

# Today's Readings

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Of you may heart has spoken: See his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

or  
Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are form of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

### THE COLLECT

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

### FIRST READING (Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18)

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self— it is the Lord who speaks — because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

I trusted, even when I said:

"I am sorely afflicted."  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful. **R**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. **R**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the houses of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R**

### SECOND READING (Romans 8: 31-34)

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn?

Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!" Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

### GOSPEL (Mark 9: 2-10)

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray, cleanse us of our faults and sanctify your faithful in body and mind for the celebration of the paschal festivities. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord, with a blessing that endures for ever, and keep them faithful to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son, so that they may always desire and at last attain that glory whose beauty he showed in his own Body, to the amazement of his apostles. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Readings for Next Week

**Exodus 20:1-17**

**Psalms 18:8-11**

**St Paul to the Corinthians 1:22-25**

**John 2:13-25**



# ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH NEWSLETTER

Second Sunday of Lent

25<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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Parish Clergy: Fr Aaron Spinelli (fr.spinelli@yahoo.co.uk) | Deacon Tom Murray (deacontm90@gmail.com)

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February

6:00 pm - Vigil Mass - In Remembrance of the Holocaust

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February

Second "Transfiguration" Sunday of Lent

9:15 am - People of the Parish

11:15 am - Living & Deceased Members of the Ringrose &

Cottington Families

1:00 pm - in Polish

5:00 pm - in Italian

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

10:00 am - Eddie Bailham RIP

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February

10:00 am - Deirdre Harkness RIP

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

10:00 am - Bob Davis RIP

1:00 pm - in Polish

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Feast of St David

10:00 am - Antonino Spinelli RIP

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Womens' World Day of Prayer

10:00 am - Funeral Mass for Anthony McCormack RIP

12:00 noon - Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

10:00 am – Fairtrade

1:00 pm - Signed Mass for the Deaf

6:00 pm - Vigil Mass - Patrick Gately RIP

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Third Sunday of Lent

9:15 am - People of the Parish

11:15 am - Audrey Campbell RIP and her family

1:00 pm - in Polish

5:00 pm - in Italian

### Useful Contacts

**Parish Office**  
01403-253667  
Mon-Fri | 9:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Trish Fitzsimmons | Cozette Rice

**Safeguarding**  
Trish Fitzsimmons

**Parish Hall Hire**  
Please inquire at the Parish Office

**St John's Primary School**  
Toria Bono | 01403-265447

**St Robert Southwell Primary School**  
James Field | 01403-252357

**St. Wilfrid's Catholic Comprehensive, Crawley**  
Headteacher Mike Ferry  
01293 421 421

**Parish Mission Group**  
Dominic Scarborough

**Chair of Parish Finance**  
David Innes  
innesgen@btinternet.com

### Last Week's Collection

£2,136.08

### Second Collection

No Collection

### Thank You

You could add 25p to every £1 you give by joining Gift Aid.

## Fr Spinelli Writes

As we proceed through our Lent Season, I would continue to encourage you all in your offerings of Prayer, Fasting, Abstinence and Alms-giving. I also pray that if we fall in these areas to re-commit ourselves to the Lord in humble service and to our brothers and sisters in need. Have recourse to the Sacrament of Penance always and seek the face of the merciful Lord, who awaits us with open arms and tender heart.

A friend sent me the following recently, it is a list of things to give up. Not the usual material things, these can be trivial at times, but the following can assist us in our interior lives. They have certainly helped me in my prayer and reflection. It can also help us pick up the scriptures this Lent to!

Give up complaining – Focus on Gratitude (Philippians 2:14 & 15)

Give up bitterness – Turn to forgiveness (Ephesians 4:31)

Give up worry – Trust in God (Matthew 6:25)

Give up discouragement – Be full of hope (Deuteronomy 31:8)

Give up hatred – Return good for evil (1 John 2:9 & Luke 6:27)

Give up anger – Be more patient (Matthew 5:22 & Proverbs 15:18)

Give up gossiping – Control your tongue (Psalm 34:13 & Proverbs 21:23)

A Happy and Blessed continuation of Lent to you all and prayers for the sick and housebound of our parish this week, may we continue to pray for all the sick especially Lyn Murray and for Deacon Tom.

## Parish and Diocesan Notices

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP** - Our 9:15 Children's Liturgy group are in need of support. They need a couple more adults to help with guiding the children in their learning of the Gospel. If you are interested in helping, please contact either Jon Gulliver 07515 688117, or Annamaria Shipton 07932 750099.

**ST JOHN'S TODDLER GROUP** meets in the hall on Wednesdays in term time from 10.00-11.30am. New members are always welcome, indeed the survival of the group relies on new members replacing those who have moved on to school. If you no longer have a pre-school child/grandchild but would like to help you would be made VERY welcome too. Please support this group who have been part of our Parish Community for many years now.

**MARY'S MEALS BACKPACK APPEAL** - During Lent we will collect items for the Backpack Appeal and then pack them on Palm Sunday 25th March from 2.30pm. Items needed are Notepads, pens, pencils or crayons, eraser, sharpener, pencil case or empty video box,

shorts/skirt, t-shirt or dress, flip flops or sandals, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, small ball and a spoon. Please leave any donations in the box in the Covenant Chapel or hand them in to the office.

**GRANDPARENTS' GROUP** - The next meeting of the Grandparents' Group will be held after 10.00 am Mass on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March in St John's Hall. For more details contact Christine Evans [cevansuk@btinternet.com](mailto:cevansuk@btinternet.com) 01293 851909.

**SVP LENT SOUP LUNCHES** - Join the SVP for a simple soup lunch in the church hall in Lent, 12 till 1.30 pm commencing Wednesday, 28th February and then 7th, 14th and 21st March. All proceeds to support local SVP members in Sudan and South Sudan tackle extreme poverty in their local communities.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS** – If you wish to send an item for the newsletter, please send it to [newsletter@stjohnshorsham.com](mailto:newsletter@stjohnshorsham.com) copied with [info@stjohnshorsham.com](mailto:info@stjohnshorsham.com). Thank you.

## Sacraments & Liturgical Life

**BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2018 - WHEN PLANNING YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM, PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE DAYS AND TIMES OF BAPTISMS IN ST JOHN'S PARISH:** Baptisms in St. John's Parish will be celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 12noon or 1:30pm and on 2nd and 4th Sundays on each month at 3pm.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MELISSA KILBRIDE AT 07766712195**

**MARRIAGE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - ALL MARRIAGES WHETHER AT HOME OR ABROAD NEED A MINIMUM OF A YEAR'S NOTICE BY ORDER OF THE BISHOP.** Please email the Parish Office for preliminary enquiry.

**CONFESSIONS** - Fridays after the Mass until 11:00 am. Saturdays at 10:30 am to 11:00 am; 5:20 pm to 5:45 pm.

**ADORATION** Friday and Saturday at 10:30 am to 11:00 am (ends with Solemn Benediction).

## Parish and Diocesan Notices

**RED MISSION BOXES** - If you have handed in a Mission Box your receipt is in a box in the Covenant Chapel at the back of the church. Thank you all .A cheque for £662.99 has been sent to APF

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** - is on Friday 2nd March 2018. There will be two services on that day for those who would like to attend. 10.30am- at London Road Methodist Church and 7.30pm- at St Andrews Methodist Church Crawley Road, Roffey. Any further information please contact Veronica Peppiatt at [vpeppiatt@waitrose.com](mailto:vpeppiatt@waitrose.com).

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT** takes place from February 26th until March 11th. Fairtrade Horsham are organising a Big Brew event on Saturday March 10th. Drop into St John's Hall from 10am for coffee and cake. All Fairtrade of course! Proceeds will be donated to the Traidcraft "Hidden Entrepreneur" campaign which helps people in the developing world to set up successful small businesses. Donations of home-made cakes, made with at least two Fairtrade ingredients please, would be very welcome. This Big Brew event is designed to raise awareness of Fairtrade in Horsham and to support our presence in the town as a Fairtrade church. Bring your friends! We look forward to seeing you on Saturday March 10th!

**EASTER RETREAT FOR 18-35s AT WORTH ABBEY** - Worth Abbey and The Wellspring Community invite young adults (ages 18-35) to celebrate the Easter Triduum (29th March-1st April) with a retreat at Worth Abbey. Over the Easter Triduum young adults from across the UK will be gathering to celebrate the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The retreat will be centred around participation in the Triduum liturgy from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday, with a programme of talks by the monks, discussion, prayer & reflection and fellowship. Leading up to the retreat, you are welcome to be part of a 'Cross Walk'- a group of young adults and monks who will walk to Worth from Arundel, across the beautiful South Downs, carrying the cross. We will begin the walk on Palm Sunday (25th March) and arrive at Worth on Maundy Thursday (29th March). Booking forms are now available. Please contact [TOC@worthabbey.net](mailto:TOC@worthabbey.net) or [fcarbhone@wellspringbrighton.org.uk](mailto:fcarbhone@wellspringbrighton.org.uk). You can also find more information via Facebook.

**LOURDES REDSHIRTS 26 JULY TO 3 AUGUST 2018** - If you have a child at secondary school in year 10 or 11 who is thinking of going to Lourdes as a Redshirt in July 2018, and you would like to join in the St John's Parish fundraising efforts, please speak to Fr Aaron or contact the parish office as soon as possible for further information.

**BISHOP RICHARD INVITES YOU TO JOIN HIM FOR THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES IN DUBLIN WITH THE HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS:** 21-26 August 2018 sees the arrival of the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland. The Diocese is making the most of this wonderful opportunity by organising a

pilgrimage for those who would like to attend. It is open to families of all shapes and sizes, from tiny tots to Grandparents. We will be staying together in Dublin City University accommodation and travelling to events together by coach. A three day congress will be followed by a Festival of Families and a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration with Pope Francis. If you would like more information about the event visit [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/) If you would like to join us on pilgrimage, please speak to your parish priest about how he can support you financially, and for a booking form. Alternatively you can contact Lizzie or Katherine of the Diocesan Pastoral team [wmof2018@dabnet.org](mailto:wmof2018@dabnet.org).

**PARISH ROME PILGRIMAGE** - Monday 8 - Friday 12 October 2018. Led by Fr Aaron & Fr Richard. Flights from Gatwick to the Eternal city and good hotel accommodation near St Peter's Basilica. Bed, breakfast and lunch or dinner out and daily Masses and devotions and wonderful visits. £790. Please let Fr Aaron know [fr.spinelli@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fr.spinelli@yahoo.co.uk) ASAP if you are interested in joining our group. Application Forms and itinerary are now available from the Parish Office.

**HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS:** 3-4pm on the first Sunday of each month at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead. With Rosary and Benediction. "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (Matt 9:37,38).

**LENTEN APPEAL FOR BABY GOODS.** We are once again asking if, in your proven generosity, you could donate baby items for us to make up into packs for new parents in difficult circumstances? These will be distributed via our local crisis pregnancy centre, Oasis, and really do help struggling young families. Please put donations of baby wipes, baby bath/wash, baby lotion, nappy cream and newborn nappies into the box at the back of church. Thank you so very much! \*\*Please note that *we can only accept the items listed above*. If you have any other types of item you would kindly like to donate, do not leave them in church or at the parish office but contact Oasis directly on 01403 272723.

**DAY FOR YOUTH LEADERS AND CATECHISTS - INSPIRE 2018** - On Saturday May 12th, there will be a day for youth leaders, Confirmation catechists and young adult ministers, as well as anybody who is interested. The day will be delivered 'TED Style' with six great speakers each giving a short 20-minute talk. We're delighted to have Will Desmond from Sion/ theASCENT, Father Nick Crowe from the Dominicans, Lizzie Wakeling, Toby Harman, and others. A fantastic line-up! Bishop Richard will also be with us for the first part of the day. It's all happening at St Joseph's Church, Redhill on Saturday May 12th from 10am to 3.30pm. Tickets are £10 with parish group discounts available. To book, or for more information, Email [YMBookings@dabnet.org](mailto:YMBookings@dabnet.org).

## Let us pray for

Please pray for the sick, **Stella Walls, Alison Roberts, Lyn Murray, Sheila Budgen, and for those with Dementia and their families.**

**We pray for the dead especially Anthony McCormack whose funeral is on Friday.**

## Other Announcements

**This week's second collection is for CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY.**

Coffee in the hall this week **to be hosted by MEDITATION GROUP.**

**PLEASE COLLECT YOUR FREE A&B NEWS.**