



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

**Year (C) Weekdays: Cycle 2. Psalter Week 2.  
PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion.**

**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**

*Is it important to you to participate in all the  
liturgies of Holy Week?*



**+ Young People/Adults**

*How will you follow in the steps of Jesus in  
Holy Week.*

**Statement from Archbishop Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.**

I welcome the strong leadership of the Holy Father in issuing his Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Ireland.

From our experience in England and Wales, we have learnt that the most important thing is to recognise and take to heart the profound damage done to children who have been abused. Putting the safeguarding of children and all vulnerable people at the centre of the Church's efforts is essential.

Robust procedures are necessary to ensure all allegations are dealt with swiftly and appropriately in full co-operation with the relevant authorities. These procedures need also to be just if they are to make a lasting difference and ensure the support of all.

The work undertaken in England and Wales to build a robust system to safeguard children and all vulnerable people has been difficult and demanding, but it is a road that has to be travelled.

**Holy Week**

Palm Sunday begins the celebration of Holy Week. The gospel on this Sunday commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem for Passover and for his own passion. Palm branches recall the day of his entry, and the proclamation of the passion recalls the day of his death.

On Thursday we will begin the Paschal Triduum or the Easter Triduum. The days from Holy Thursday until Easter Sunday are unique so we call them "the three days" or Triduum. Throughout his ministry, Jesus predicted his passion by referring to the "third day." On Holy Thursday we enter that sacred time outside of time in which we spend these days with Christ, to serve, to suffer, to die and to rise.

The days of the Triduum are like a retreat for us all and we spend quite a lot of time in church. On Holy Thursday evening the Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, as well as Jesus' command of love and service.

Good Friday is a celebration of Jesus' passion, suffering and death by crucifixion. Because this event won salvation for sinners, the day is called "Good" and the liturgy reflects on love as much as loss. Holy Saturday commemorates the day Jesus lay in the tomb.

The Easter Vigil celebrates our faith in the resurrection. The four parts of the Easter Vigil move us through a gradual unfolding of its mystery. The fire rite immediately shatters the gathering darkness. The liturgy of the word opens up the path of God's plan throughout salvation history. The liturgy of baptism draws the elect into the promise of eternal life and renews the baptismal faith of the faithful. The liturgy of the Eucharist brings the celebration to its climax as we experience the presence of the risen Christ.

**Father Michael.**

## ❖ Liturgy and Sacraments

### 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 is for children and parents and will be held at Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh, at 6pm, on Monday, 29 March, (the start of Holy Week), to prepare for the Maundy Thursday Mass, which will be celebrated at Holy Cross Church, at 8pm, on 1 April, 2010. Enquiries please to Elizabeth Nash on 01962 712022, or Anne Owen on 023 8065 8251. Please remember the children, their parents and the catechists of our Pastoral Area in your prayers.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** We welcome into the family of the Church, Agatha Benedetta Blishen, who is being baptised on Sunday, 28 March, at St. Andrew's Church.

### LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES:

**Palm Sunday, 28 March,** at 6.30pm, at St. Edward the Confessor Church.

**Monday, 29 March,** at 8pm, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church.

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Additional times will also be available during Holy Week as follows:

**Monday, 29 March,** at 7.30pm, at St. Andrew's Church.

**Tuesday, 30 March,** at 7.15pm, at Holy Cross Church.

**Wednesday, 31 March,** at St. Joseph's Church, at 12 noon, and also at St. Edward the Confessor Church at 8.15pm.

**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.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: John 20:1-9. Acts 10:34, 37-43. Colossians 3:1-4.**

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.

**FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY:** Sunday, 11 April, 2010, at 3pm, at St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street, Winchester.

The celebrations will include: The Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Veneration of the Image, Readings from the Diary of St. Faustina and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Refreshments available in the Parish Centre afterwards.

**KEEPING IN TOUCH:** A Day of Prayer will be led by Canon Daniel Cronin, at St. Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke, Hants, RG24 9DX, on Saturday, 17 April, 2010, from 10.30am-3pm (coffee available from 10am). Please come and pray and reflect upon how we can become more welcoming communities to all who live in our midst, including those who no longer go to Church. There is no charge for the day. Tea/coffee will be provided. Please bring packed lunch. To register, please contact Eileen Stephenson by Tuesday, 13 April, at the Department for Pastoral Formation, on 01329 835583.

## ❖ Ecumenical

**MAUNDY THURSDAY: 1 APRIL, 2010.**

**Prayer Vigil: 9pm-midnight in Romsey Abbey.**

**GOOD FRIDAY - 2 APRIL, 2010.**

**Walk of Witness:**

**Bishop's Waltham:**

Gathering at St. Peter's Church, Bishop's Waltham at 10am. The walk will start at 10.30am.

**North Baddesley:**

Gathering at 10.30am at North Baddesley Baptist Church and finishing at St. Andrew's, where light refreshments will be served.

**Eastleigh:**

United Service at 10.30am at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, Blenheim Road. United Procession will be at 11.15am from the Railwayman's Statue, Leigh Road, to be followed by Public Worship and distribution of Hot Cross Buns in Wells Place.

Lunch in aid of Christian Aid will be at 12 noon at Eastleigh Baptist Church, Wells Place.

**Romsey:** Act of Witness, begins 11.30am, near the Saxon Cross in the Abbey South Garth, then moves from there to the Cornmarket.

## ❖ Youth Ministry

**Youth Ministry Gathering:** An opportunity for all those interested in the future of young people in the Church. A chance to meet with youth leaders, and to discuss where we are going, on Sunday, 25 April, from 2-5pm, in the Resource Centre behind Holy Cross Church, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF. Please see the posters and handouts in all our churches and for further information email Peter McGeedy, pmcgeedy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Blog: <http://youngcatholicssouth.blogspot.com>

## ❖ Pastoral Area Newsletter

The Parish Office in Chandler's Ford is closed Mondays. Items for inclusion in the Pastoral Area Newsletter for Easter Sunday and 11 April, are required please by Monday, 29 March, direct to the Parish Office at Chandler's Ford on 023 8027 3882, or email [3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:3rivers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



## ❖ Ongoing Formation for All

**CAFÉ (CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLORATION):** Meetings will resume after the Easter break on Wednesday, 14 April, 2010, at 12.30pm in the Parish Centre, Romsey. All welcome.

**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. Sessions will resume after the Easter break at St. Edward the Confessor Church, 191/193 Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2DU, on Thursday, 15 April, 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*.

**ST. SWITHUN WELLS FELLOWSHIP:** The group meets regularly at St. Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, on Wednesdays, during term time from 7.45pm to 9pm. Meetings will resume after the Easter break on Wednesday, 21 April, 2010, and this will be a Planning Meeting. Please come along. You will be warmly welcomed. Enquiries please to Peter Baggott on 023 8069 4060, Bob Birtles on 023 8069 2416, or Steve Holmes on 023 8069 3669.

## ❖ Outreach

**'GOOD COMPANIONS'** The Luncheon Group meet on Tuesday, 6 April, 2010, at 12.30pm, at 'Keats' Restaurant, Ampfield. If you would like to reserve your lunch please phone Pauline Wilson on 023 8026 6617, by Thursday, 1 April, 2010.

### **THE WISHING WELL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**Beetle Drive:** 24 April, at 7.30pm, in the Resource Centre, behind Holy Cross Church. Tickets £3 each or family ticket (4) for £10. Fun for all! All welcome! Please contact Kath Cunningham on 023 8061 6340.

**Car Treasure Hunt:** 16 May, setting off at intervals from 1pm until 2pm from Holy Cross Church Car Park. Have fun with your car 'team', finding the clues that lead you to the 'treasure' and the pub for a well earned time of relaxation. £5 entry per car. All welcome. More details later.

**The Phil Talbot Golf Tournament** Friday, 9 July, at East Horton Golf Course. More details to follow. Please contact Ron Clarke on 023 8067 7245, or Brian Forrest on 023 8025 5051.



## ❖ Supporting each other

**Holy Cross Church:** The rota lists for the Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday Mass are now in the Welcome Area. Would any Minister of the Eucharist who wishes to assist please indicate their availability by adding their name in the appropriate spaces.

**St. Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School, Hillcrest Avenue, Chandler's Ford. Tel: 023 8026 6210,** would like to invite all parishioners to a Holy Week Reflection, led by children from Years 3 and 4, on Wednesday, 31 March, at 2pm, in the School Hall. This will be an opportunity for visitors to join with the children in reflecting on the events of Holy Week.

**Pastoral Area Walk:** Gathering on Easter Monday, 5 April, at Southampton Sport's Centre, (Car Park entrance at the top of Hill Lane). Leaving for the walk at 11am. All Welcome.

## ❖ Easter Offerings

The offerings at our Easter Masses are traditionally your own personal gift to your parish priest and form a major part of his annual income. Please be generous.

## ❖ Finance

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS COLLECTIONS HELD IN OUR CHURCHES ON 21 March, 2010.**

**St. Edward the Confessor:** £ 1,145.53, (Loose plate: £338.92, Envelopes: £175.50, & Standing Orders: £731.11).

*Easter Flowers: £215.33.*

**Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells:** £966.20, (Loose plate: £255.80, Envelopes: £150.40, & Standing Orders: £560.00).

*Easter Flowers: £140.37. 200 CLUB:* No. 58, Mrs. Taylor, £25.

On Palm Sunday, the collection normally taken on Good Friday for Holy Places will be held at the above churches.

There will also be a collection for the poor during the Maundy Thursday Mass at Holy Cross Church.

**St. Joseph's & St. Andrew's:** Gift Aid: £433. Non Gift Aid: £304.

**Holy Cross & St. Swithun Wells:** 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 both churches, or please telephone Pat Baggott.

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>27</b>	10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> ( <i>The First Mass of Sunday</i> ) <b>5.00pm (SW) Catherine O'Donoghue RIP</b> <b>6.00pm (SJ) Yvonne Walsh RIP</b> <b>6.00pm (OLQoA) MASS</b> <b>6.30pm (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>9.00am (SE) Dominic Bonetti RIP</b> <b>9.00am (HC) Polska Msza Święta</b> <b>9.15am (SA) Irene and Bill Dornan's intentions</b> <b>9.30am (OLQoA) MASS</b> <b>11.00am (SA) Anthony de Melo RIP</b> <b>11.00am (HC) Thomas Kelly FM</b> <b>6.30pm (SE) Lenten Penitential Service</b> 9.15am (SE) Daniel Pascoe 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> 7.30pm (SA) <i>Meditation on Holy Week followed by the</i> <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> <b>8.00pm (OLQoA) Lenten Penitential Service</b> 6.30am (SE) Eileen Mary Neill RIP 10.00am (HC) <i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i> <b>11.00am Chrism Mass at St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth</b> 10.00am (SA) <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.00pm (SJ) MASS 7.00pm (HC) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i> 7.15pm (HC) <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> 7.30pm <i>Holy Rosary, offered for priests, in the Oratory of Marie Louise House, Romsey</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>29</b>	<i>of Holy Week</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>30</b>	<i>of Holy Week</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>31</b>	9.15am (SE) Sheila Bennett RIP 10.00am (OLQoA) MASS 10.00am (HC) Beatriz and George White, and David, Laura and Eduardo Fernandes FM 11.45am (SA) Funeral Mass for Monica Sethi RIP ( <i>Reception into church on Tuesday, 30 March, at 4pm</i> ) 12 noon, (SJ) <i>Talk, Stations of the Cross and the Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> 7.30pm (HC) John Gallagher RIP 7.30pm (SE) <i>Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament</i> 8.15pm (SE) <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
<b>Evening Mass</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> <b>7.30pm (SJ) MASS</b> <b>8.00pm (OLQoA) MASS</b> <b>8.00pm (HC) MASS Stephen Byrne RIP</b>
<b>of the Lord's Supper</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>10.00am (SE) Children's Way of the Cross</b> <b>3.00pm (SE) Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>3.00pm (HC) Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>3.00pm (SA) Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>3.00pm (OLQoA) Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b> <b>7.00pm (SJ) Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Easter Vigil -</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b> <b>7.30pm (OLQoA) MASS</b> <b>8.00pm (SA) MASS</b> <b>9.00pm (SE) The People of 3 Rivers Pastoral Area</b>
<b>The First Mass of Easter</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION</b> <b>9.00am(SE) Wedding Anniversary - Carol and Rob Turner</b> <b>9.00am(HC) Polska Msza Święta</b> <b>9.15am(SA) MASS</b> <b>9.30am(OLQoA) MASS</b> <b>11.00am(SA) MASS</b> <b>11.00am (HC) Maureen Binden and Cyril Gilder RIP</b>
<i>HC: Holy Cross, SW: St. Swithun Wells, OLQoA: Our Lady Queen of Apostles,</i> <i>SA: St Andrew's, SJ: St. Joseph's, SE: St Edward's.</i>		

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**RETIRED PRIESTS**  
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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth