

PASSIONTIDE begins on Sunday 2nd April. In former times it was more clearly a mini-season within Lent. It began on Passion Sunday and ran for two weeks, the second of which was Holy Week. Very dramatically the rood screen was veiled, and all crosses and statues removed or veiled. Various modifications were prescribed for Passiontide: for example, ‘Glory be &c’ was not said at the end of Psalms in the Office. There were seasonal antiphons, prayers, readings, and hymns, as one would expect.

Most of this remains in the modern liturgy. We no longer omit ‘Glory be &c’, and the title ‘Passiontide’ tends not to be used, but the veiling of crosses and statues is still encouraged, and the antiphons, prayers, readings, and hymns remain ‘on topic’. What is happening? We are being thoroughly prepared to walk the Way of the Cross in Holy Week and to discover once more the power of the risen Christ at Easter. Holy Week is the second and active week – where, like children, we learn by doing. We experience the washing of feet and share in the Last Supper. We keep watch in Gethsemane, approaching the Cross in penitence. We experience the desolation and loss of Christ in a Church stripped of furnishings, stripped of His Presence. We greet the new light of Easter and, standing beside the Empty Tomb, renew the Creed of our Baptism.

All of that is Holy Week. But to take part in all that fully, and in a way which challenges and changes our lives, we have a preparatory week, thinking about the great themes of the Passion. Christ dying for us, the Perfect Sacrifice to take away our sins. Christ, by His Cross, showing us the example of complete obedience to the Will of the Father. Christ, by uniting within Himself divinity and humanity, bringing about the Atonement – the At-one-ment – of God and Man.

May the Way of the Cross be the Way of Life and Peace.



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

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| Sunday 26th March | Sundays: Year A, FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT [MOTHERING SUNDAY] [Rose] Mass: 9.30am St Mary’s Pro populo Mass: 11.15am St Patrick’s Pro populo | Divine Office: Week 4 |
| Monday 27th March | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s | [purple] |
| Tuesday 28th March | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s | [purple] RIP Fr James Fanning MHM (Annie Furlong) |
| Wednesday 29th March | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> Adoration: 11.45am St Mary’s Mass: 12.15pm St Mary’s | [purple] FM Revd Michael Mahon 1999 |
| Thursday 30th March | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary’s | [purple] |
| Friday 31st March | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Adoration: 3pm at Hendred House Stations of the Cross: 5.30pm St Mary’s | [purple] Holy Souls |
| Saturday 1st April | <i>Fourth Week of Lent</i> QUIET MORNING Mass: 9.30am St Mary’s Adoration with Spiritual Conference and Confession: 10am-12 noon | [purple] |
| Sunday 2nd April | <i>VEILING OF CROSSES & IMAGES</i> FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT [PASSION SUNDAY] Mass: 9.30am St Mary’s Pro populo Mass: 11.15am St Patrick’s Pro populo | Divine Office: Week 1 [Purple] |
| | Confessions: Sunday 8.45am or by appointment www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk | |

LENT ALMSGIVING

Following the **CAFOD** Fast Day on Friday 10th March., there is still chance to put your gift in one of the envelopes specially provided. We shall also be collecting for **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** on Sunday 2nd April. Meanwhile the ongoing collection, via the red boxes, for **MISSIO** continues. **CAFOD** is the Catholic Church's work for the relief of famine and suffering. **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** focuses on re-building shattered lives and communities where the Church is persecuted. **MISSIO** is the work of worldwide evangelisation. Margaret Maytham runs the **MISSIO** collection-box scheme.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Thursday (30th March) at 7.30pm in the Holy Family Room.

EASTER 'EGGStravaganza'

'There will be an Easter 'EGGStravaganza' in Wallingford for young people aged 8 and over, at St John the Evangelist R.C. Church's parish rooms (at the back of the church) on **Friday (31st March)** from 7-9pm. Please contact Melanie at tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or Andy Robins at a.robins@talktalk.net

QUIET MORNING

There will be a Quiet Morning at St Mary's on **Saturday (1st April)**. Mass at 9.30am will be followed by Adoration (10am to 12 noon). During Adoration there will be a short address and an opportunity for Confession. Coffee &c will be available.

GATHERING IN CHRIST

Our small, ecumenical, lay group will meet again on **Tuesday 4th April**. We will be focussing on chapters 17, 18 and 19 of the first book of Samuel, to see how God's relations with his chosen people work out in the story of David and Goliath and David's escapes from Saul's attempts to kill him. We discuss and pray together. All are welcome, coffee and biscuits in the parish rooms at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start; we finish at 8.30-8.45pm.

CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND

Today we have an obligatory second collection to support sick and elderly priests. This Fund derives its income from the annual collection on the Fourth Sunday of Lent and from bequests.

PARISH COLLECTION

Last two Sunday collections raised £993.30 and £778.12 of which 79% and 85% was Gift Aided. Our collection for CAFOD raised £280.70 and £318.25.

FUTURE COLLECTIONS

Sunday 2nd April: Aid to the Church in Need Fund



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



BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

We remember in our prayers those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

We remember in our prayers *Kathleen Doyle, Sr Catherine, Diana Tuson, Mary Wallace, Des McNicol, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jenny Ayres and Jadhya Adasko*. Names remain for four weeks. Please request further inclusion.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Claire Vaughan, Kathleen Ballard, Ann Ansell, Hugh O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Elizabeth McElroy, John Doyle and Ted Moore*.

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY INTENTION - SUPPORT FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS. That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

Can you help from 10.30-12.30pm? Please speak to Maria after Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST PATRICK'S

Thursday (30th March) 7pm

Thursday 6th April at 6pm for children (but adults also welcome)

CHRISM MASS, ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, PORTSMOUTH - TUESDAY 11TH APRIL 2017

The Pastoral Area is once again running a bus to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass this year. The bus will leave Our Lady and St Edmund's, Abingdon at 7.45am and English Martyrs, Didcot at 8.15am, returning at around 3pm. The cost of a seat is £12, payment required on booking. Please call Didcot parish office to book a place on 01235 812338, or email didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. All bookings must be received by **Friday (31st March)**.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Carmelite day pilgrimage to Walsingham is on **24th June 2017**. Pick-ups: 06:30am at Red-bridge park and ride; 07:00am at Peartree park and ride. Firm commitment and payment by 1 June. Cost depends on numbers- £27 up to £40 per person. All welcome! Contact Armelle Belcher via English Martyrs, Didcot Parish Office for more details on 01235 812338 or email at didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

HELP REQUIRED AT ST PATRICK'S

Additional help is required at St Patrick's with flowers and ushering. At present there is a very small core of people who are trying to do everything and who would be grateful for some help. Ideally as a regular commitment but even volunteering to cover holidays would be a great help. Please speak to an usher if you feel you could help in either role. Thank you!