



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

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week 3.
THE THIRD 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

*How can you bear even more fruit as a
Christian?*

+Young People/Adults

*Have you ever
thought of the fig
tree as a Christian
symbol?*

*In what way do
you need to bear
the fruit of
repentance?*



Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 20th to 27th August 2010

Fathers John, Michael and myself would like to invite you to join us on the annual Lourdes pilgrimage with Bishop Crispian. I have a deep love for our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette.

I often wonder what Our Lady looked like when she appeared at Lourdes. I find myself equally interested to know how Our Lady saw Bernadette. What did she see? She saw a girl who was a similar age to herself when the Angel Gabriel appeared to her at the Annunciation. She saw a girl like herself. Bernadette came from a poor family but she possessed important qualities of character. She was quite strong-minded and completely honest. She had the advantage of a supportive family who had remarkable dignity under pressure from the civil and Church authorities. St. Bernadette has so much to teach us.

In the presbytery in Eastleigh I have a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes on the first floor landing. Our Lady has her hands joined in prayer. When I have difficult problems to deal with I go to Our Lady, place my hands in hers and ask her help in my helplessness. I ask her to pray for me and the people I have responsibility for. I then have more confidence that she will share my concerns and worries.

If you come on this pilgrimage to Lourdes I guarantee that you will not regret it, indeed I believe that you will be filled with grace and peace. We go through life as pilgrims, wounded pilgrims at that. It is so important to know one's woundedness and to accept it. I don't think that I have ever met a person who was not in some way wounded. Lourdes is the place that brings healing to those wounds.

We will be travelling by Euro-star (via Paris), coach, or plane (from Stansted). If you know of any young person (17 years and older), who would benefit and enjoy working on the pilgrimage, do encourage them to apply (special form for them and their fare is subsidised). The cost and all other details including booking and medical forms will be available in a few weeks. For now, please give some consideration to going on this pilgrimage.

Our Lady of Lourdes. Pray for us. St. Bernadette. Pray for us.

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, Leo Nicholas James Spender, who will be baptised on Saturday, 13 March, at Holy Cross Church.

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: Congratulations to the eleven children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, 6 March, in preparation for their First Holy Communion in June. Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office on 01794 513646.

St. Swithun Wells/Holy Cross/ St. Edward the Confessor Churches: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated by the First Holy Communion Children - at 11am on 13 March, at Holy Cross Church. Please hold 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.

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 15:1-3. 11-32. Joshua 5:9-12. Psalm 33. 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21.

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. **The closing date is 31 March, 2010.**

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, 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 welcome.

OSCAR ROMERO: A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, 24 March, 2010, at 7pm, at The Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood Road, Southampton, to mark the 30th anniversary of the martyrdom of Monsenor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador. All are invited to participate in this celebration.

GOOD FRIDAY PASSION MIME: The initial meeting for anyone willing to take part in the Good Friday Passion Mime will be in St. Andrew's Church on Wednesday, 10 March, at 7.30pm.

EASTER TRIDUUM: If anyone would like to sing in the choir on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, please come to rehearsals in St. Andrew's Church, from 7.30pm-8.45pm, on the following Sundays - 14/21/28 March. All are welcome.



❖ Penitential Services in 3 Rivers Pastoral Area

7.30pm Wednesday, 24 March, 2010. St. Andrew's Church
6.30pm Sunday, 28 March, 2010. St. Edward the Confessor Church
8.00pm Monday, 29 March, 2010. Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church



❖ The Easter Triduum

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 1 APRIL, 2010, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

7.30pm St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley.
8.00pm Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham.
8.00pm Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh.

GOOD FRIDAY - 2 APRIL, 2010, Celebration of the Lord's Passion

3.00pm St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley.
3.00pm Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham.
3.00pm Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh.
3.00pm St. Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford.

HOLY SATURDAY—3 APRIL, 2010, The Easter Vigil

7.30pm Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Bishop's Waltham
8.00pm St. Andrew's Church, North Baddesley.
9.00pm St. Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford.

❖ Ongoing Formation for All

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 9 March, at 8pm, at the usual venue.

Enquiries please to Romsey Parish Office.

'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.

SHARING GOD'S WORD: An opportunity for youth leaders and catechists to explore how we can introduce young people to scripture and different ways of using scripture for prayer and reflection. Thursday, 11 March, from 7.30pm-9pm, at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB. For further details please phone Eileen Stephenson on 01329 835583, or see poster in the welcoming area of all our churches.

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 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*.

❖ Outreach

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.

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.

THANKS FROM THE WISHING WELL:

The Quiz on Saturday raised a whopping £493—thank you so much to all involved, particularly to the table who organised the raffle! (*You had to be there!*).

Thanks to Sharon and Mike Bowden who left us £30 when they went to Australia. (*Hope you're settling well*).

Thanks to St. Swithun Wells Church for £50 raised from donations and after Mass coffee.



❖ Pilgrimages

HOLY LAND: 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, as soon as possible on 01794 518118.

MEDJUGORJE: Please see poster in the welcoming area of all our churches.

❖ Finance

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 28 February, 2010.

St. Edward the Confessor: £1,083.04, (Loose plate: £232.81, Envelopes: £126.50, & Standing Orders: £723.73).

CAFOD Lenten Fast Day—to be advised.

Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells: £1,034.34, (Loose plate: £318.97, Envelopes: £155.37, & Standing Orders: £560.00). **200 CLUB:** No. 57, B. Turl, £25. *CAFOD Lenten Fast Day: £650.11 of which £337.00 was gift aided.*

St. Joseph's and St. Andrew's: Gift Aid: £309. Non Gift Aid £308.

CAFOD Lenten Fast Day: Gift Aid £95. Non Gift Aid £292.

Our Lady Queen of Apostles: We received just over £1,650 from the tax due on our Gift Aid donations for the quarter ending in December. Thanks to all who give by this painless and efficient method. Please would all parishioners consider making their weekly or monthly offerings by this route? New envelopes will be issued shortly, so please ask Anthony McEwen on 01489 877448 for details.

Holy Cross and St. Swithun Wells Church: The new boxes of envelopes which begin on 11 April, 2010, are available in the welcoming areas of Holy Cross Church and St. Swithun Wells Church. If any new or existing parishioner would like to give by envelope, then please telephone Pat Baggott on 023 8069 4060. Also, if you are a tax-payer, then your giving can be gift-aided. That means that a further 28p in every pound donated by you will be given back by the treasury to the parish with no cost to you. There are gift-aid forms in the welcoming areas of the churches, or please telephone Pat Baggott.

Next weekend there will be a special collection for the Clergy Assistance Fund.

Saturday 6	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>) 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) Peter McKernan RIP 11.00am (HC) Antonio Cicu FM and Colette Reynolds FM 6.30pm (HC) Quiet prayer and reflection 9.15am (SE) The good estate of Angela Adams 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>
Monday 8 <i>Of the 3rd Week of Lent</i>	6.30am (SE) James Hammond RIP 10.00am (HC) Albert and Violet Harrington FM 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS followed by the Rosary 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 9 <i>Of the 3rd Week of Lent</i>	9.15am (SE) Sheila Bennett RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (HC) Sick Child 7.30pm (HC) Francesco Papallo RIP 7.30pm (SE) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Thursday 11 <i>Of the 3rd Week of Lent</i>	9.15am (SE) Special Intention 9.30am (HC) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 10.00am (HC) Michael and Mona Brennan 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 6.00pm (SJ) MASS
Friday 12 <i>Of the 3rd Week of Lent</i>	10.00am (HC) John Lynch RIP 10.00am (SA) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> <i>with Morning Prayer</i> 6.30pm (SE) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by Mass</i> <i>for Andrew Wilson RIP</i> 7.00pm (OLQoA) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by MASS</i> 7.00pm (SJ) <i>Stations of the Cross followed by MASS</i>
Saturday 13 (<i>The First Mass of Sunday</i>)	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> 5.00pm (SW) Allan Westwood RIP 6.00pm (SJ) Simon Corry (anniversary) 6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS 6.30pm (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area
Sunday 14	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9.00am (SE) Patricia Bradley FM 9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta 9.15am (SA) MASS 9.30am (OLQoA) MASS 11.00am (SA) David Donnelly RIP 11.00am (HC) Rosario and Antonietta Marucci 6.30pm (HC) Quiet Prayer and Reflection

The 11am Mass at St. Andrew's Church on 14 March, will be Youth led.

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,
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
~ + ~

RETIRED PRIESTS

Fr Clement Marshall
Fr David Whitehead
~ + ~

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
~ + ~

Youth Leader, Peter McGeady
☎ 07769258378
✉ pmcgeady@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
~ + ~
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered Charity No. 246871