



The Catholic Church in Gosport

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Regd Charity No: 246871/2



St Columba's, Nobes Avenue; St Mary's, High Street; St Joseph's, Anns Hill Rd

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13th/14th MARCH 2010 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday readings: Year 3 (C); Weekdays: Year II; Prayer of the Church: Week 4

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 13th	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Ellen McCallum RIP
SUNDAY 14th	9.15am	St. Mary's	Georgina Savege (Intention)
	11.00am	St. Mary's	John Berger RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's next Sat 20th March.

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST 15th – 19th MARCH

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	of week 4 Lent	No service		
Tue	of week 4 Lent	Albin & Emilia RIP	10am	St Mary's
Wed	St Patrick	Rosary	6.30pm	St Mary's
		Edgar Geenen RIP	7pm	St Mary's
Thu	of week 4 Lent	Funeral Service	11am	St Mary's
		Eileen Waltham RIP		
Fri	St Joseph	Maria RIP	10am	St Mary's
		Stations of the Cross	10.30am	St Mary's

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The parish offerings last weekend amounted to £ 1157.70p inc gift-aid.

This weekend there will be an obligatory second collection after all Masses for the Clergy Assistance Fund. Next weekend there will be a second collection for Easter Flowers.

PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL: All sick parishioners are prayed for at Mass. However, to include a person in this bulletin please contact Doug in the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED: please pray for those who have died recently and all who are being remembered at this time: *see the names on the front sheet.*

PRAYER BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: At St Mary's on **Tue 16th March** after 10am Mass until 11.30am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Norman Haskell. The following week the duty Minister will be Pat Miles. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 20th March** from 10am – 1pm. Duty Supervisors will be: Chris Beevers & Neil Shaw 10 - 11am; Eddie & Margaretta Watson 11am – 12pm; Bernadette Foster & Ella Arendse 12 – 1pm.

LENT REFLECTION GROUP: in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall on **Fri 19th March** and continuing each Friday during Lent, from 11am until 12.15pm. All welcome. Please bring a bible and note book.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: In St Mary's on **Tue 16th March** at 11am in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Also in St Mary's on **Fri 19th March** at **10.30am** and in St Columba's at 5.20pm on **Sat 20th March.**

MEMORIAL BOOK: we will shortly be placing a Parish Memorial Book on permanent display in the Divine Mercy Chapel of St Mary's Church. The book will be open at each page of the year displaying the names of those from our communities who have passed away on that date, and for whom prayers may be offered. During Lent you are invited to give names for inclusion in the book to Doug in the Parish Office. Please print clearly and remember to include the date of passing away. Thank you.

HOME VISITS: If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners who would like a visit from Fr Peter during Lent for Holy Communion, Confession or Anointing, please give the details to Doug in the Parish Office. Visits should take place on **Thu 25th March.** Thank you.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

St Philip Howard, Fareham	Tue 16 th March	7.30pm
St John's, Lee	Wed 17 th March	2pm
St Margaret Mary, Park Gate	Sun 21 st March	3pm
St Mary's, Gosport	Thu 25th March	7.30pm

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: there will be no First Friday Devotions in April as Good Friday falls on 2nd April. We will resume in May.

BIBLE PRAYER GROUP: will meet at 11am on **Fri 19th March** at the home of Norman & Sylvia Haskell (14 Alvara Road, Alverstoke). We will be looking at St John's Gospel. Everyone welcome.

'A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS' (Sir Thomas More): A play by Robert Bolt at the New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth from **17th – 20th March**. Tickets from the box office on 023 92 649000. More details available from Antony Cruddas on 023 92 503364.

WINTERSHALL: all places have now been filled. Tickets will be given out on the day of travel. Please give your payment to Doug in the Parish Office as soon as you can remembering to make cheques payable to *PRCDTR-Gosport*. Total cost per adult including travel is £23 and per child/youth including travel is £5.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH: The new heating system has now been installed and is up and running. We have some redecorating to do which should be completed by the end of this week. The church will need a thoroughly good clean before re-opening on **Fri 26th March**. We propose to have a cleaning day on **Wed 24th March** from 10am. Do come along and lend a hand if you can. Volunteers from all three churches will be most welcome and refreshments will be provided.

COULD YOU BE A CAFOD MP CORRESPONDENT? – Are you passionate about global issues? Could you make sure they stay at the top of the political agenda? Cafod is looking for MP Correspondents to contact their MPs regularly (about 3 times a year) via letter/email or face to face. Training and support provided. For more information please contact the Cafod Portsmouth Office: portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385.

VACANCY FOR PARENT FOUNDATION GOVERNOR AT ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: If you are a parent of a child at the school and would like to learn more about this voluntary position, information is available from Doug in the Parish Office or the School Office on 02392 583 979.

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE 2010: On **Sat 12th June** there will be a special Mass at St Bede's, Basingstoke for couples in our diocese celebrating significant wedding anniversaries during 2010. If you are celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th anniversary during 2010, or any anniversary over 60 years, please let Doug know in the Parish Office as soon as possible so that Bishop Crispian can send an invitation. Attendance will be by ticket only and numbers are limited.

JUNIOR JOURNEY IN FAITH

Catechists' Meeting	Tue 16th March	Upper Room	7.30pm
Children's Session	Sat 27th March	St Joseph's	9 – 11am
Celebration Service	Sun 28th March	St Mary's	11am

NO JJIF IN APRIL BECAUSE OF EASTER AND HOLIDAYS

RETURN TO ROMANCE PRESENTS ‘STROLLING’ AT THE KINGS

THEATRE: Join us in a glittering gala celebration at the Kings Theatre, Southsea on **Sun 28th March** at 7.30pm as ‘Strolling’ recreates the walk from Gosport to Rome undertaken by Nigel Hearnden in 2008. This is to celebrate the life of his wife Anne and to raise valuable funds in support of four charities she supported including our own Mbetta appeal.

One of the acts appearing is Bella Nicholas who sings in the choir at St Mary’s and who was the runner up in a recent regional singing competition, *the Y Factor*. Tickets for the evening priced at £12 and £15 are available from Doug in the Parish Office Nigel Hearnden at St Columba’s. Please let Doug know if you would like transport to the theatre.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS: will meet this **Mon 15th March** at 2pm in the Parish Rooms at St Columba’s. All Mums are welcome.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES: for the new tax year are available in church this weekend. St Joseph’s parishioners can collect theirs from St Mary’s Church.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP: will meet on **Fri 26th March** in St Mary’s Hall at 6.30pm.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Being a Christian today means listening to God’s Word and doing his work as we practice and live our faith. Part and parcel of that, especially during this season of Lent, means living with the reality of day to day sacrifice. All that we undertake for Lent helps us to be better “ambassadors for Christ” and more effective signs of “the goodness of God”; our Lenten observance helps us to focus our priorities on the Lord and towards each other.

Living and giving for others is a predominant feature of Christian stewardship and it has been particularly prominent up and down the length and breadth of the diocese in the *Living Our Faith* campaign. This initiative has touched all our communities from Maidenhead to the Isle of Wight, from Bournemouth to Liphook and from the outskirts of Oxford and Wantage to Jersey.

There have been amazingly – and humbling – acts of generous and sacrificial giving from over 3000 families, all of whom have been eager and willing to play their part in building and sustaining the life and future of our diocese. They have readily given new money for the new work that faces us.

Last month in Rome, I was able to share something of all this when I spoke with the Holy Father about the Pastoral Plan and the way in which you were all playing such a major part in its implementation. He raised an eyebrow of delighted surprise when I told him of how generously you had all supported *Living Our Faith* to the tune of nearly £8 million.

We were able to celebrate success so far in a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral in January. Now that a further 37 parishes are taking up the challenge of the campaign, I look forward to similar celebrations around the diocese in the coming months.

I will invite you all to join me in those celebrations but for now, please join me in prayer for the continuing success of *Living Our Faith* as we seek to complete the campaign throughout the diocese.

With blessings and prayers,

Bishop Crispian