

Today's Readings

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.
or
When I prove my holiness among you, I will gather you from all the foreign lands; and I will pour clean water upon you and cleanse you from all your impurities, and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

THE COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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 (Shorter form Exodus 20: 1-3, 7-8, 12-17)

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **R**

They are more desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. **R**

SECOND READING (Corinthians 1: 22-25)

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

GOSPEL (John 2: 13-25)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful, and in your kindness grant your servants this grace: that, abiding in the love of you and their neighbour, they may fulfil the whole of your commands. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Readings for Next Week

Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Psalms 136:1-6

St Paul to the Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Lent

4th March 2018

3 Springfield Rd, Horsham, RH12 2PJ, West Sussex | 01403 253667 | info@stjohnshorsham.com | www.stjohnshorsham.com

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 3rd March

6:00 pm - Vigil Mass - Patrick Gately RIP

Sunday 4th 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

Monday 5th March

10:00 am - Dante Delnevo RIP

5:00 pm - 1st Holy Communion 1st Confessions

Tuesday 6th March

10:00 am - Fr Peter O'Neill OFM RIP

5:00 pm - 1st Holy Communion 1st Confessions

Wednesday 7th March

10:00 am - Deceased Members of the Dufton Family

1:00 pm - in Polish

Thursday 8th March

No Mass

Friday 9th March

10:00 am - Private Intention

12:00 noon - Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

Saturday 10th March

10:00 am - Brian Muldoon RIP

12:00 noon - Baptism for Arthur Messinger

2:00 pm - 1st Holy Communion 1st Confessions

6:00 pm - Vigil Mass - Eleanor Stevens RIP

Sunday 11th March

Laetare Sunday the fourth Sunday of Lent

9:15 am - Deceased members of Harry & Wakefield

Families

11:15 am - People of the Parish

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
Torja 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

£2,243.36

Second Collection

£1,372.19

Thank You

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

Fr Spinelli Writes

I am writing this looking out to the great freeze on Springfield Road. I hope everyone in the Parish especially the sick and housebound and homeless are kept warm and safe. Be assured of mine and the Parish's prayers and thoughts.

This weekend sees Session Three for the First Communion children who will be preparing to make their First Confessions in the coming week. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to meet the Merciful Lord and receive his forgiveness and grace in this beautiful Sacrament.

It is a week of reconciliation! I shall also be going to both our Parish schools to hear their confessions and any member of staff who may wish to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Again I also warmly encourage all Parishioners to make use of the opportunities available during Lent to make their peace with God, themselves and one another through the Sacrament of Penance. Our Parish Penance service will take place on Friday 23rd March at 7:30pm – there will be plenty of visiting priests available. If you perhaps feel a little apprehensive or nervous or even feel it's been a long time and you are out of the habit, do come and have a chat with your friendly Parish Priest! Just make an appointment with me and I will gladly help and guide you through.

Do also make time for the Celebration of Stations of the Cross too – we have had good numbers especially the lunchtime slot of Fridays, do bring your families to the evening service if you can, or perhaps make the Way of the Cross privately in the church at any time when you're free. The Church is open from 9 am to 6pm each day!

Please see details in the newsletter regarding the Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool in September, this will be a very important event in the history of the Church in our land. If you are interested in going or need more information please see me.

Please keep in your prayers the repose of the soul of Brian Madeley, he died last Sunday. Pray for his wife Clema, and for Canon Tim and the rest of the family at this sad time.

Our continued prayers are offered for Lyn Murray and all the sick and housebound of our Parish family. We pray too for the homeless in these very cold days.

Finally, I am attending the St. John Vianney Group in Lewes on Sunday at 4pm for those young men considering a vocation to the Priesthood in our Diocese. If there is anyone who might like to come to the meeting with me, do email me or speak to me after Mass. There is no obligation to sign up to the Seminary!

Parish and Diocesan Notices

GRANDPARENTS' GROUP - The next meeting of the Grandparents' Group will be held after 10.00 am Mass on Tuesday 20th March in St John's Hall. For more details contact Christine Evans cevansuk@btinternet.com 01293 851909.

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

SVP will be meeting on Tuesday 6th March at 7pm in Rooms 2/3 in the hall. New members and those enquiring about the work do are very welcome.

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.

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.

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.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS – please send to newsletter@stjohnshorsham.com copied with 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

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT continues 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! 'Cakes can be brought along on the day or left at the parish office on Friday March 9th. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday March 10th!

ENCOUNTER (for 15-30s) THIS FRIDAY, GUEST SPEAKER ANNA WOODWARD - The next Encounter evening for 15-30s will be this Friday at St Wilfrid's School, Crawley (RH11 8PG) 7.30pm to 9.30pm. The evenings involve live music, inspiring speakers, engaging prayer and (since it's so cold..) hot chocolate! For more information, search 'ENCOUNTER Crawley' on Facebook or contact Jack.Regan@dabnet.org.

A MISSIONARY GROUP FROM BETHLEHEM NATIVITY will visit us on weekend 10th - 11th March to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of olive wood from the Holy Land to help and support the poor Christian families any help you could give to them it will be highly appreciate" (when you help the poor you help our Lord").

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.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE - Takes place in Liverpool on 7th-9th September. This is an opportunity for all the Dioceses of England and Wales to come together to reflect on the gift of the Eucharist and the central place it holds in the life and mission of the Church. There will be a Theological Symposium with workshops, a stage led event with Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nichols including music, drama, prayer and Adoration. The Congress Masses will be celebrated at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral. There are very limited places available so those who are interested, please email Fr Aaron to express your interest by *13th March 2018*.

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. 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 or fcarbonate@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.

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 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.

LIVE MUSIC OF A&B IN LOURDES - Sixty members of the Lourdes Pilgrimage Choir have recently recorded a CD of Lourdes music, entitled Deep Within. Several members of the choir and orchestra are parishioners from Horsham Parish. The CD is being launched at a concert on Sunday 8th April at Worth Abbey with Bishop Richard as the guest of honour. The concert starts at 7 for 7.30pm. We really need lots of people to attend the concert to cover the cost of producing the CD and raise funds for the Lourdes Pilgrimage. There will also be a raffle. Please please do try to attend and support this great concert. Ticket prices are £10 and children go free, and £10 for the CD. For enquiries or to book tickets in advance please contact Sally Nichols at salnicholls@hotmail.co.uk.

ARE YOU A GRADUATE WITH A STRONG DESIRE TO INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE AND TRANSFORM LIVES THROUGH EXPLORING SOME OF LIFE'S BIGGEST QUESTIONS? HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BECOMING A SECONDARY RE TEACHER? - The University of Sussex offers full and part time PGCE and School Direct Courses in Religious Education resulting in qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a PGCE of up to 90 Masters Level Credits For more information including eligibility and entry criteria visit <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/education/ite/pgceandschooldirectsecondary/religiouseducation>. To discuss further contact either Sally Dudley, Initial Teacher Education Recruitment, Selection and Admissions Lead at Sussex University s.e.dudley@sussex.ac.uk or Claire Rooney, RE Curriculum Tutor c.rooney@sussex.ac.uk.

Let us pray for

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

We pray for the dead especially Brian Madeley and for the Holy Souls

Other Announcements

Next week's second collection is for the **FLOWERS AT EASTER**

Coffee will be served this week by **ST ROBERT SOUTHWELL SCHOOL.** Coffee will be served next week by the **SCOUTS.**