



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

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week 2.
THE SECOND 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

*Does prayer
change you as
Jesus was
changed?*



+Young People/Adults

*Who or what is most dear to you?
How does God ask that you loosen your
grasp on the person, persons or things
dearest to you?*

The Transfiguration

On Mt. Tabor as Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face changed. A great deal is revealed on the human face. The inside of a person may show only a fleeting appearance or a glimpse of what the person is really feeling. We are all good at covering up what is going on inside us and how we really feel, how we really are, but we cannot hide everything all the time.

Bankruptcy of the soul and corruption of the heart eventually show up on a person's face. When a tree is diseased inside, it eventually shows on the leaves and the bark. The opposite is also true. A clean conscience and a pure heart shines in the face, especially in the eyes. The inner health of a tree shows in the quality of the fruit.

The whole body is only a shell. Everything that is truly beautiful and worthwhile about a person remains invisible except to loved ones. In the musical *Les Miserables* there is a most insightful line, "To love another person is to see the face of God." Therefore we should be slow to judge another person. Perhaps if we really looked at the face of another we would see the face of God. It does such a violence to the human face when it is altered for cosmetic purposes. The pursuit of eternal youth is futile.

Rather than altering the externals in this season of Lent we are given a time to change our hearts. When we pray, as Jesus did on Mt. Tabor, we allow ourselves to be seen by God and are more open to believing that we are his beloved sons and daughters.

Prayer is one of the important disciplines of Lent. Prayer changes us as Jesus was changed on the mountain. In prayer we begin to appreciate who we truly are in relation to God and we are affirmed in that identity as Jesus was. Someone once said, "The more we pray, the more we know God." By devoting a little more time to prayer in Lent we can actually get to know God better.

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, Alice Harriet Meech, who is being baptised at St. Edward's Church, and Maria Rose McCarthy, who is being baptised at St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, 28 February, 2010.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Congratulations to Allison Fargo who, having completed the preparation course in her last parish, is receiving First Holy Communion, on Saturday, 27 February, in St. Joseph's Church, Romsey.

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 children will be from 6.30pm-7.30pm on Monday, 1 March, at the church where the child is to take their First Holy Communion. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated by the First Holy Communion Children - 12 noon Saturday, 6 March at St. Edward the Confessor Church, and 11am on 13 March, at Holy Cross Church. Please remember the children in your prayers. 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's 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT. Please see the back page of this newsletter for full details.

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 prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday (which falls on the Sunday after Easter Sunday, this year, 11 April, 2010). Enquiries please to Eleanor de Melo on 023 8027 5645.

MASS DURING LENT: Holy Cross Church: Mass will also be celebrated on **Wednesday** evenings at 7.30pm

HOLY HOUR IN LENT: St. Edward the Confessor Church: Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm-8.30pm, with Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Luke 13:1-9. Exodus 3:1-8.13-15. Psalm 102. 1 Corinthians 10:1-6.10-12.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN 3 RIVERS PASTORAL AREA: 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 to 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:

Thursday, 4 March, 10.30am at 4 Woodlands Close, Hiltisbury. **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.

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.

THE ROSARY GROUP, who meet in the Oratory of Marie Louise House, Romsey, each Tuesday at 7.30pm, will pray especially for priests on the last Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome to join with the group any Tuesday, for this time of prayer.

NO ENTRY to St. Andrew's Church from 9am Wednesday, 3 March until 6pm, 4 March, as work is taking place in the entrance.

❖ Supporting each other

KIT (Keeping in Touch): Holy Cross and St. Swithun Wells Churches: There will be an Information Evening on Wednesday, 3 March, at 8pm, in the Resource Centre of Holy Cross Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. If you are interested in keeping in touch with practising and lapsed Catholics, do please come along. All are welcome. Enquiries please to Lynette Washford on 023 8061 8542.

STREET PASTORS in Fair Oak, Eastleigh and Chandler's Ford. Could you help one Friday evening a month, and be part of a team? The next training sessions starts 6 March. For more information please contact Eric Hyom on 023 8061 0345.

❖ Ecumenical

Women's World Day of Prayer Services will be held on Friday, 5 March, 2010, in the following churches:

Romsey Methodist Church, at 1.30pm.

United Reformed Church, Chandler's Ford, from 1.45pm-2.45pm.

All Saints Church, North Baddesley, from 2pm.

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham, from 2pm-3pm.

All Saints Church, Derby Road, Eastleigh, at 2.30pm.

Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast: This will be held on Saturday, 6 March, 2010, at 8.30am, at the Methodist Church, Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford. All are welcome.

❖ 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, is running a course on Tuesdays, (**please note change of day from Wednesdays**), throughout Lent in the Sacristy, 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 would like to explore our Faith, do please come along, you will be very welcome.

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.

LENT GROUPS: Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church: On Wednesdays in Lent, please see details in the Welcoming Area.

LENT STUDY GROUPS: These will be held throughout Lent at **St. Swithun Wells Church**, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, on Wednesdays, at 7.45pm. Enquiries please to Steve and Trisha Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

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

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, 4 March, 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 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

TWO SAINTS (ST. DISMAS) NIGHTSHELTER AND POITIERS PROJECT: The six churches in our Pastoral Area support these two charities throughout the year. There are boxes available in the welcoming areas for donations of tins of soup and men's clothing for Two Saints Night-shelter, and food and furniture (collection can be arranged from your homes) for the Poitiers Project. The Poitiers Project, run by the Missionaries of the Company of Mary, helps families in crisis with both food and furniture. Volunteers from each church bring your donations to St. Edward's Church. Donations are then taken to Two Saints Night-shelters, or collected by the Poitiers Project. Your generosity is always very much appreciated. Enquiries please to the Parish Office in Chandler's Ford, on 023 8027 3882.

MINI-MARKET in aid of 'LIFE' St. Edward's Church: Cakes, flowers, gifts for mothers, plants, jams, 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 these days.

❖ Safeguarding

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, or your Safeguarding representative, a.s.a.p., if you can attend these sessions.

❖ 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 21 February, 2010.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,172.09, (Loose plate: £216.86, Envelopes: £193.50, & Standing Orders: £723.73).

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £1,034.34, (Loose plate: £318.97, Envelopes: £155.37, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

200 CLUB: No.37, Mrs. E. Wilkie, £25. **St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's:** Gift Aid £466. Non Gift Aid £252.

This week there will be a special collection for **CAFOD (Lenten Fast Day)**.

Saturday	27	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) The Montfortian Priest, Sisters and Seminarians killed in the earthquake in Haiti 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) Monica O'Leary RIP
Sunday	28	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 9.15am (SE) Sheila Bennett RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (SW) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by</i> <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 7.00pm (SA) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.30am (SE) Special Intention 10.00am (HC) Zena Reynolds FM 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	1	St. David
Tuesday	2	Of the 2nd Week of Lent
Wednesday	3	Of the 2nd Week of Lent
Thursday	4	Of the 2nd Week of Lent
Friday	5	Of the 2nd Week of Lent
Saturday	6	(<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 10.00am (HC) Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion 5.00pm (SW) Kathleen Sullivan RIP 6.00pm (SJ) Intentions of the St. Vincent de Paul Society 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) Nicola Jackson RIP
Sunday	7	THE THIRD 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 and Collette Reynolds 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.

Fr John Buckley
✉ The Presbytery, Martin Street,
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☎ 01489 895889
✉ jrbuckley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Michael Dennehy
(*Co-ordinating Pastor*)
✉ 53 Leigh Road,
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☎ 023 8061 2430
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Fr George Lyons
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☎ 023 8062 0795
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~ + ~

RETIRED PRIESTS
Fr Clement Marshall
Fr David Whitehead
~ + ~

DEACONS
Deacon Bob Birtles
✉ 3 Shorts Road,
Fair Oak, Eastleigh, SO50 7EJ
☎ 023 8069 2416
✉ bob.birtles@gmail.com

Deacon John di Meo
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Romsey, SO51 8JD
☎ 01794 515688
✉ jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen
✉ 34 Foyle Road,
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SO53 4QP
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~ + ~

PARISH OFFICES
Parish Co-ordinator, Pauline Parsons
✉ 191/193 Winchester Road,
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☎/☎ 023 8027 3882
✉ 3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary, Rosemary Peacock
✉ St Joseph's Parish Office,
26 Abbey Water,
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☎/☎ 01794 513646
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~ + ~

Youth Leader, Peter McGeady
☎ 07769258378
✉ pmcgeady@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
~ + ~

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered Charity No. 246871

The Holy Rosary will be prayed on the first Saturday of every month, at 3pm, at the home of the Blishen Family, 20 Brownhill Road, North Baddesley, SO52 9EZ. All are welcome.