

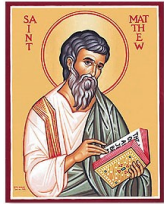
**MASS TIMES**

**SATURDAY VIGIL 25th March**

6.30 pm *Nora Noone RIP*

**SUNDAY 26th March**

9.00am *People of the Parish*  
11.00am *Philomena Llewelyn RIP*



Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Confessions will follow 09.30 mass on  
Saturday morning or by appointment

**Monday 27th March**

*No mass*

**Tuesday 28th March**

09.00 *Exposition*  
09.30 *Gregory Arthur RIP*  
10.00 *Stations of the Cross*

**Wednesday 29th March**

09.00 *Exposition*  
09.30 *Edith & Edward Pritchard RIP*  
7.00 pm *Stations of the Cross*

**Thursday 30th March**

09.00 *Exposition*  
09.30 *Kaothe Dahmann RIP*

**Friday 31st March**

09.00 *Exposition*  
09.30 *Eileen Doherty—Intentions*  
*Rosary will follow after mass*

**Saturday 1st April**

09.00 *Exposition*  
09.30 *Peter McDonagh—Intentions*



Corpus  
Christi

**Corpus Christi**

**Wokingham**

**South Berkshire Pastoral Area**



Corpus  
Christi

Parish Priest: Fr David O'Sullivan

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**26th March 2017 Fourth Sunday in Lent ( Yr A)**



Today Jesus cures a man who has been blind from birth, but it is not the blindness of the man himself that is central to this story but the blindness of those around him. The Pharisees are pretty sure they know who Jesus is and they are fairly certain that he is not of God. Consequently they are completely non-plussed by Jesus' miracle. They question the cured man over and over as though seeking some other explanation. The Pharisees are unable to believe the evidence before their eyes. They are just as blind as the blind man once was. They are blind to the truth because they refuse to see it.

Jesus chose to cure the blind man, not simply because he felt a sympathy for him but because he wanted to display how God can work through any one of us. Jesus could see that the blind man would make a persuasive evangelist, and he was right. The cured blind man, unlike his frightened parents, spoke out boldly and persistently first proclaiming Jesus as a prophet, and then as he gained more insight, that this man was the Son of God. Even so, the short-sighted Pharisees were not convinced. Their belief that only Moses could act as spokesperson for God, rendered them totally myopic when it came to Jesus. Perhaps there is a lesson here for all of us. Are we so blinkered in what we believe and how we worship, that we are unable to see the broader picture that would allow our faith to move forwards?

Jesus' miracle and choice of subject, teaches that God can work through any one of us. In the circumstances of our lives we can show others how God works. In our skills and talents we too can be evangelists, we just need the vision and a little bit of lateral thinking.

**Important Contacts.**

**Safeguarding:** Richard Roberts 0118 978 9059 e-mail: [richard.x.roberts@gmail.com](mailto:richard.x.roberts@gmail.com)

**Other Priests in the area :** Fr Marcus Brisley 01252 876820

Fr. Danny Mc Avoy 01344 425729, Fr Kevin Bidgood 01344 620591

**Hospital / Home visits. Sick Communion, Baptism Preparation**

If you are sick or going into hospital and would like a visit or Holy Communion, call the office on 0118 978 0348 or call Fr. David.

Baptisms—see Fr. David after Mass on any Sunday for further details

**Parish Office Opening Times :-** Tuesday to Friday, 09.00 to 13.00

The Parish Office is closed all day Monday

Your Parish Administrator, Una Smith, can be contacted on Tel: 0118 978 0348 or email , [wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

*Please remember to switch off your mobile phone before Mass  
God deserves all our attention Thank you.*



**In your prayers, please remember all those who have recently died . Also pray for all those who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Eileen Hendy, Pam Sheridan, Mary Ann Froud, Daniel Sutton, Ruth Murphy, Miriam Terry, Joseph Nemeth, Michael Sigwasa, Hugh Dwan and Natalie Mahon.**

### Laetare Sunday

Lent means 40 days of fast, abstinence, and penitential works, but on the fourth Sunday of Lent there's a change. On Laetare (Rejoice) or Rose Sunday, we look beyond the sorrows of Lent to the rejoicings of the coming Easter.

Second Collection to be taken today for the **Clergy Assistance Fund**—please help our diocese to assist their priests in need.



**Mothering Sunday** has been celebrated in the UK on the fourth Sunday in Lent from the 16th century. On this Sunday it was expected that families should attend their 'Mother Church'. This history is largely forgotten, but it remains an opportunity for us to show our mothers just how much we appreciate and love them.

On Mother's Day we pray especially for all mothers and thank God for the care and love they give to their children. We ask God's blessing especially for mothers who struggle to protect their children against poverty and injustice.

**CAFOD Lenten Appeal** – our parish collection to support hard-working people in desperate circumstances across the world will be taken next weekend on 1/2 April. Your donations can be gift aided by filling in the form on the green 'fast day' envelopes.

**CHRISM MASS, CATHEDRAL PORTSMOUTH – Tuesday 11 April 2017** at 11.00am. St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church in Bracknell have a "mobility impaired" accessible bus for both able-bodied and mobility impaired parishioners who wish to attend this most beautiful Mass at the Cathedral which all the Priests of the diocese attend. The bus will be departing from St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church at 8.00am and returning approx 4.00pm. There is no charge and no donations for the bus, car parking available at the church. Please contact St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow parish office on 01344 425729 or [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to be included for the bus.



**A call for Flower Arrangers.** Thank you to our past and present Flower Arrangers for their wonderful altar arrangements. Our small team would appreciate more members, if you can help, the Parish Office would be delighted to hear from you .

The **UCM Wokingham** Foundation Committee would like to thank Fr David for leading their Day of Recollection on Saturday 18th March and for his programme of insightful talks and prayers. A very big thank you also to everyone who attended and shared in one of the highlights of the UCM Wokingham's annual calendar of events. Our **next meeting is on 20th April 2017** in the Keenan Room. All ladies of the Parish are welcome to attend.

**Churches Together in Wokingham**—Volunteers needed to help with preparation, as stewards and to take acting parts in the **Good Friday** event in the Market Place at **12 noon on 14th April**. For full details please see our Notice Board .

**For All Offers of Help**—PLEASE CONTACT: [goodfriday@stage-fright.org.uk](mailto:goodfriday@stage-fright.org.uk) ..or phone Michael on 077 3747 7193

**Come and join our Lenten Soup Lunch**—Friday 31st March at 12.15 in the Keenan Rooms . Donations towards CAFOD

**Parish Pantomime 2018:** After the phenomenal success of this year's panto, we have already started planning for next year! So this is an early request for help in any capacity, but in particular with costumes, props, choreography and sound/lighting. We will start in September, for shows in early February. Please contact Martin Robins at [parishpantocc@gmail.com](mailto:parishpantocc@gmail.com) for more details.

### MARRIED COUPLES

A **Marriage Encounter Weekend** is an opportunity to enrich your marriage. The weekend is focussed on various aspects of relationship, including the Catholic Church's Vision for Marriage. Apart from mealtimes and the concluding Mass, the weekend is spent together as a couple. There are no group discussions. Here is a tremendous opportunity to enrich your relationship away from the stresses of everyday life. The next Weekend to be held in this area is at Park Place, near Fareham from 19 to 21 May. For further details please look on our website [www.wvme.org.uk](http://www.wvme.org.uk)

### A Date for your Diary—April 4th, Keenan Rooms at 7.30pm

A talk by Dr Austen Ivereigh, biographer of Pope Francis, entitled **Amoris Laetitia : Pope Francis and Marriage**