


APRIL 3RD 2022 | FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



THEY WERE CAUGHT, WE WERE LUCKY!

 As the Catholic Bishop of Rochester New York, the Venerable Archbishop Fulton John Sheen was asked to give a talk to inmates at a high-security prison in the US and he accepted. On getting to this high-security prison, Archbishop Sheen glanced at the faces of the prisoners and his heart sank. He then addressed them saying: “Gentlemen, there is one great difference between you and me – you have been caught; I was not. In other words, we are all sinners.” At those words, the prisoners burst into laughter, later composed themselves, and listened wholeheartedly to Archbishop Sheen who won them over by his honesty and inclusivity.

In today’s Gospel, we are presented with the story of a woman caught in the very act of adultery which shows the hypocrisy of the Scribes and the Pharisees. What happened to the man? Was he so strong and powerful that he escaped the Scribes and the Pharisees? I do not think so! Although the Torah in Deuteronomy 22:22-24 condemned both the man and woman and stipulated their death sentence; the Scribes and the Pharisees who were products of the Jewish paternalistic culture, ditched that, and condemned only the woman. This is hypocrisy at its zenith! Alas, Christ was there to remedy the situation by turning the lights of self-reflection onto them; and having been convicted (**Elegcho** - Exposed) by their conscience (**Suneidesis** – The Soul as distinguishing between what is morally good and bad), they realised their own sins and left the woman alone with Jesus. My friends, we are all sinners in need of God’s help. The only difference between us and the woman above, is that she was caught, but we were lucky. Let us not recall the past nor think we can attain perfection by our own efforts as we were admonished in today’s First and Second Readings respectively. Like the inmates of that high-security prison and the woman in today’s Gospel, let us always recall the words of Christ: “**Neither do I condemn you, go away and sin no more.**” Remember, even when we fall into sins again, let us return to Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and beg for forgiveness. I have never seen Him reject anyone, including myself who is the worst sinner.

Fr Johnpromise

Questions to ponder for the week...

1. What does Jesus’ refusal to condemn the woman caught in adultery say to us (Gospel)? What does it say about judging others? What does it say about our own sinfulness?
2. “*I am doing a new deed*” God says “*by making a road in the wilderness....*” (1st reading). What is that ‘road’ for you? What is the ‘wilderness’ you are struggling with?
3. “*.....perfection comes through faith in Christ..*” (2nd reading). How can you trust more in faith rather than your own efforts?

Vincent Harvey

This Week...

- Tues** St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm
Wed Evening Prayer @6pm..... to join email Dcn Andy
Journey in Faith 7pm
Thurs Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's: 11.30am
Fri Stations of the Cross at St Edmund's: 6.15pm
CAFOD prayer online
Green Living meeting at 7.30pm in St Ed's Hall

For info

- Mon** Day Off: VH/JP;
Tues DR clergy meeting: VH
SCOF meeting: VH
Wed Clergy Team Meeting: VH/JP/AP
Desert Day: VH
Thurs Springhill 'Reconciliation': VH/JP
Deanery meeting: VH/JP/AP
CTC online gathering: VH
Fri Jesu Caritas: VH/JP
Clergy Ministry Group: VH

A Few Words...

Another weekend, & another week opens in front of us.

One more week and we are into Holy Week, the most important week in the life of the Church! It will be a blessing for us to be able to gather again to celebrate in person, and sacramentally, the 'Days of Salvation' (The Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday). This might sound strange, but we are 'rusty' as we haven't been able to gather in this way for 2 years! So I am grateful for all the work done by our various groups to enable this to happen. There are a few changes (no 'Passover Meal' and no 'Prayer around the cross') partly due to the work involved as we try to get our head around the essential elements of Holy Week; also the Polish community will be using St Edmund on these three days: it is good to have them do so.

Remember that there is a 6.30am Wednesday Mass in St Ed's, as well as the usual 7pm Mass. Also Stations of the Cross (StE: 6.15pm Fri & Sun; StJ: 11.30am Thurs). See also 'Working Through Lent 2022' on our website.

Altar Servers thank you for signing up for the Services you will be serving at over Easter (Holy Week: Thursday, Friday & Saturday); also we will be requiring **stewards & welcomers** for each Service. If you haven't signed up please do so.

My brother, Greg, has returned to Guernsey. Thank you for all your prayers. He has now to recover after major surgery.

Thank you to those who have sponsored me for my 'cycle against hunger' for CAFOD....I am three quarters of the way there in terms of kilometres and sponsorship!..... keep it coming!! My details:
<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/vincent-harvey-cycle-against-hunger>

Have a good weekend... Vincent H

Today's Notices

Alpha 'testimony' at all Masses in preparation for new Alpha Sessions.

Family Mass at 9am & 10 am Masses.

3rd Scrutiny takes place at the 11am Mass (for those to be Baptised or Received into the Church at Easter).

Stations of the Cross at 6.15pm in St Edmund's Church.

Please continue to sanitise hands on entry to the churches and we **encourage wearing face masks.**

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Lenten Penitential Service: Monday, 11th April at 7.30pm in St Edmund. Visiting priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Maundy Thursday (14th April)

Family Mass of The Lord's Supper in which the children participate more fully: 6.15pm in St Joseph's Mass of The Lord's Supper and 'Watching' at the Altar of Repose: 8pm in St Edmund's

Good Friday (15th April)

10am Stations of the Cross in St Edmund Church

11.30am Passion/Stations led by our children/young people in St Joseph's Church

Solemn Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ at 3pm in St Edmund's Church

Holy Saturday (16th April)

Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter at 9pm in St Edmund's Church

Easter Sunday: 9 & 11am and 7pm in St Edmund's
10am in St Joseph's

Divine Mercy Sunday (24th April) Masses: 9 & 11am and 7pm in St Edmund's and 10am in St Joseph's
3pm **Divine Mercy Chaplet** in St Edmund's

Prayers

Parish CAFOD Prayer Group Fridays in Lent, on Zoom at 8:15pm. Email mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Please remember especially in your prayers the Roberts family, Laneisha Vaz, Jannette and Robert Keith, Margaret Hicks, Margaret Murray, Mary Mullen, Mary O'Reilly and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Fr Michael Stanier** and **Fr Michael Peters** who passed recently. May they rest in peace.

Pray also for Sr Anne Teresa RIP the founder of the *Medaille Trust*, who began her ministry in Southampton. She began working to support women in the 'red light' district and then with 'trafficked' women and created 'safe-houses' first in Winchester and then beyond.

What's going on?

Appeal for aid for Ukraine. The Polish Social Club have a new collection point - the former ToysRUs building in the city centre. They will be open **Wednesday 5pm-7pm / Thursday 1pm-7pm / Friday 4.30pm-7pm and Saturday 10am-3pm.** Below is an updated list of the most needed items. Any donations you can give would be very gratefully received.



- Dry food • Breakfast cereals
- Coffee/tea • Tinned meats and fish
- Baby food and milk • Medical supplies
- Flashlights • Batteries



Volunteers needed to help sort out donations. Please contact them via FaceBook if you feel able to help.

Financial donations for Ukraine welcome here:

<https://www.caritas.org/donate-now/>
<https://www.siepomaga.pl/southamptondlaukrainy>
https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?defaultuniversalttype=single&_Appeal=123770

Too many children in this world are living in countries where fighting has become part of everyday life. This includes children in South Sudan, where **Mary's Meals** serve life-changing meals. Please donate to this vital cause <https://donate.marysmeals.org/gb>

Food Banks. Please when shopping buy 'one' extra item to bring to church and put in the box in the porch. Southampton City Missions Basics Bank are very low on the following: **Carrier Bags, Coffee** (Small Jars), **Cook-In Sauces** (Jars & Packets), **Custard, Jams & Spreads, Nappies size 4 - 6, Squash & Drinks, Sugar** (Small Bags), **Tinned Carrots, Tinned Cold Meat** (Ham, Spam, etc.), **Tinned Hot Meat** (Curry, Pies, Stew, etc.), **Tinned Mixed Veg, Tinned Rice Pudding, Treats** (Chocolate, Crisps, etc.), **Toiletries** (Shampoo, Toilet Rolls), **UHT Milk.**

Best place to check what donation is needed is: <https://southamptoncitymission.co.uk/get-involved/how-to-donate>

Stations of the Cross: Thursday 11.30am in St Joseph's
Fridays & Sundays 6:15pm in St Edmund's. **Wednesdays in Lent:** Masses at 6.30am & 7pm in St Edmund's.
Thursdays in Lent CAFOD/Christian Aid lunches after 12.15pm Mass

Stella Maris Easter Egg Appeal. You are invited to take part in our parish appeal to bring the celebration of Easter to seafarers visiting our local ports. Most crews remain confined to their ships for many months and your gift of chocolate or an Easter Egg will bring great pleasure to a hard pressed community, a happy reminder of the joy we share at Easter! Please would you leave your contribution at the back of church **before 5 April.**

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce their new **online** newspaper. Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on **0743 661 7650** or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Father Vincent's recent homily invited us to muse on some questions: **who am I; what is the purpose of my life; where are my roots; what is the right path for me; and God, who are You?** If these questions struck a chord with you, why not consider exploring them a little further? Our **Alpha Course** is due to start on **Tuesday 26th of April**, and these are the sorts of questions we consider amongst ourselves in a non-threatening environment with likeminded people. Why not give it a go? <https://forms.gle/Y5oMa9PzenFC3oLj7>



Holy Week Discernment Retreat The Monastic Community at Buckfast Abbey, Devon is extending an invitation to share their spiritual journey through Holy Week with twelve men, who may be considering a priestly or religious vocation. They will live and eat in the monastery, participate in liturgies and be guided by retreat preacher Fr Andrew Robinson of Oscott Seminary. For more: vocationsretreat@buckfast.org.uk

Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima 12-19th October 2022

Brochures available, please get in touch if you feel you might like to join. So far 18 people have joined with a further 10 expressing an interest. This time we will travel through Heathrow with a coach from St Ed's.

18-22nd July 2022 Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Philip Egan will be leading the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes and invites you to join him. We will be flying from Bournemouth airport direct to Tarbes, Lourdes and staying at the hotel La Solitude. All rooms are en-suite and full board. To find out more visit <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/lourdes> or email lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or phone **07780 221686**

Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes 19th-26th August <https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/> for more detail or <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/catholic-association#prices> to book online. Father Vincent and others will be going as the pilgrimage hasn't happened for 2 years!! Time to revisit!.....come along

Weekly Green Living Suggestion...

The Green Living focus for April is **energy**. The posters at the back of church (and on the website) have the full range of information and suggestions but we will be highlighting just a few things in the coming weeks. In light of the current energy crisis, this is possibly the area most people will be considering if they haven't already done so. Now is probably not a good time to be switching providers unless you are forced to but if/when you do, **renewable energy should be a prime consideration.** If your boiler needs replacing, could you change to one that uses **renewable energy**? Could you **generate energy** at home through **solar, ground source** or **air source** energy? These are not small considerations and there are a lot of practicalities to factor in but at the very least we should all be **lobbying our energy providers to use renewables** if they don't already do so.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 3RD APRIL*(CHURCH KEY TO CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC MASSES BELOW: SJ = ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BUGLE STREET, SO14 2AH AND SE = ST EDMUND'S CHURCH, THE AVENUE, SO17 1XJ)*

Prayer of the Church

Week 1

Saturday 2nd April	6:15pm SJ	Moyra Clearkin RIP
<i>St Francis of Paola</i>	7:00pm SE	Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
Sunday 3rd April	9:00am SE	Ann Leach RIP
<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	10:00am SJ	Dolores Smyllie RIP (birthday ann.) & birthday blessings for Robert Smyllie
	11:00am SE	Marisa Tellegen RIP
	7:00pm SE	Matthew Moran RIP
Tuesday 5th April	10:00am SE	Peter Tuttle RIP
<i>St Vincent Ferrer</i>		
Wednesday 6th April	6.30am SE	Thanksgiving for prayers answered
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	7:00pm SE	Thanksgiving to St Jude Thaddeus
Thursday 7th April	12:15pm SJ	Mary O'Reilly health & wellbeing
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>		
Friday 8th April	7:00pm SE	Christopher birthday blessings & protection for whole Izuka family
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>		
Saturday 9th April	11:00am SE	Emmanuel Riolo RIP
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	6:15pm SJ	Sean, Kathleen & Stewart Adamson
	7:00pm SE	Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
Sunday 10th April	9:00am SE	Cecelia & Ronald Mears RIP
<i>Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion</i>	10:00am SJ	Augustine Izuka RIP
	11:00am SE	The People of the Parish
	7:00pm SE	Eric Clarke RIP

3rd April
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Psalm Response:
 What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
Gospel Acclamation:
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
 Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks – come back to me with all your heart, for I am all tenderness and compassion.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Weekly Collection
20th March = £1,370.83
 (SO £561 Cash £809.83)
27th March = £1,565.48
 (SO £426 Cash £1139.48)

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey
 Email Address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 023 8033 4891
Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru
 Email Address: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 02380172104
Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ
Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott
aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Email: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org
 Parish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org
Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Tina Quinn tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Catholic Home Care:
 Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498 & Mrs Marina Joyce 023 8017 0501
 Email: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski
 Tel. No. 02381786316 southampton@pcmew.org
Safeguarding Rep: Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589
 Email: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org
Stella Maris (AoS): Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 07843 739579
Catholic Chaplains:
 Sr Emiliania Silva e.silva@soton.ac.uk 07426 000213
 Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Solent Chaplain:
 Isabelle Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414 462636

Readings 10th April**First Reading:** *Isaiah 50: 4-7***Second Reading:** *Philippians 2: 6-11***Gospel:** *Luke 22: 14- 23: 56***Won't you consider coming to Adoration?**

We spend time with those in our life whom we are close to in order to develop out relationships with them. Adoration provides us the opportunity to deepen our relationship with Christ in this way. Each moment spent in Adoration brings us uniquely closer to Christ!

"Do not be either astonished or discouraged at the difficulties you find in prayer. Only be constant and submissive, and God will be pleased with you."

-St. Claude de la Colombiere

Second Collections:This week: **No second collection**Next week: **No second collection****Confessions: St Joseph's:**Thursdays 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm
(before Mass)**St Edmund's:** Saturdays 11.30am (after Mass)