

THE WIDOW'S FAITH - BY SCOTT HAHN

We must live by the obedience of faith, a faith that shows itself in works of charity and self-giving (see [Galatians 5:6](#)). That's the lesson of the two widows in today's liturgy.

The widow in the First Reading isn't even a Jew, yet she trusts in the word of Elijah and the promise of his Lord. Facing sure starvation, she gives all that she has, her last bit of food—feeding the man of God before herself and her family.

The widow in the Gospel also gives all that she has, offering her last bit of money to support the work of God's priests in the Temple.

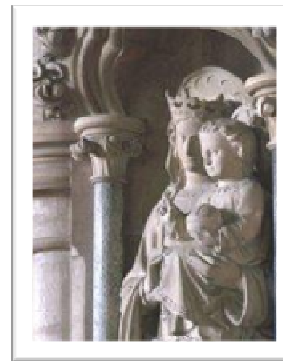
In their self-sacrifice, these widows embody the love that Jesus last week revealed as the heart of the Law and the Gospel. They mirror the Father's love in giving His only Son, and Christ's love in sacrificing Himself on the cross. Again in today's Epistle, we hear Christ described as a new high priest and the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah. On the cross, He made sacrifice once and for all to take away our sin and bring us to salvation (see [Isaiah 53:12](#)).

And again we are called to imitate His sacrifice of love in our own lives. We will be judged, not by how much we give—for the scribes and the wealthy contribute far more than the widow. Rather, we will be judged by whether our gifts reflect our livelihood, our whole beings, all our heart and soul, mind and strength.

Are we giving all that we can to the Lord—not out of a sense of forced duty, but in a spirit of generosity and love (see [2 Corinthians 9:6–7](#))?

Do not be afraid, the man of God tells us today. As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord will provide for us, as He sustains the widow.

Today, let us follow the widows' example, doing what God asks, confident that our jars of flour will not grow empty, nor our jugs of oil run dry.



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area
www.thamesisis.org.uk

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

St Mary's Church, East Hendred
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley

hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Priest: The Revd Mgr Andrew Burnham
01235 835038 or 07976 437979
aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday 11 th November	SUNDAY 32 [REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY] Requiem Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Remembrance Day Service: 11am War Memorial Mass: 11.15 St Patrick's	Psalter Week 4 [BLACK] For the Fallen Pro populo
Monday 12 th November	<i>St Josaphat</i> No Mass.	[red]
Tuesday 13 th November	<i>Of Week 32</i> No Mass	[green]
Wednesday 14 th November	<i>Of Week 32</i> No Mass	[green]
Thursday 15 th November	<i>St Albert the Great</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[white]
Friday 16 th November	<i>St Edmund of Abingdon, Patron of the Diocese</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Adoration: 3pm Hendred House	[white] Holy Souls
Saturday 17 th November	<i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i> No Mass at St Mary's: 9.30 Mass English Martyrs	[white]
Sunday 18 th November	SUNDAY 33 Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's	[GREEN] Pro populo
	Confessions: Sundays at 8.45am or by appointment www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

THIS WEEK AND LOOKING AHEAD

UPDATE ON FR ANDREW

Fr Andrew is recovering slowly at home. He ended up with a broken jaw which will heal naturally but he will be unable to speak for a few weeks. In his absence, we warmly welcome this weekend Fr Martin Flatman at St Mary's and Fr Paul Rowse at St Patrick's.

YOUTH GROUP

St Mary's Youth group will meet again on **Friday (16th November)** in the Parish rooms from 7.30 to 9pm. We will have some refreshments, a God slot, and some fun and games. Hope all young people can join us. For more information please contact Veronica on veronicapaget@hotmail.com

MUMS ON THE RUN

The next meeting is on **Monday 19th November** at 8.15pm in the Holy Family Room. If you are a mum raising children, who would like a bit of time to chat and reflect with other mothers, please come along to these meetings. For more information, please contact Gillian at gilliangerroeger@hotmail.com

THE NEWMAN COLLOQUIUM

Next topic will be **My Life, His Work: Fr Jeremy Reflects...** on **Saturday 24th November** 15:45 - 17:45 at SS Gregory & Augustine Church in Oxford. **Bookings are essential.**

ADVENT REPENTANCE & RENEWAL SERVICE

You are invited to two events at St. Edmund's Church in Abingdon on **Saturday 24th November**. At **5pm** there will be a Repentance Service to ask for forgiveness for the Church and ourselves, with Adoration and silent and organised prayer. At 7.30pm there will be a chance to praise God through uplifting music and prayer.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The Abingdon parish is planning to develop their bereavement work and has asked the leader of the thriving bereavement ministry in all the Reading parishes to come and explain what they do, on **26th November at 11.30am**. Everybody is welcome to come, please email clare@claresimpson.com who can give you the address for the meeting.

GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Our next two meetings will be on Tuesday December 4th. parish rooms, 7.30 pm; coffee and biscuits beforehand; finish 8.30 – 9.00. All welcome. Denis Smith; 01235 765564; djbm.smith@ntlworld.com.

FORTHCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

18th November: Survive Mia

Find us on  

NEWSLETTER | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **Wednesday 10 am**

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.



THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Sr Catherine, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jadvyga Adasko, Angus Clark and Fr Andrew. Names remain for four weeks.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Ann Maud Eyston, Elizabeth Rivers, Mary Eyston, Adelaide Battley, Canon Thomas Luck P.P., Edith O'Driscoll, Gerrard Felle, Rose Anne Rooke and Gertrude Corby.*

HOLY FATHER'S NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION - Universal – *In the*

Service of Peace. That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

EAST HENDRED LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

We need volunteers in East Hendred to provide a different door each day of Advent. You'll need to be at home for about 2 hours on one afternoon/evening, ready to open your door to callers, tell them your piece of the Christmas story and offer them a chocolate. The children will have to register to know which addresses to go to, so you won't get random callers. If interested, please call Anne Pappenheim on 01235 835014.

CHRISTMAS GIVING FOR 'LITTLE PEOPLE'

During Advent we will be collecting presents for children who will not be receiving much this Christmas. There will be a box at the back of St Mary's labelled 'Little People' a local small non-registered charity (please see details in the porch). Ideas for presents are: little bags of sweets, tubes of glitter, stickers, little colouring pencils, little packets of sweets such as Haribos or dolly mixtures, stick on jewels, erasers, pencil sharpeners, hair slides, mini bath bombs, for older girls little pots of nail varnish. On **Saturday 8th December** we would like to invite the children and young people in the parish to come and help preparing the presents, putting them in little boxes and containers. Everybody is welcome in the parish rooms from 10.30am.

2019 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - SAVE THE DATES

The young people of our Diocese invite you to join them for the diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next summer, from the **25th to 30th July 2019**. It will be a five or six day pilgrimage in the week after the end of school term. So do save the dates. More details coming soon.

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Please join us for a cup of coffee at St Mary's Parish Rooms after Mass.