ Finance

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 14 February, 2010.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,106.33, (Loose plate: £196.10, Envelopes: £186.50, & Standing Orders: £723.73).

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £971.63, (Loose plate: £240.38, Envelopes: £171.25, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

200 CLUB: No. 26, Mrs. D. Singleton, £25. **St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's:** Gift Aid £418. Non Gift Aid £263.

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) William and Peter Maxwell-Brodie (anniversary) 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) Sarah Howie (anniversary) 11.00am (HC) Antonio Cicu FM 6.30pm (HC) Quiet prayer and reflection 9.15am (SE) Special Intention 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 7.00pm (SA) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.30am (SE) Rachel Thorpe - 21st birthday intentions 10.00am (HC) Geraldine Murphy White RIP 9.00am (OLQoA) MASS <i>followed by the Rosary</i> 10.00am (SA) MASS 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>
Monday 22 <i>The Chair of St. Peter</i>	10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 7.00pm (SA) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.30am (SE) Rachel Thorpe - 21st birthday intentions 10.00am (HC) Geraldine Murphy White RIP 9.00am (OLQoA) MASS <i>followed by the Rosary</i> 10.00am (SA) MASS 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>
Tuesday 23 <i>Of the 1st Week of Lent</i>	10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 11.15am (SE) Funeral Mass for James Hammond RIP 7.30pm (HC) Jerry McDonnell RIP 7.30pm (SE) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i> 9.15am (SE) Special Intention 9.30am (HC) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 10.00am (HC) Sheila Kelly RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.00pm (SJ) MASS
Thursday 25 <i>Of the 1st Week of Lent</i>	10.00am (HC) Frances and Joseph Flavin FM 10.00am (SA) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion with Morning Prayer</i> 2.00pm (SJ) Requiem Mass for Dorothy (Dolly) Guard RIP 6.30pm (SE) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by Mass for a Special Intention</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>
Friday 26 <i>Of the 1st Week of Lent</i>	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 5.00pm (SW) Sandra Martin 6.00pm (SJ) Simon Corry (anniversary) 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) Monica O'Leary RIP
Saturday 27 <i>(The First Mass of Sunday)</i>	THE SECOND 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) Mary Winifred Reynolds FM 6.30pm (HC) Quiet Prayer and Reflection
Sunday 28	

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

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☒ The Presbytery, Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN
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~ + ~

RETIRED PRIESTS
Fr Clement Marshall
Fr David Whitehead
~ + ~

DEACONS
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Youth Leader, Peter McGeady
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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered Charity No. 246871