



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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20th/21st FEBRUARY 2010 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday readings: Year 3 (C); Weekdays: Year II; Prayer of the Church: Week 1

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 20th	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Douglas Beeby RIP
SUNDAY 21st	9.15am	St. Mary's	Bill Cliffe RIP
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Akash Paul (B'day)

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's on Sat 27th Feb 12 – 1pm.

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST 22nd - 26th FEB

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	The Chair of St Peter			
		No service		
Tue	of week 1 Lent	Word & Communion	10am	St Mary's
Wed	of week 1 Lent	Rosary	6.30pm	St Mary's
		Healing Mass	7pm	St Mary's
		Daniel Parker (B'day)		
Thu	of week 1 Lent	Edgar Geenen RIP	10am	St Columba's
Fri	of week 1 Lent	Stations of the Cross	6.30pm	St Mary's

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The parish offerings last weekend amounted to £1200.69p inc gift-aid. Thank you.

The work on the new central heating system at St Joseph's will begin this Mon 22nd Feb and should take two weeks to complete. There will be some cleaning and tidying up to do afterwards for which volunteers will be very welcome. We will give cleaning and re-opening dates as soon as we can.

This weekend our parish Cafod representative, Michael Heaps, will give a brief talk after all Masses in preparation for this year's Lenten Fast Day.

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 23rd Feb** after 10am service until 11am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Joe Barrett. The following week the duty Minister will be Libby Beasley. At St Columba's on **Thu 25th Feb** after 10am Mass until 12 noon. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 27th Feb** from 10am – 1pm. Duty Supervisors will be: Ellen Notley & Tressie Heather 10 - 11am; Neil Shaw & Eddie Watson 11am – 12pm; Anna Oliver & Archie McCormick 12 – 1pm. **We do need some more volunteers to guard the Blessed Sacrament during Exposition on Saturday mornings. If you would like to help please telephone Eddie Watson on 01329 313522.**

LENT REFLECTION GROUP: starting in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall on **Fri 26th Feb (note change of start date)** 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 Columba's Church every Saturday at 5.20pm and St Mary's Church every Friday at 6.30pm (except First Friday in March when they will be at 3pm). Also in St Mary's every Tuesday at 11am in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP: will meet at 6.15pm on **Fri 26th Feb** in St Mary's Church Hall. They will show excerpts from Mel Gibson's 'The Passion of the Christ' at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church before leading the Stations of the Cross. Everyone welcome to come along and support our young people.

HEALING MASS FOR THE SOLENT PASTORAL AREA: with Prayers and Laying of Hands on **Wed 24th Feb** at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: led by Fr Peter on **Fri 5th March** in St Mary's Church from 10.30am (tea/coffee in the Upper Room from 10am). The theme for the day is 'Mary, Mother of the Suffering Jesus'. Everyone is welcome.

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION: organised jointly by the Union of Catholic Mothers and Catholic Women's League on **Wed 3rd March** at St Philip Howard Church, Fareham. The day will run from 10am to 3.30pm and be led by Fr Peter Glas. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and soup will be served at £3 per head. All ladies of the parish are very welcome to attend. To reserve a place please telephone 023 92 580681.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, 20-24 MAY

2010: The Bishopric of the Forces invites active servicemen and women to join this pilgrimage. Reservists are very welcome. Costs for uniformed personnel are heavily subsidised: flights + 4 nights full-board hotel accommodation is £290. Further details and booking forms are available from Mgr Paul Donovan on 023 92 625193 or paul.donovan506@mod.uk

JUNIOR JOURNEY IN FAITH

Catechists' Meeting	Tue 23rd Feb	7.30pm	St Mary's Hall
Parents' Meeting (Eucharistic)	Tue 2nd Mar	7.30pm	St Mary's Hall
Children's Session	Sat 6th Mar	9-11am	St Joseph's
Celebration Service	Sun 7th Mar	9.15am	St Mary's

PORTSMOUTH CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: A talk by Charles Wookey, Assistant General Secretary to Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales, in St John's Cathedral Hall, Portsmouth on **Thu 4th March** at 7.30pm. The talk is entitled 'The debate on Assisted Suicide - How best to meet the challenge'.

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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: The A.G.M. postponed earlier this month will be held in Matyhouse at 2pm on **Wed 24th Feb**. The Diocesan President will attend. All ladies of the parish are very welcome to join us.

'LIVING OUR FAITH': we are very close to achieving our pledged target of £95000. Our total including gift-aid now stands at £93500. Remember we stand to receive £23750 back in our parish if we achieve our target, and a further 80% of all money pledged if we exceed it. Do remember to gift-aid your pledges if you are a UK tax payer. We are entering the final weeks of our campaign and we hope to complete our efforts over the weekend of 6/7 March. Thank you so much for your generosity and commitment to 'Living Our Faith'. Above all thank you for your prayerful support.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: on **Tue 23rd Feb** at 7pm in Maryhouse.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY – 50th ANNIVERSARY MASS: to mark Cafod's 50th anniversary of Lent Fast Day on **Fri 26th Feb**, Bishop Crispian will be celebrating a special Mass in St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth at 12.15pm, to which everyone is invited. Refreshments will be provided in the Discovery Centre afterwards.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE: A ten day pilgrimage is arranged for the **7th to 17th June 2010**. Fr Peter Glas will lead the pilgrimage as Spiritual Director. Shared accommodation (half-board) and coach transfers in Dubrovnik will cost 290 euros per person. Transport to and from Gatwick airport and travel insurance **are not** included.

Pilgrims are asked to book their own flights (over the internet is normally cheaper) as soon as possible, and the earlier flights are booked the lower the fares are likely to be. The flights we will be using are as follows:

7th June BA 2882 London Gatwick depart 09.50 arrive Dubrovnik 13.35

17th June BA 2883 Dubrovnik depart 14.30 arrive London Gatwick 16.20

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage, please contact Doug in the Parish Office for more information and a booking form.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER : 'Let everything that has breath praise God'. A service prepared by Christian Women of Cameroon **on Fri 5th March:**

Holy Trinity Church, Gosport	10.30am	Speaker: Jean Watson
Bridgemary Methodist Church	2.00pm	Speaker: Lynne Matthews
St Mary's Church, High St, Gosport	7.30pm	Speaker: Maureen Williams

All are welcome to come along – men, women and young people.

ROTAS: for Saturday Exposition are available for collection from St Mary's & St Columba's this weekend.

RETURN TO ROMANCE PRESENTS 'STROLLING' AT THE KINGS THEATRE

In 2008, Nigel Hearnden walked to Rome to celebrate the life of his wife Anne and to raise valuable funds on behalf of four charities/causes she supported, including our sister parish of Mbetta in Cameroon. In addition to his walk, Nigel has undertaken a variety of other events and has succeeded in raising several thousand pounds for each of the charities. This has been wonderful for our community as we are committed to sending £2000 a year to Mbetta to help meet the educational needs of many of the local children.

Join us in a glittering gala celebration at the Kings Theatre, Southsea on **Sunday 28th March** at 7.30pm as 'Strolling' recreates this amazing journey in song and dance. **Tickets priced at £15 and £12 are available from the booking office at the Kings or via Doug in the parish office.** There will be an auction and raffle on the night.

Nigel has received an outline offer of one or two large minibuses and drivers. If you require transport please give your name to Doug and once Nigel receives confirmation of the offer further details will be provided regarding pick-up points.

Whilst Nigel intends to carry on with his annual charity golf days and an evening at a top local restaurant, 'Strolling' marks the end of his formal fundraising project. Let us show our appreciation for his tremendous efforts and enjoy a family evening out at the same time.