



Donate



FEBRUARY 26TH 2023 | 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



Temptation and the Imitation of Christ

Lent is traditionally a time of almsgiving, prayer and fasting as we all know, and I am going to encourage you to do something that might at first sight seem completely contrary to that, but it is not.

My suggestion to you is to buy a small book called 'The Imitation of Christ' by Thomas à Kempis, only 24p if you have a Kindle. Written as recently as 600 years ago it demonstrates our reliance on God, on the words of Christ, and the futility of life without faith. It celebrates God and His love, mercy and holiness.

In the Gospel this Sunday Christ faces the temptations in the desert, although we may not need to travel that far to find our temptations. The temptations Christ faces try to direct Him away from His mission and make Him desire wrong things. A counteraction to wrong desires is prayer, in prayer we communicate with God and through that we are changed.

For example, when we petition God, when we seek God's intervention, when we plead to God, we learn to want what God wants for us. God desires our friendship, God desires our company. And in desiring company with us, He wills good for us, and that good is that we should come to share His life through adoption as His children. But wanting with our deepest desires the good that God wants for us is not always easy. Our frailty can impair that process and thus God teaches us both what is right for us to desire and the means through which we come to desire it.

By recognising what we ought to desire on those occasions we have failed to desire correctly, - described most simply but profoundly in our schools as making the wrong choices, - leads inevitably to repentance, of which fasting is but one expression. In our case our minds are turned to the things of God and restoration is given.

Together prayer and fasting keep us focused on what we ought to desire whilst our almsgiving can include giving ourselves more fully to Christ and to others.

My proposal is that the temptation narrative teaches us how to imitate Christ in the wilderness, which after all is our focus in Lent.

Dcn Andy

Questions to Ponder for the Week...

1. How does it make you feel to think Jesus had to fight temptation the same way you do? Did He dialogue with the devil or just send him away with the Word of God? Umm! Think about it!
2. After their sin Adam and Eve wanted to cover their bodies (1st reading). They did not want to be seen as they really were. Is it easy to be honest about faults? If you do become honest about your failings, what is the next step?
3. "... So, by one man's obedience many will be made righteous." St Paul writes (2nd reading). Christ represents all of us before God. Should we be discouraged or saddened by our past sins? How does Christ lift these burdens and bring us peace?

Vincent Harvey adapted from Anne Osdieck

Today's Notices

First Sunday of Lent

Vocation Intention: *That prayer, penance and almsgiving will dispose more men and women to follow the Holy Spirit as He leads them to discover their vocations in Christ, we pray to the Lord.*

CAFOD appeal for 'Family Fast Day' on Friday

Rosary Chain: Catheryn will be at all Masses if you wish to get involved with the 'Rosary Chain': take home your 'Mystery' for prayer!

Please continue to **sanitise hands** on entry to the church

Next Sunday Notices

Second Sunday of Lent

Second Collection for CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day

This Week...

Mon Plenty group via Zoom (see elsewhere)

Tues St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm

Wed Evening Prayer @ 6pm.... to join email Dcn Andy
Lectio Divina in Immaculate Conception Church 7pm
Journey in Faith @ 7.30pm St Edmund's Hall

Thurs Green Living Group

Fri Family Fast Day (CAFOD)
Belong & Believe via Zoom at 4pm (see elsewhere)

Sun Evening Prayer @ 6pm.... to join email Dcn Andy

For Info...

Mon Day off: JP / VH

Tues DR meeting: VH

Wed Team Meeting: VH/JP/AP
Hate Crime Talk: VH

Thurs Clergy Deanery Meeting: VH/JP/AP

Fri Clergy Ministry Group: VH

Lent 2023

Rosary Chain Catheryn is kindly organising a 'Rosary Chain' around the Parish. If you would be willing to say the rosary during Lent then do see her at the end of Masses. It would be good to know that the rosary is being said everyday of Lent! If you've never prayed the rosary before, this is a perfect time to try.

Stations of the Cross

St Edmund's: 6.10pm on Fridays and Sundays

St Joseph's: 11.30am on Thursdays

Sacraments

Please remember especially in your prayers all those who have died recently.

Pray for Maureen Zamojska who died recently, remembering her family in your prayers also. Her funeral will be in St Edmund's on the 28th February.

Pray for Simon Parry who died recently. Remember also in your prayers his mother Jenepher Parry Davies and his partner Sue at this time.

Pray for Kathleen Moran who died recently. Please keep Michael, Maria and all the family in your prayers. Her funeral will be in St Joseph's on the 10th March.

Please pray for the repose of David Buxton who died early last Sunday morning. We pray for Elaine, his wife, and the family (Louise, Edward and Emily). May David rest in peace.

A Few Words...

Lent has begun! The Season when we make a more concerted effort to 'turn around' (conversion) is opening up in front of us. Let's enter it, and walk through it, grasping all the 'gifts' we can to allow God to grace us to the very centre of our beings. The Diocesan Catholic Academies and Schools Office have produced a Lenten resource for children (see it on the Parish Website). Also available on line from CAFOD is

<https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/lent-resources-for-children>

Cell Groups might help us in our journey so do continue to consider which groups you might wish to get involved with after Easter; or a group you think we should be considering, or even one that you would like to propose to us. In the meantime do sign up for **Lectio Divina**, or the '**Plenty**' course or '**Belong & Believe**' (both virtual): see QR codes elsewhere.

Please continue to support the appeals for relief to all involved with the **earthquakes in Turkey & Syria**: CAFOD are, together with other agencies, working in the area and donations can be made to CAFOD via <http://cafod.org.uk/> Please see if you can donate. There is, of course, also the Disaster Emergency Committee: <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal>

Thank you to all who have been completing/updating Standing Orders and Gift Aid for the Parish. If you have not done so yet may I encourage you to do so!

Have a good week... Vincent H

Prayers

Adoration We are in need of more parishioners to cover the following days and times:

Mondays 3-6pm & Tuesdays 1-3pm, & Fri 12-2pm.

Please contact Anna on **07956 379 542** if you feel able to join Adoration during the week in St Edmund's!



The Pope's Prayer Intentions:

February - For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

*As we enter the Season of Lent, let us pray for the grace to respond generously if the Lord places on our hearts the desire to help the most at-risk and vulnerable, including the poor, the lonely, the aged, the sick and the unborn. **Lord hear us***



Please remember especially in your prayers *Michaela, Sr Maria Innocenta, Mary Mullen, Christopher Browne, Peter Scott, Vasile, Sue* and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or experiencing distress.

What's going on?

CAFOD Family Fast Day. This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

Belong & Believe an online course on Fridays at 4pm to look afresh at our faith and to what we belong and what we believe. The need for vibrant and welcoming Christian communities has never been stronger. This course is a timely resource drawing on the immense wisdom and inspiration from our Celtic spiritual heritage helping us to find renewed faith and vision together. A five session course to revitalise communities & their mission <https://forms.office.com/e/JviEDzcQQS>

Poetry Share. We are hoping to restart Poetry Share in March 2023, and if you are interested in this group we would be delighted to hear from you. To find out more about the Poetry Share group, and register an interest in joining us, please email Kate Greaves at poetryshare@btinternet.com

Lenten Lectio Divina Course "Turn to the Lord with all your heart" Starting on 1st of March this 5 week Lenten course aims to introduce participants to prayer with the scriptures. Each session will last an hour and include a short input, some helpful background information and tips, and a time of prayer. We would love for you to join us. The meetings will be in the parish hall of the Immaculate Conception Church each Wednesday at 7pm. The address is 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB and free, unlimited roadside parking is available in the road behind the hall. This is wonderful opportunity to come and pray with another Parish in our Pastoral area. For more info contact the Verbum Dei community on verbumdei.soton@gmail.com

Catholic Home Care is looking to recruit new carers to join a friendly and supportive team undertaking general domestic support, helping older people in their own homes. If you like elderly people and have time spare during the week, this is the job for you with a good rate of pay. Car driver is an advantage (but not essential) and full training given. Success at interview will lead to an enhanced DBS check before appointment. Permanent and holiday cover carers required. Full details from Anne Monaghan or Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498
Closing date – **17 March '23, Interviews 21 March '23**

Food Banks Please consider donating to Southampton City Mission Food Bank if you are able to. You can do this by making use of the collection baskets in supermarkets when you go shopping, or by bringing items with you to church to place in the boxes in the porches.



<https://southamptoncitymission.co.uk/get-involved/how-to-donate>

A course for Lent. Plenty (Joy in Enough) is a six week small group discussion resource for churches equipping Christians to understand more about the economic drivers of the current ecological crisis such as climate change and biodiversity loss. It looks at why we are facing these crises and what we can do about it. Plenty is a Christian initiative which works through churches to advocate for a fair and green economy.

We will be running this course jointly with ASA on zoom on Monday evenings during Lent commencing on Monday 27th February. If you would like to find out more please email Tina tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or to sign up or register your interest please fill in this form <https://forms.office.com/e/SVdrGYngng>

Portsmouth Diocesan "Don Bosco" Boys Camp - 23 to 29 July 2023 We are delighted that this camp will be going ahead again this summer for boys of secondary school age. The camp will be at St. Cassian's, Kintbury. There will be plenty of sport, outings, competitions and fun and games to ensure that boys will have a fantastic few days. This will continue to take place within the context of the celebration of the Catholic Faith, including daily Mass and morning prayer. The cost of the camp is £230 (part bursaries may be available on application).

In addition, we are holding a **Bosco Experience/Reunion on Sunday 5 March 2023** from 2 to 4pm at St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY. This is for boys currently in Year 6 up to Year 11. This is a chance for new boys who want to find out more and have a 'taste' of the Bosco Experience and for those who have been on camp to meet with old friends. Fun activities and a chance for parents to find out more and sign up for camp. Booking is essential. To find out more or to reserve a place, please email dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Catholic Family Day of Reflection Saturday March 11th 10am - 2pm St Dominic's Priory, Sway. This day is aimed at families with children up to the age of 7. Suggested donation £20. For more information or to book a space for your family, email catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com

Petition to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth
In 2021, abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion). This amendment did not go to a vote and pass, but the abortion lobby is expected to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would introduce one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. Right To Life UK is running a petition to ask the Prime Minister to do everything in his power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. **Please add your name to the petition here:**
<https://righttolife.org.uk/signthepetitiontorishi>

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY

SJ REFERS TO ST JOSEPH'S (BUGLE STREET, SO14 2AH) & SE IS ST EDMUND'S (THE AVENUE, SO17 1XJ)

Saturday 25th Feb <i>After Ash Wednesday</i>	6:15pm SJ	A Holy Death for GB
Sunday 26th Feb <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	9:00am SE	Elizabeth & John Ward RIP
	10:00am SJ	Intentions of Dionisio & Family
	11:00am SE	Thanksgiving for the Life of Pope Benedict XVI RIP
	7:00pm SE	People of the Parish
Tuesday 28th Feb <i>1st Week of Lent</i>	10:00am SE	Thanksgiving for all the things the Lord has done through the year
Wednesday 1st Mar <i>St David</i>	6:30am SE	Ellen Turnbull RIP
	7:00pm SE	Joseph Lee RIP Birthday Anniversary
Thursday 2nd Mar	12:15pm SJ	Braega O'Flanergan RIP
Friday 3rd Mar	7:00pm SE	Thanksgiving to St Joseph
Saturday 4th Mar <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	11:00am SE	Michael Sheehan RIP
	6:15pm SJ	Noronha-Andrade Family Intentions
Sunday 5th Mar <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	9:00am SE	People of the Parish
	10:00am SJ	Patricia Livett Thanksgiving & God's Blessings
	11:00am SE	Douglas Munro RIP
	7:00pm SE	Garth McMullen RIP 1st Anniversary

26th February

Psalm Response:

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

19th Feb 1st Collection

SO: £566 Cash: £989.19

Contactless: £39.35

Gift Aid: £96.50

TOTAL: £1,691.04

Thank you.

5th March

1st Reading:

Genesis 12: 1-4

Psalm: 32

2nd Reading:

2 Timothy 1: 8-10

Gospel: *Matthew 17: 1-9*

CONTACT DETAILS

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Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru

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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's Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ

Parish Email: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Parish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Our Instagram: [SouthamptonCityCentreCatholics](https://www.instagram.com/SouthamptonCityCentreCatholics)

Our FaceBook: [@SotonCatholicsCityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/SotonCatholicsCityCentre)

Our Twitter: [@SotonCatholics](https://twitter.com/SotonCatholics)

Safeguarding: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Gift Aid: Ian Lang giftaid@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

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Mrs Anne Monaghan & Mrs Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski

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Catholic Chaplains:

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Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Solent Chaplain:

Sr Issy Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414 462636

Vocations: www.portsmouthvocations.org/

Diocesan Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Diocesan Facebook & Twitter: [@PortsmouthRC](https://www.facebook.com/PortsmouthRC)

*We are part of Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth,
Registered Charity Number 1199568.*

Belong and Believe



Plenty (Joy in Enough)



Confessions

St Joseph's on Thursdays at 11.45am & Saturdays

5.45pm

St Edmund's on Saturdays after the 11am Mass

Parish Bank Details

Bank Account Name CDP SUJJE

Number 00888223

Sort Code 30-93-04



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

We the people of St Joseph's and St Edmund's City Centre Catholic Parish, Southampton, sisters and brothers in Christ, accept as our mission, in the service of God and as a community of disciples:

- to share God's love with all those we meet

- to welcome all so as to help others find and recognise Christ in their lives

- to exercise mercy and

understanding with ourselves and others.



Join the Parish!