



City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton

MARCH 26TH 2023 | 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT



What might come from an encounter?

There is a veritable proliferation of encounters in the holy scriptures, encounters between people and people, and people and God. All of our Lenten Gospels feature encounters and if we take a glance at next week's Gospel it is laden with encounters. Strangely, we shall not be encountering our crosses and crucifixes in our churches for the next two weeks, but that is something for another day's contemplation.

Every time we encounter someone there is an opportunity for a new way of seeing and understanding, and when our encounter is divine there is a new way of meditating at a deeper level the story of salvation and where we feature within it. Because when God is encountered He speaks, and His word gives life. In moments of contemplation like this we stand outside the world, reflect, and encounter the Lord whom we are all seeking whether we know it or not.

The encounter between Mary and Martha seeking the restoration to full health of Lazarus, was as Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, where, in obedience to, and out of love for the Father, He would die, and rise again, but in a way quite different from Lazarus. The seeming finality of death disappeared, and something greater and grander was born.

Lazarus did not receive new life, he was restored to his old life; the risen Christ brought a new kind of life, the old life gives way to a new life. The Christ was promising another kind of life, for which death was a preparation. Death is not an end, a finality, but the condition of passing into another kind of life, which is unbounded, has no limitations, an eternal life with God. As we pray in one of the Prayers of Commendation at Requiem Services, "in the sight of this world they are now dead; in Your sight may they live forever." By His death and

resurrection the Christ offered to those who believe the reality of this new life.

As we enter these final days of Lent, drawing ever closer to the Christ's Passion, there is still time to encounter God in prayer, in contemplation and in those whom we meet.

Dcn Andy

Website

Questions to Ponder for the Week...

. *"Unbind him, let him go free"* Jesus said of Lazarus (Gospel). From what must you be 'unbound'? Bad habits, thoughts, and deeds? Sin? Name them!

2. "....*I shall put My spirit in you....*" God says through Ezekiel (1st reading). Do you invite the Holy Spirit daily into your life? Do so in a conscious way, again and again and again!

3. "....*the Spirit of God has made His home in you.....*" St Paul writes (2nd reading). How do you 'release' God's Spirit? Prayer? Contemplation? Action? Good Works? How?

Today's Notices

Fifth Sunday of Lent

No Children's Liturgy at the 9am Mass until after Easter 3rd Scrutiny at 11am Mass for those to be Baptised, Received or Confirmed at Easter

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

Next Sunday Notices

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the LordPalms blessed at all MassesSt Joseph join with St Michael's at the West Gate for blessing and procession

This Week...

Mon	Plenty group via Zoom					
Tues	St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm					
	Burning of Palms after 10am Mass					
Wed	Ash Wednesday Masses					
	Lectio Divina in Immaculate Conception Church 7pm					
	Evening Prayer @ 6pm to join email Dcn Andy					
	Journey in Faith @ 7.30pm St Edmund's Hall					
Thurs	CAFOD/Christian Aid Lunch at Stella Maris after Mass					
	RR Group meet via Zoom					
Fri	Belong & Believe via Zoom at 4pm					
Sun	Evening Prayer online 6pm					

For Info...

Mon	Day off: VH; JP on retreat all week					
Tues	DR clergy Zoom: VH;					
	St George (C Life): VH;					
	St George (Gov): VH					
Wed	Team Meeting: VH/AP					
Fri	CaFE group: VH					
	Clergy Ministry Group: VH					

Sacraments

Congratulations to Justin and Tina who were married in St Edmund's church this Saturday! Please pray for them on this joyous occasion.



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

Pray for Simon Parry who died recently. Remember also in your prayers his mother Jenepher Parry Davies and his partner Sue at this time. His funeral will be in St Edmund's at 10am on the 28th March.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of David Buxton who died recently. We pray for Elaine, his wife, and the family. His funeral will be in St Joseph's at 11am on the 31st March. May David rest in peace.

Please pray for Grazia Hancock who died recently. Remember in your prayers also her young family. Her funeral will be held in St Edmund's Church at midday on the 31st March. May she rest in peace.

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

A Few Words...

Today (5th Sunday of Lent) we move into **'Passion Tide'** so most of our statues are covered to remind us to focus in on what is absolutely essential in our Faith. This means that next Sunday is 'Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord' and commences Holy Week: the most important week in the Church's Year.

To prepare us to celebrate Holy Week well, especially the Triduum (Thursday, Friday and Saturday......see elsewhere), we begin with a Penitential Service on Monday (3rd April) **at 7.30pm in St Edmund's Church.** Priests from around the Deanery will be available to hear 'confession'. Do come along and celebrate God's love, mercy, and forgiveness of us all.

Make the Triduum - The Lord's Supper, Crucifixion and Resurrection – **a priority in your week.** The 'Three Days of Salvation' are, to all intents and purposes, one long, three-day, celebration of Salvation History! Come......come......come!

Congratulations to Edward Hauschild, ordained Priest last Saturday in the Cathedral. Father Edward was surrounded by priests of the Diocese and beyond, together with family and friends to participate in this life-changing event. Ad Multos Annos as they say!!

Groups in the Parish: do remember to look at the groups in the parish which you may be interested in joining:

https://www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics .org/groups

Also **are there any groups you would like us to consider creating,** or one you would be willing to propose starting? Contact me: **vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

Thank you to John Berridge who has for very many years overseen our insurance policies for our properties and contents. John compiled, and regularly updated, a comprehensive inventory of all the properties so that we could be assured we were fully covered. This was no small feat, and is something we are very grateful for! John has now stood down from this 'last' of many roles he has held over the years. **Thank you John!**

Thank you to Anna and the small group of volunteers

who provided a warm welcome and refreshments to around 20 people who were evacuated by the Fire Service from their accommodation on Wednesday evening. The buildings were considered unsafe, and the Council used St Edmund's Hall whilst suitable accommodation was found. It was a late, late night! Thank you all.

> Continue enjoying Lent! Have a good week... Vincent H

What's going on?

Catholic Home Care Co-ordinator. We're looking for an energetic, self-motivated, and resourceful individual to take over the role of co-ordinating the activities of the Catholic Home Care. This is a demanding but rewarding post which offers the opportunity to lead a team of caring people who make a significant social impact providing domestic support, to enable elderly people to safely remain in their own homes for longer. You will be making an important contribution to your community and helping local people. The position is part-time, flexible 20 hours per week, Monday to Friday based around core working hours of 9am to 5pm. Office based in Southampton. This post will require a full DBS check. For an informal discussion or more information call Anne Monaghan or Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498. Contact hr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for job description & application form. Closing date for applications 10 April with interviews on 14 April 2023.

One adult, one teenager looking for a room/flat in the SO14 or SO15 area. Looking for around 6 months to a year, please contact 07340 544 615 if you can help.

The Catholic Association to Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023 August 18th-25th. After a fallow few years due to Covid 19 the CA have been working hard to ensure that this year we have a medically supported pilgrimage for Adult Assisted pilgrims who need care and support during their journey and time in Lourdes. This requires a nursing and medical team but most importantly a large number of volunteers to support the smooth running of the pilgrimage. Volunteering includes a wide range of roles from making teas and coffees, to pushing wheelchairs. Lourdes is a very special place, and everything is geared around making it a positive and memorable experience for the sick. But for those of us who volunteer it is a week that we never forget, & Our Lady always gives us something in return. If you are interested in joining either as an assisted pilgrim, ablebodied pilgrim, volunteer or a health care professional there are more details on the Catholic Association website: https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk If you have any questions you can also talk to Tina or Fr Vincent who will be going again this year

Thanks to all who came to or supported the joint Southampton Parishes' CAFOD Big Lent Walk this Saturday. If you would still like to support Marina and Jude as they continue the Lenten walking challenge then please see https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/southamptoncity-journey-in-faith

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/getinvolved/how-to-donate Round Britain Sailing Pilgrimage! Celebrating Stella Maris' 100+ years of service to Seafarers & Fishers. Please come and join local skipper Russ Fairman & Crew in the launch event and bon voyage Mass, celebrated by Fr Elijah Fru, at St Joseph's church in Southampton at 11am on Saturday 29th April. Hospitality will be provided in the hall afterwards, hosted by Charles Stuart, Stella Maris Port Chaplain, followed by a stroll down to see the boat off from Ocean Village. This voyage of 2,200 miles over 10 weeks will stop in over 50 ports and holy sites around the UK, with as many crew changes, eventually returning to Portsmouth for a closing celebration at the Cathedral on Sunday 9th July. Parishioners are welcome to take part in the sailing, or any of the shoreside Gatherings - for more details, go to https://sailingpilgrimages.co.uk/stellamaris/

To apply for a sailing slot, please email sailing.pilgrimages@gmail.com To join a Gathering, please email info@stellamarismail.org

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).

Green Living

Recycling Reminder....

Many thanks to everyone who is taking the trouble to bring items for recycling to our church buckets and bins in addition to what you do for yourselves. Foil is one of the most valuable items we can recycle as it can be done indefinitely. Please could we remind everyone to **WASH and SQUASH** all items of foil. The wash bit seems to be happening but not necessarily the SQUASH!! It can be difficult to squash items, especially larger containers, by hand but it is very easy if you just tread on it! If the item doesn't stay squashed it is not foil and should be put into the bag of flexible plastic which can be taken to a lot of supermarkets.

Unsquashed foil takes up quite a lot of space and is not easy to store and transport for the recycling company or the charity (the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance) that handles it all. The Parish Green Living team would also really appreciate not having to sort and squash before we can pass it on.

PS. While blister packs for medication are made of foil there is a separate route for recycling them so they shouldn't be put in with the general foil.

With many thanks for all your efforts. They do make a difference.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 26TH MARCH

SJ REFERS TO ST JOSEPH'S (BU	Psalm Response			
Saturday 25th Mar	6:15pm	SJ	Paul McDermott RIP 3rd Anniversary	With the Lord there is mercy
The Annunciation of	_			and fullness of redemption.
The Lord				Gospel Acclamation
Sunday 26th Mar	9:00 am	SE	John Croft Wellbeing	Glory and praise to You, O
5th Sunday of Lent	10:00am		Louis James Valentine Sharpe RIP	Christ!
5th Sunday of Lent			· · ·	I am the resurrection and the
		SE	People of the Parish	life, says the Lord; whoever
	7:00pm	SE	Uche Izuka God's Guidance &	believes in me will never die.
			Thanksgiving	Glory and praise to You, O
Tuesday 28th Mar	10:00am	SE	Simon Parry's Funeral Mass	Christ!
Wednesday 29th Mar	6.30am	SE	Tkg & God's Blessings Uche Izuka	2nd April
of the 5th Week of Lent	7.00pm	SE	Lukasz Janota God's Blessings	1st Reading:
Thursday 30th Mar	- 12.15pm		Тkg & God's Blessings Uche Izuka	Isaiah 50: 4-7 Psalm: 21
Friday 31st Mar	7.00pm	SE	Priests & Vocations	2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11
Saturday 1st Apr	11.00am	SE	The Lyons Family	Gospel:
of the 5th Week of Lent	6:15pm	SJ	Tkg පී God's Blessings Uche Izuka	Matthew 26: 14 - 27, 66
Sunday 2nd Apr	9:00am	SE	People of the Parish	There will be no Adoration in
Palm Sunday of the	10:00am	SJ	For Divine Mercy, Purity, Justification,	the church during Holy
Passion of the Lord			Holy Love & Favour	Week and the Parish Office
	11.00am	SE	Robert Smyllie Health & Wellbeing	will be closed Good Friday to
	7:00pm	SE	Clayton Masters RIP 1st Anniversary	Easter Tuesday.

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 02380 172 104 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 Our FaceBook: @SotonCatholicsCityCentre Our Twitter: @SotonCatholics Safeguarding: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org Gift Aid: Ian Lang giftaid@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org Pastoral Assistant: Tina Quinn tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Catholic Home Care: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Mrs Anne Monaghan & Mrs Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498 Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski Telephone: 023 8178 6316 southampton@pcmew.org Stella Maris (AoS): Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 07843 739 579 **Catholic Chaplains:** Sr Emiliana Silva e.silva@soton.ac.uk 07426 000 213 Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk **Solent Chaplain:** Sr Issy Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414 462 636 Vocations: www.portsmouthvocations.org/ Diocesan Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Diocesan Facebook & Twitter: @PortsmouthRC We are part of Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Registered Charity Number 1199568.

Holy Week 2023 in City Centre Catholic Parish Monday 3rd April Penitential Service in St Edmund's at 7.30pm **Thursday 6th April** Mass of the Lord's Supper For Children: St Joseph's 6.15pm Mass: St Edmund's 8pm 'Watching until Midnight' in St Edmund's Friday 7th Good Friday St Edmund's Stations of the Cross 10am St Joseph's: Stations by and for children 11.30am St Edmund's: Passion of Our Lord 3pm Saturday 8th Holy Saturday Easter Vigil First Mass of Easter 9pm St Edmund's Sunday 9th Easter Sunday St Edmund's 9am, 11am ど 7pm; St Joseph's 10am

26th March

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 SOUJE 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

Ioin the Parish!

understanding with ourselves and others.