



A BUSY WORLD

Modern living is so busy that we often rush between tasks trading what is important for things of lesser importance. This may come at a cost to our family, time for relaxation, time for God. What is important and what is not? This question is not always as easy as it seems. A number of years ago, in an article in the Strait Times, an English newspaper based in Singapore, a woman who was visiting there on business, observed that the working culture often came at a cost to family life. She said to herself, "In all my life, I have never met a person who had said at their death bed, 'I wish I had spent a little more time in the office'. Instead, they always say, 'I wish I had spent more time with my family'". Sometimes, it's only when the unexpected happens, we begin to evaluate what is important and we realise what we have been missing in our lives.

Busyness can occur for all types of reasons; we may use busyness to distract ourselves or fill a gap of emptiness in our lives. We may also keep ourselves busy to find a sense of self-worth by constantly setting ourselves challenges or goals we want to achieve which make us feel good about ourselves. And, like addictions to drugs or alcohol, busyness can also be used as a 'numbing behaviour' to stop us from addressing our own deeper vulnerabilities which need healing.

In the book of Jeremiah, God says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I consecrated you" (1:5). In the book of Isaiah "The mountains may shift, and the hills may be shaken, but my faithful love won't shift from you, and my covenant of peace won't be shaken, says the Lord..." (54:10). Very often, the things we are busy with stop us from hearing God's voice, stop us from truly experiencing how deep His love is. God's love fills the emptiness in our lives, fills us with self-worth, and heals our vulnerabilities. God's love gives us purpose and direction, and reminds us that the very act of creation was the very act of His love. In the same way a new born child brings joy to its parents, our own creation brings such joy to God, one which we could never imagine. God's love also gives us a sense of self-worth, as God doesn't love us because of our ambitions or achievements, God loves us purely as we are His children. God's love is unconditional and He loves us even when we fail. And God's love can heal our vulnerabilities.

When Jesus says, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will find it" (Matthew 16:24-25), this does not mean Jesus willingly wants us to suffer, but He allows it, because although discovering the root of our wounds can be painful, the healing to be gained is immeasurable. That's why Jesus says, "for those who lose their life for My sake will find it." The passion and death we experience, is overcome by resurrection, new life, freedom from our wounds, redemption.

During the season of Lent, we are encouraged to practise the penitential acts of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. Perhaps the most difficult of these is prayer. One way to try and fit daily prayer into our lives, is to pray at the same time each day, forming a habit, which will hopefully become second nature. Maybe over the remaining weeks of Lent, by committing ourselves to daily prayer and spending time with God, hopefully, we will discover more deeply God's love for us, the great respect He has for the dignity He created us with, and His healing hand.

Father Ansel D'Mello

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

1. "If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies.... it yields a rich harvest" Jesus says in today's Gospel. What needs to 'die' in your life so you can yield a rich harvest?
2. "..... I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind" God says (1st reading). What iniquity/sin do you want forgiven? Why?
3. Christ became "the source of eternal salvation" Hebrew says (2nd reading). Do you experience that? How? When? Or, why not?

Vincent Harvey

21 MARCH 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY
OF LENT



ST JOSEPH'S &
ST EDMUND'S
CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC
PARISH SOUTHAMPTON
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

STELLA MARIS DEANERY
INCLUDES:

- ST. BONIFACE, SHIRLEY
- HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, LORDSWOOD
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, PORTSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION, HEDGE END
- ST BRIGID, WEST END
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION, NETLEY ABBEY



**TODAY 21 MARCH 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

ALL KNEEL FOR PENITENTIAL RITE (if able to): even at home!!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS streamed from St Edmund at 6:15pm online.

NEXT WEEK Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.

MASSES ARE BEING STREAMED:

St Edmund streaming link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx08VII2ww0whsj6gLPptcQ>

St Joseph streaming link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUxGYYxAgmPBgKbk2ufciVw>

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY PUBLIC MASSES: Look closely at the times and method of booking. Do not turn up without booking as you may be denied entry (they may be space but you are taking a risk!). **There must not be any congregational singing.....**you may hum through your mask! **Masks must be worn** by law.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED to casual visitors. **Please phone or email in.**

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY ONLINE EVENING PRAYER at 5:30pm. To join email Deacon Andy aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

STATIONS OF THE CROSS online at 6:15pm on Sundays during Lent from St Edmund.

MONDAY ONLINE EVENING PRAYER at 6:30pm. The Baptism Preparation Team invite you to join them; email Deacon Andy.

ROSARY GROUP meet online every Tuesday at 8pm during Lent (next meeting 23 March, thereafter will meet every 2 weeks as usual). Zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3050730356> same link every week.

EVENING PRAYER WEDNESDAY at 6pm. To join email Deacon Andy at aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk and Holy 'Half-hour' after 7pm Mass (approx. 7:40pm).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS online on Fridays at 6:15pm during Lent from St Edmund.

FOR INFO:

Mon	VH/AD'M off
Tues	DR Zoom meet: VH CIC clergy meet: VH Christian Med Group: VH St George Governors: VH
Wed	Team Meeting: VH/ADL/AP Confessions: St George: VH DR Webinar: VH/TQ/AW/AP
Fri	Priest Ministry Group: VH

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR MARCH:

Evangelisation: that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES Subscription:

see website www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call 0161 820 5722 to arrange to email or post it to you.

A few words from Father Vincent

Tuesday is the 1st anniversary of our first national 'lockdown'. So let's spend a little time that day praying for those who have been seriously affected by COVID and those who have died; we pray for all who have dedicated themselves during these 12 months to caring for the sick, the dying, the isolated and lonely; providing food, doing shopping and keeping in touch with others. We pray also for an end to the pandemic and a return to as normal a life as possible.

Holy Week is next week, and, due to social distancing, we are planning a scaled down, but dignified, Triduum (**Holy Thursday 8pm, Good Friday 3pm, and Holy Saturday 8pm**). Bookings will be via Eventbrite and will open this week. I encourage you to come to one and not all three so as to enable others to experience one of them (usually we request you come to all three..... but circumstances: lack of space; health and safety etc.!). Thank you to all working behind the scenes to enable this to happen. Unlike last year at least we can celebrate the Triduum either physically or virtually (all will be streamed..... make the most of this excellent facility)

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings for Good Friday and Holy Saturday will take place at 9am via Zoom. Do join the priests for this so that we can make the most of these days especially as we cannot all join in the actual Triduum. Details and Zoom link on Palm Sunday.

Stations of the Cross will be at 10.30am on Good Friday morning; again book via Eventbrite when it opens. This, and the Triduum, will also be streamed.

On Saturday 27th March at 7.30pm we will hold our regular **Seder Meal** but via Zoom! See elsewhere for all the details and on the website for the list of food to prepare for yourself.

Don't forget Lent resources:

- o **Stations of the Cross** online from St Edmund at 6.15pm on a Friday and Sunday. Also **Stations of the Cross during a Time of Pandemic** written by Father Sean Tobin are available on the **Parish Website**.
- o **Half-hour reflection** after 7pm Mass on a Wednesday (approx. 7.40-8.10pm)
- o **Website** for online retreats
- o **Liturgies** for use at home from the Schools Department (on our webpage)

Apologies with the issue with the 'masking camera' at St Joseph. Keep safe! Be safe! Think of others! And remember: if you suspect you have been near someone with coronavirus, or are not feeling well yourself, stay at home and certainly DO NOT mix with others; also refrain from coming to church; think of others!

Thank you for reading this..... I hope! Have a good week.
Vincent H

PLEASE PRAY FOR all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or affected by the Coronavirus in any way or are experiencing extreme poverty.



PASSOVER VIA ZOOM: The Parish *Seder Celebration Supper* will be held via Zoom *this coming Saturday (27th March) at 7:30pm*. Email the Parish Office or Father Vincent to register your wish to join or join direct with the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89749554598?pwd=c0FpaCsrNVZVNlhQQIRmOVByaTB3Zz09>

(Meeting ID: 897 4955 4598 Passcode: 856980).

You will need to prepare items for the celebration (both for the ritual and the meal; the ritual we will do together; the meal on our own; then regather for the final rituals).

See the front page of the website for the foods you have to prepare (Fr Vincent says he can do it so for everyone else it should be a walk in the park!).

Remember the Seder Meal (Passover) is the roots of our Mass, our Eucharist.

THE EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTION traditionally supports our parish priests, in recognition for all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese and in each parish.

If you would like to give a gift to support Father Vincent and Father Ansel in their vocation and mission this Easter, please visit: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/southampton-st-joseph-and-st-edmund-easter-sunday-collection> to donate. There will be some yellow envelopes available in the porches from next weekend.

COLLECTIONS: ongoing income is, as we know, vital. This can be done:

- o **Online**.... already mentioned, but as a reminder: accessible via the Parish Website
- o **Bank Transfer** (details also on the Parish website)
- o **In a clearly marked envelope** put through the Presbytery or Office letter box
- o **A 'bucket' at the back of church**

'HELLO SOUTHAMPTON' AND 'TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING': "Last summer I became a telephone befriender with Communicare and am really enjoying the calls I make. I really feel I am contributing to helping reduce loneliness and can see the difference my calls are making. More telephone befrienders are needed. To volunteer contact Communicare on Tel. 023 8250 0050 or email volunteer@communicareinsouthampton.org.uk They have two telephone befriending projects:

- o **Hello Southampton**—volunteers sign up for a regular slot to call a list of people for a shorter check in call.
- o **Telephone befrienders** make a longer call usually once a week. You will need to complete an application form naming 2 people Communicare can approach for a character reference.

For **Hello Southampton** calls you need to be available weekday mornings and have a computer, tablet or iPad. Do think about it. To speak with me contact Father Vincent or the Parish Office". Thanks, Christine Parker

THE SACRED TRIDUUM:
Holy Thursday/Good Friday/Holy Saturday.

These three days (Three Days of Salvation) are the most important in the Church's Year. They commemorate Jesus Passion, Death and Resurrection. Although we celebrate this at every Mass, these three days enable us to go deeper, and to ponder longer the Mystery of Christ; the Mystery who is Christ!

Usually we encourage people to come to all Three Days as they are a unity. This year, though, we suggest you come to only one, so that as many people as possible can come along to at least one of these days. All will, of course, be streamed so please join **via streaming ALL** of the celebrations.

The celebrations will be stripped down to a minimum due to the restrictions we are currently under. Nevertheless they will be dignified and uplifting and enable us to 'touch' the mystery of salvation into which we are all invited and, as it were, enfolded.

The celebrations are all at St Edmund (*sadly St Joseph is too small for the 'family celebrations' we normally hold there*) book on Eventbrite:

Holy Thursday (1st April)
8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday (2nd April)
3pm The Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday (3rd April)
8pm Vigil and First Mass of Easter

As well as the above we will have:

Good Friday 9am: Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (via Zoom only; link will be available next week)

Good Friday 10:30am Stations of the Cross: come in person (book online via Eventbrite) or join on YouTube.

Holy Saturday 9am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (via Zoom only; link will be available next week)

Eventbrite will open later in the week.

CAFOD—WALK FOR WATER LENT APPEAL: Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. **Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or phone 0303 303 3030. You can also give via text. Text LENT 5 to 70460 to donate £5 or Text LENT 10 to 70460 to donate £10 or LENT 20 to 70460 to donate £20.** Many thanks for your support. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460.

200 CLUB FEES: 2021-22 fees now due for members. Email southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you would like to join. £12pa with a chance of winning 2 prizes per month. All contributions go towards much needed income for the Parish.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 21 MARCH 2021

(Church key to City Centre Catholic Masses below are SJ = St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street, SO14 2AH and SE = St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ)

SAT	20 MAR	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM	SJ	KATHLEEN MCGUIRE RIP (MAEVE & FAMILY)
SUN	21 MAR	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	9:00AM	SE	JOAQUIM RODRIGUES RIP (MB & JB)
			10:30AM	SJ	RITA CHRISTIE RIP (OC)
			**	**	TOMMY (TUCKER) McALLISTER RIP (PR)
			7:00PM	SE	AUXANO FOUNDATION—VINEYARD SHELTER PROJECT— GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (LI)
TUES	23 MAR	OF THE 5TH WEEK OF LENT	10:00AM	SE	PAT O'NEILL RIP (MC)
WED	24 MAR	OF THE 5TH WEEK OF LENT	7:00PM	SE	MARY DORAN RIP (MC)
THURS	25 MAR	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	12:15PM	SJ	JENNIE DONNARUMMA RIP (MC)
FRI	26 MAR	OF THE 5TH WEEK OF LENT	7:00PM	SE	PRIESTS & VOCATIONS (HH)
SAT	27 MAR	OF THE FIFTH WEEK OF LENT	11:00AM	SE	DECEASED MEMBERS OF LA SAINTE UNION COMMUNITY
			6:15PM	SJ	RITA CHRISTIE RIP (OC)
			7:00PM	SE	MASS IN POLISH
SUN	28 MAR	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	9:00AM	SE	PAT O'NEILL RIP (MB & JB)
			10:30AM	SJ	FRANCINE P, ANGELA C & WELLSRING PRAYER GROUP— BIRTHDAYS; THEONI MASON, BHIULA V, ISHARI K, MARGARET M, JEAN B & ALL UNA MEMBERS—GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (ANUSHKA PONNIAH)
			**	**	FRANCIS BIRTHDAY—GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING—PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY (ANUSHKA P)
			7:00PM	SE	DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GRANT & CONNOLLY FAMILIES RIP (PG)

CONTACT DETAILS:

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Father Ansel Tel. No.	023 8017 2104
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Email address:	aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Anne Wheeler
Parish Office Tel. No.	023 8033 3589
Parish Office Address:	St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ
Parish Email Address:	southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Website:	www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
Pastoral Assistant:	Mrs Tina Quinn / Mobile 07827 810 457
email:	tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Catholic Home Care:	Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498
Email address:	catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Hospital Chaplaincy:	023 8120 8517—Father Joe McNerney
Stella Maris (AoS):	Father John Lavers Mob. No. 07720 093 156
Poitiers Care Project:	Brian Arthur 07796 161 047/0238029 2692
Polish Chaplaincy:	Father Mariusz Urbanowski
Tel. No.	023 8178 6316
email:	southampton@tchr.org
Address:	15 Landguard Road Southampton SO155DL
Safeguarding Rep:	Claire Thompson (via Parish Office)
Solent Uni. Chaplain:	Sister Emiliana Silva—Mob. 07426 000 213 email: emiliana.silva@solent.ac.uk
S'oton Uni. Chaplains:	Sister Valentina Stilo Mob 07983883377

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH WEEK 1

21 MARCH 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalm Response:

A pure heart create for me, O God!

Gospel Acclamation:

**Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!**

Whoever serves me must follow me,
says the Lord; and where I am,
there also will my servant be.

**Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!**

READING 28 MARCH 2021

PALM SUNDAY

Gospel: Mark 14: 1—15: 47

**2ND COLLECTION TODAY
CATHOLIC HOME CARE**

**2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK
EASTER FLOWERS**

PARISH INCOME 14.3.2021	DONATIONS & STANDING ORDERS	2ND - CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND
Totals	£3,177.03	£110.00
Donations	1,306.14	—
Standing	1,518.71	88.00
Gift Aid	352.18	22.00

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:	Springhill Primary 023 8033 3954
	St Anne School 023 8032 8200
	St George College 023 8032 2603