

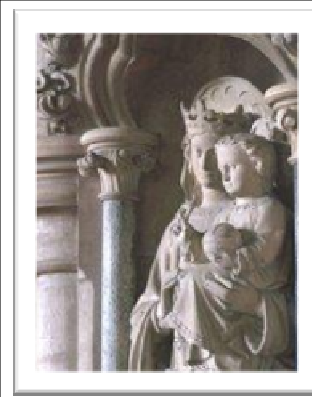
February Holy Days

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. It takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, allowing forty days of fasting as well as Sundays which are technically feasts.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

Fasting (on Ash Wednesday as well as Good Friday) requires us (except children, the elderly, and the sick) to have only one very simple meal and a snack. Abstinence (on all Fridays of the year) requires us to abstain from meat and eat a fish or vegetarian dish. During Lent abstinence from meat on Fridays is of obligation. There is a custom of giving something up for Lent. In France, on what we call **Shrove Tuesday**, people feasted on foods that would be given up during the forty day fast of Lent. Meat, eggs, and milk were finished off in one day, giving the holiday its French title of 'Mardi Gras' which means Fat Tuesday.



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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| | <i>Sundays Year B Weekdays Year 2: Psalter Week 2</i> |
| Sunday 11th February | SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR <i>[green]</i> Confessions: 8.45am St Mary's Mass: 9.30am St Mary's, East Hendred <i>Pro populo</i> Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's, East Ilsley <i>Pro populo</i> |
| Monday 12 th February | <i>Of Week 6</i> <i>[green]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's |
| Tuesday 13 th February | <i>Of Week 6</i> <i>[green]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's |
| Wednesday 14 th February | ASH WEDNESDAY <i>Psalter Week 4</i> Adoration and Confessions: 11.45am St Mary's <i>[purple]</i> Mass with Imposition of Ash: 12.15pm St Mary's Mass with Imposition of Ash: 8pm St Mary's |
| Thursday 15 th February | <i>After Ash Wednesday</i> <i>[purple]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's |
| Friday 16 th February | <i>After Ash Wednesday</i> <i>[purple]</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House <i>Holy Souls</i> <i>Adoration: 3pm Hendred House</i> |
| Saturday 17 th February | <i>After Ash Wednesday</i> <i>[purple]</i> Confessions: 8.45am St Mary's Mass: 9.30am St Mary's |
| Sunday 18th February | <i>Sundays Year B Psalter Week 1</i> |
| | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT <i>[purple]</i> Confessions: 8.45am St Mary's Mass: 9.30am St Mary's, East Hendred <i>Pro populo</i> Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's, East Ilsley <i>Pro populo</i> |
| | Confessions: As advertised or by appointment www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk |

THIS WEEK AND LOOKING AHEAD

APF - MILL HILL APPEAL

Today we welcome Eileen Tompkins to our parish. The APF in England and Wales works collaboratively with the **Mill Hill Missionary Society**; the only major missionary society to have been formed in England. Mill Hill Missionaries are sent to the most remote places in the world to share the love of Christ with those who are in need, both spiritually and materially. There will be a retiring collection for APF after Mass.

LENTEN LUNCHES!

Soup, bread and interesting conversation at Monks Hollow, East Hendred, for 5 Tuesdays of Lent starting on **February 20th** 12.30 to 2pm. All welcome. If you'd like to come, please call Mary Harrison on 01235 833584 to be sure there's enough soup!

ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS DURING LENT

The Formation for Mission Team is offering 5 sessions of essential training for everyone involved in Catechesis and faith formation, sacramental preparation of children and adults, and Children's Liturgy of the Word. These 5 sessions will take place during Lent in Wantage, St John Vianney Church hall (OX12 8ER), every Friday from 7.30 to 9.00 pm, starting on Friday **23rd February** and finishing on Friday **23rd March**.

CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY

Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On **Friday 23rd February** family fast day can you give up a meal or eat simple meal and then put what you saved in the CAFOD family fast day envelope. This Lent your donation will make the double the difference. For every pound you donate the UK Government will also donate a pound up to total of £5 million meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed.

HAVE YOU BEEN BAPTISED BUT NOT CONFIRMED?

Lent is a marvellous opportunity to make the journey from one sacrament to the next. Whether you are regular but not officially Catholic or a Catholic who was never confirmed, this is your chance! Send an e-mail, or speak, to Fr Andrew.

PARISH COLLECTION

Last Sunday collection raised £1090.23 of which 82% was Gift Aided.

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Join us for coffee after Mass in St Mary's Parish rooms.

FORTHCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

CAFOD: 25th February; Clergy Assistance Fund: 11th March

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



Find us on

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 Ann McCarthy. Names remain for four weeks.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Adrian Fortescue, Agnes Smith, Dermot Wisdom, Laurence Cooling, Robert Tamner, Emily Mulford, Dinah Booker, Yvonne Goyder and Esme Stafford-Northcote.*

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION - Universal: Say "No" to Corruption That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

KEEPING LENT

During Lent there is daily Mass, including Saturdays, with a short homily. This is a chance to add a weekday Mass to your schedule. Which day works? Mon., Tues. or Thurs. at 9.15am? Weds. at 12.15pm? Fri. at 8.30am or Sat. at 9.30am?

CALLED AND GIFTED

is coming to our area again! This process has been running for over 3 years around the diocese. It is about helping parishioners discover their calling, beyond that of being for example a parent, spouse or what you do at work. Your call is about using the particular gifts or charisms given to you when you were baptised. These charisms are the most fruitful way that we can love and serve others in our daily life. You can read much more on the diocese website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted or ring Clare Simpson 01235 847804 to talk further or book a place. Clare can also connect you with parishioners who have already done it. It starts on Saturday 10th March 9am - 4pm in Abingdon.

DIALOGUE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND FAITH

An online course directed at individuals seeking the truth like you, who wish to justify faith in our culture, a culture so influenced by science. If you carry out a formative role within the Catholic Church (teacher, catechist, priest, deacon, religious...etc.), then this course is for you. The course is under the Patronage of the Pontifical Council for Culture at the Vatican. For more information visit www.scienceandfaithbcn.com/en/course/the-course/59

A TOUCH OF HEAVEN

Spiritual holidays on St John's Holy Island of Patmos. The café will be leading regular trips to this centre of historical & spiritual beauty. A spiritual holiday in a safe, sun-soaked, sacred place. Ideal for parishes, prayer groups & individuals. For more information please see leaflet in the porch or contact pilgrims@faithcafe.org