



MARCH 6TH 2022 | FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



## TURNING AWAY FROM OUR VARIED DEVILS

One of my favourite childhood songs is: "I have decided to follow Jesus". The lyrics of that song are based on the last words of Nokseng, a man from the Garo tribe in Assam, India. In the 1800s, the Welsh missionaries witnessed their first convert in India – a man, his wife and two children. The village chief was so enraged that he asked the man to renounce the Christian faith. Moved by the Holy Spirit and unhindered, the man sang: "I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back." After the killing of his wife and two children, he was given another opportunity to denounce Christ; when he refused, he was shot dead. His death sparked the conversion of the village chief and the entire village. I remember singing this song as a young man with tears streaming down my cheeks. Till this present time, I still cry whenever I sing it, as it reminds me of the many times I had chosen my various devils instead of God.

On this First Sunday of Lent, we encounter in our readings, the various decisions to return to God by turning away from our varied devils. We encounter this in the Gospel when Jesus returned (Hupostrepho) from Jordan and turned His attention to the wilderness. Yes, the same word Hupostrepho means to return and to turn away. When tempted with food, idolatry and testing God, Jesus turned His back at them and turned His face to God. In the First Reading, the Israelites returned to the temple with their first fruits in remembrance of God's salvific actions while turning their backs to Egypt. The three main devils (Diabolos – Slanderer and False accuser) barring us from turning completely to God this Lent are: our bodies, idolatry and greed for power and riches. St John the beloved called them – the concupiscence of the flesh, the concupiscence of the eyes and the pride of life. The remedies to the above three devils are those three powerful acts we are called to take up in Lent: Fasting, Almsgiving and Prayer. When we have done our best, we can make our own the words of Nokseng: "The cross before me, the world behind me; no turning back, no turning back."

*Fr Johnpromise*

## Questions to ponder for the Week...

1. Jesus was 'tempted' or 'tested' in the desert for forty days (Gospel). When have you been/felt 'tempted' or 'tested'? How did you respond? Was it a time of change or growth? Did you turn to your faith, to God?
2. The Israelites, in their suffering 'called on the Lord' and the Lord 'heard' their voice (1st reading). When have you 'called' on the Lord? Why? Do you think the Lord responded to your voice?
3. 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved' St Paul writes (2nd reading). Do you call on the Lord? Do you ask him for things: faith, perseverance, love, hope ...?

*Vincent Harvey*

## Today's Notices

**Family Mass** when the children participate more fully at the **9 & 10am Masses**

**CAFOD Talks at all Masses.** Please take an envelope or donate online for Family Fast Day.

**Rosary Chain registration** at all Masses in the Porch

**Welcome Baptism Lunch in St Edmund Hall**

**SCOF gathering in support of Ukraine and for Peace:** 4pm at the Queen's Peace Fountain in East Park (see elsewhere)

**Stations of the Cross at 6.15pm** in St Edmund Church

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

## Next Week

**Children's Mass at 9am Mass**  
**Please continue to sanitise hands** on entry to the churches and we **encourage wearing face masks**

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## This Week...

**Tues** St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm

**Wed** Evening Prayer @6pm..... to join email Den Andy  
Journey in Faith 7pm

**Thurs** Richard Rohr @ 5pm

**Sat** FHC at St Anne's

### For info

**Mon** Day Off: VH/JP

**Tues** Divine Renovation: VH  
SLT meeting: TQ/LS/VH/AP  
SCOF: VH

**Wed** Clergy Team meeting: VH/JP/AP  
CA Trustees: VH

**Thurs** CTC Fundraising: VH  
Desert Day: VH

**Fri** Clergy Ministry Group: VH  
Jesus Caritas: VH/JP

**Sat** Teams: VH

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**Please remember especially in your prayers** Margaret Hicks, Gary, S & D, Margaret Murray, Mary Mullen and all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.

**Pope's prayer intention for March:** Christian response to bioethical challenges. *We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges. May they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.*

## A Few Words...

*I imagine, like me, you are continually updating on the Ukraine situation. My heart aches when I see and hear the unnecessary violence, pain, suffering and death being inflicted on the people of Ukraine by Russia. This is not only totally unacceptable but, in my eyes, evil. We need to continue to pray for a solution to this war and the suffering it is creating; we also need to support the aid agencies in whatever way we can. The Polish Club in Portswood is coordinating collection of essential items for the refugees fleeing Ukraine. See elsewhere in the newsletter for items. You can either get them to the Polish Club or drop them off with us (please note: they are not asking for clothes!).*

*The 'Synodal Way' responses have been sent to the Diocese. We will publish the full and summarised responses and slowly work on them all to create 'action plans' for us as a Parish. The 'listening' continues!*

**Lent has begun!** *It was great to be able to celebrate Ash Wednesday Masses with so many people. Remember that all through Lent there will be a 6.30am Mass in St Ed's, as well as the usual 7pm Mass. See also 'Working Through Lent 2022' in the Lent link on our website.*

*During Lent Father Johnpromise and I are going to **walk/cycle for hunger** (CAFOD). Find us on Facebook! My details on CAFOD site:*

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/vincent-harvey-cycle-against-hunger>

*Father Johnpromise's to follow.*

**Have a good weekend... Vincent H**

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## Prayers

**Please pray for Father Michael Peters** whom many will know. He is seriously ill.

**Please join our Lenten Rosary Prayer Chain** for this Lent. It just involves you taking and praying one decade of the Rosary each day throughout Lent from home in private at any time of the day. It's a very powerful way of uniting us all in Prayer to the Lord through Our Blessed Mother! Please contact Catheryn on 07534110228 or by e-mail to [catherynhulme1@hotmail.com](mailto:catherynhulme1@hotmail.com) to receive your decade and details.

**Calling all prayer warriors...** If you would be interested in joining a small group who are willing to pray for particular private intentions each week then **please get in touch with Anna** in the Parish Office.

# What's going on?

## Appeal for aid for Ukraine

The Polish club on Portswood Road, opposite the Immaculate Conception church, are collecting much needed goods to support the people of Ukraine who have had to leave their homes over this past week. Below is a list of the most needed items. Any donations you can give would be very gratefully received and can be dropped off this week each day between the hours of 6 pm – 8 pm or on Saturday 10 am – 12 noon.

- Thermal Blankets
- Sleeping bags
- Sleeping mats
- Sanitary products for kids and adults
- Bandages, plasters, wound dressings, tourniquets etc.
- Thermal socks, hats, gloves (no other clothing at the moment)
- Underwear for children and adults - both thermal and normal, **must be brand new**
- Hand/feet warmers
- Thermos/vacuum flasks for hot drinks and meals
- Baby formula - including that for allergic/lactose intolerant babies
- Instant soups
- Torches

## Making a financial donation

As the dreadful events unfold in Ukraine, we stand in solidarity with our Caritas Colleagues in Caritas-Spes as they continue to assist those vulnerable and in need in that country. Until recently, Caritas-Spes had been working in Eastern Ukraine with the displaced families from the ongoing conflict in the disputed territories, including Avidiivka which has been under heavy shelling.

If you would like to support Caritas work in the emergency in Ukraine, please visit their website and donate - and please pray for all those affected.

<https://www.caritas.org/donate-now/>

There is also a virtual collection run by the Polish charitable donations portal 'Sie Pomaga' and anyone who wishes to donate anything, can do so by clicking this link (British cards are accepted).

<https://www.siepomaga.pl/southamptondlaukrainy>

**Vigil to support the people of Ukraine** Southampton Council of Faiths is holding a vigil to support the people of Ukraine on Sunday 6th March (Today) at the Queens Peace Fountain in East Park, Southampton. Carol Cunio, chair of SCOF, said "We all felt it was important to give people the opportunity to show their support and this is one of several events being held in the city at the moment." Anyone can join the vigil from 4 pm on Sunday. For more information email [southamptonfaiths@gmail.com](mailto:southamptonfaiths@gmail.com)

**Food Banks.** Please when shopping buy 'one' extra item to bring to church and put in the box in the porch. No perishables.

**Lent 2022 resources are available on the website**

## Stations of the Cross:

Thursday 11.30am in St Joseph's  
Fridays and Sundays 6:15pm in St Edmund's



## Wednesdays in Lent:

Masses at 6.30am & 7pm in St Edmund's

## Catholic Home Care

We have had a really good response to our recent job advert and will be busy with recruitment of new carers to our team.

After a period of 'safe recruitment' we will have increased availability across the city for new clients in April.

If you know of any elderly person (65+) who would benefit from domestic, sitting, gardening support, please mention our name and ask them to contact Anne or Marina for more information on **023 8017 0498**.

## Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima 12-19th October 2022.

Brochures are now available from the Parish Office or Godfrey Doyle.

## CAFOD are celebrating their Diamond Jubilee

Founded in 1962 CAFOD has been supporting our vulnerable sisters and brothers around the world for 60 Years. Please donate to their Lent Appeal.

[https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?defaultuniversaltype=single&\\_Appeal=125149](https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?defaultuniversaltype=single&_Appeal=125149)

**CAFOD Walk against Hunger.** Are you ready to change your life and transform someone else's this Lent? Challenge yourself to walk 200k this Lent and help stamp out hunger! <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/register>.

## New this Lent - Prayer for CAFOD

Why not join our parish CAFOD group pray for Justice and Peace? Fridays in Lent, on Zoom at 8:15 pm. To join, email Marina [mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## Weekly Green Living Suggestion...

A lot of fruit and veg in our shops goes to waste for various reasons. Have a look at OddBox as an alternative to the usual supermarket produce. They 'rescue' fruit and veg straight from UK farms and from Supermarket suppliers whose produce is a bit odd or wonky, too big or too small or just too many. This produce would be thrown away otherwise. Look at their web site for full details of what they offer each week. They deliver to your home and have an excellent customer care service. If you have anyone to recommend let the Office know and we can give them a mention in the future!

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 6TH MARCH

(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

<b>Saturday 5th March</b>	<b>6:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	James & Gabriella Hall RIP
<i>After Ash Wednesday</i>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>
<b>Sunday 6th March</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Ouseph Trissokkaran RIP
<i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Patricia Livett T & GBs
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Thanksgiving for healing of Jose Vas
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Joan & Morgan Newinerton RIP
<b>Tuesday 8th March</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Martin Ryan RIP
<i>St John of God</i>			
<b>Wednesday 9th March</b>	<b>6.30am</b>	<b>SE</b>	JR Personal Intentions
<i>St Frances of Rome</i>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Mary O'Brien RIP
<b>Thursday 10th March</b>	<b>12:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Michael K RIP
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>			
<b>Friday 11th March</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Albert Tan RIP
<b>Saturday 12th March</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	All those fleeing war, for a peaceful resolution of conflict
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<b>6:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Sean, Kathleen, Stewart Adamson RIP
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>
<b>Sunday 13th March</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Eric Clarke RIP
<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Ginnie Palser
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Chrissie MacIntyre RIP
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Jan Rojko RIP

**6th March**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**Psalm Response:**  
Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.  
**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!*

### Readings 13th March

**First Reading:**  
*Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18*  
**Second Reading:**  
*Philippians 3: 17-4:1*  
**Gospel:**  
*Luke 9: 28-36*

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Solent Chaplain:** Isabelle Kirby [volunteer239@solent.ac.uk](mailto:volunteer239@solent.ac.uk)

### 13th Feb Weekly Collection

Standing Orders: £1231.66  
Cash Donations: £1046.75

**Total : £2,278.41**

**Evening Adoration is available Tuesdays and Fridays in St Edmund's 5-7pm. .**

*We rely on your attendance to be able to offer this opportunity.*

**We are called to do more than just attend the Mass.** Why not commit this period of lent to visiting Our Lord in Adoration, even just once or twice a month...

### Second Collections:

This week: **Catholic Home Care**  
Next week: **CAFOD Lenten Day**

### Confessions

#### St Joseph's:

Thursdays 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm  
(before Mass)

#### St Edmund's:

Saturdays 11.30am (after Mass)

### Alternative Confessions Available

*St Boniface* Saturdays 11am  
*Immaculate Conception* Saturdays 10.30am  
*St Patrick's Woolston* Saturday 5-5.40pm