



Lenten Reconciliation Services across the Parish

Saturday 10th March Children's Service	10.30	St Margaret Mary, Park Gate
Saturday 24th March Family Service	11.00	Immaculate Conception, Stubbington
Sunday 25th March	15.00	St Margaret Mary, Park Gate
Tuesday 27th March	19.00	St Mary's, Gosport
Wednesday 28th March	14.00	St John's, Lee-on-the-Solent
Thursday 29th March	19.30	St Philip Howard, Fareham

Stations of the Cross across the Parish

Every Tuesday	11.30	St Margaret Mary, Park Gate
Every Wednesday	14.30	St Philip Howard, Fareham (St Jude's)
Every Friday	12.30	St Mary's, Gosport
Every Friday	19.30	Sacred Heart, Fareham
Every Friday	19.30	St Margaret Mary, Park Gate
Every Saturday	17.20	St Columba's, Bridgemary

Calling all adorers – 40 Hours devotion this Lent from 3.00 pm Friday 2nd March to 7.00 am Sunday 4th March

After completing this devotion in Lent 2011, there were so many blessings that Park Gate have decided to repeat the witness for Lent 2012. There will be continuous adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St Margaret Mary, Park Gate from Friday to Sunday, 2nd to 4th March. This ancient devotion represents the forty hours Jesus spent in the Tomb from Good Friday to his glorious Resurrection. Volunteers are needed to sign up and spend an hour or two with Our Lord.

This is an ideal opportunity to love and praise Jesus; bring all your worries to Him present in the Blessed Sacrament. There will be *two night vigils* (over the Friday and Saturday nights) so we are especially looking for volunteers for these times. For more details or to offer help, please contact: David Walford on 01489 481698.

Parish Lenten Days of Reflection

Friday 2nd March: First Friday Day of Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gosport

The Intention for the day is to pray for our Parish community. The theme: How to deepen our Faith in Lent. The day is from 10.00 am to 2.30 pm. We meet for tea and coffee in the Upper Room (St Mary's Church Hall). We gather in the Church for Adoration from 10.30 am to 12.00 pm when the Rosary is said and Father hears confessions. Prayers to the Sacred Heart and Intercessions are said at 11.45 am. Holy Mass is at 12.00 pm. We have shared lunch with discussion on the theme of the day. We finish with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2.00 pm. The Day will be led by Father Joe Gruszkiewicz. Contact: 01329 318869.

Saturday 10th March: Day of Reflection at St Philip Howard Church, Fareham

This is a Families of Nazareth Community day of retreat and reflection led by Father Joe Gruszkiewicz; it is open to all in the Parish community. There will be tea / coffee between 10.00 and 10.30 am. Adoration will start at 10.30, when Father will give a talk on 'Humility in the Spiritual Life'. The morning session will end with Benediction at 12.00. Lunch will be from 12.30 to 14.00. Either bring a packed lunch to eat in the Hall or you may join the Lenten lunch at St Jude's School. The Afternoon session will begin with Rosary at 14.00 followed by discussion on the talk. The day will end with Divine Mercy Chaplet at around 4.00 pm. Contact: 01329 318869.

Saturday 24th March: Parish Day of Retreat at St Philip Howard Church, Fareham

This day of Retreat is open to all in the Parish Community. It will be led by Yvette Harrington. The theme is 'Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy ... Living St Faustina's message in today's world'. The day begins at 9.30 with tea and coffee for a 10.00 start, ending at around 16.00. There will be a soup and bread lunch provided. Do bring your own sandwiches. There will be time for prayer, exposition, Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, talks and much more. Contact: Yvette Harrington on 01329 832781.

Lenten Courses throughout the Parish

GOSPORT: Churches together in Gosport Lenten Course

This course starts on Thursday 23rd February in the Upper Room of St Mary's Church hall at 7.00 pm. This will be led by Joe Da Gama every Thursday in Lent. All are welcome. It will consist of Bible Study and Reflection. Contact: 023 92580119.

PARK GATE: Lenten Reflections at St Margaret Mary Church, Park Gate

They will be led by Frankie and Chris Lane; three evenings of quiet reflection in preparation for Easter. Each will start at 7.30 pm and last 45 minutes. Contact: 01489 572797

Wednesday 29th February – 'the Footsteps of Christ'

There will be Meditations on the Stations of the Cross, with the aid of paintings by the Benedictine Sisters of Turvey Abbey. The reflections have been written by Fran Godfrey, a BBC newsreader on the theme of forgiveness.

Wednesday 14th March – 'How we use our hands'

This will be an evening of reflection to prepare for the lent Reconciliation services.

Wednesday 28th March – 'The Folly of God'

'The Journey of the Cross, a path to life': meditation and prayer with inspiring paintings by Seiger Koder.

STUBBINGTON AND LEE:

Churches together in Stubbington Lenten Course

Starting on Wednesday 29th February at Holy Rood Church in Stubbington, this course will rotate between the Churches of Stubbington. It will be following the York Course: 'Handing on the Torch-Sacred Words for a Secular World'. Contact: Maria Owen on 01329 664260

Lenten Course at St John the Evangelist, Lee-on-the-Solent

This CafE style DVD course will be on Wednesday afternoons combining a light lunch at 12.30 pm followed by an opportunity to learn about the wisdom and teaching of Saints: St Benedict – a rhythm of life; St Catherine of Siena – Holiness in the Spirit; St Ignatius Loyola – Discerning Life's Journeys; St Francis of Assisi – God's Heart for the Poor; and St Theresa of Lisieux – Simplicity of Faith. [The start date is 29th February]. Contact: 01329 664260

Lenten Course at Immaculate Conception, Stubbington

The above course on the Saints will be repeated on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. Each evening will close with Night Prayer and Benediction. [The start date is 1st March.] Contact: 01329 664260.

PARK PLACE: Lenten Talks at Park Place, Wickham

The Community at Park Place invites parishioners to this series of 4 reflections for Lent. Each talk will be at the Retreat centre beginning at 7.00 pm to 8.15 pm. All are welcome. Contact: 01329 833043.

Wednesday 7th March: the Passion and Death of Christ in the Writings of St Paul

Richard Pearce, retired Head of Religious Education from Stoneyhurst School.

Wednesday 14th March: Passion and Death in the Gospels

Father Andrew McMahan ofm, Chaplain at Park Place.

Wednesday 21st March: The Passion of Christ in Art

Katharine Crouan, Member of the Parish Pastoral Council for Park Place.

Wednesday 38th March: the Passion and Death of Christ in the life of St Francis of Assisi

Sister Evelyn fsma., a member of the Franciscan community of sisters at Park Place.

FAREHAM AND PORTCHESTER:

Churches together in Portchester Lenten Course

The course starts on Tuesday 28th February at St Mary's Church, Portchester at 7.30 pm, with refreshments. The course reflects on the lectionary readings for Lent and what they can tell us about our Mission in the Church today. The course will alternate between St Mary's and Portchester Methodist Church every Tuesday. An afternoon course will run at 53 Hill Road, Portchester on Mondays at 2.15 pm starting Monday 27th February; the theme, a journey through Holy Week. Contact: Joan Hamilton on 023 92 385559.

Churches together in Portchester Lenten Lunches

These lunches begin on Wednesday 29th February at Portchester Methodist Church in Castle Street, Portchester near the Precinct. The event starts with a short service at 12.00 pm in the Church followed by a lunch at 12.30 pm in the hall. They are held each Wednesday in Lent run by alternate Churches. The Catholics will be responsible for Wednesday 7th and 28th March. Money raised will be for CAFOD. Contact: Joan Hamilton on 023 92 385559.

Lenten Morning Mass with Breakfast at Sacred Heart, Fareham

7.00 am Mass followed by a Breakfast at Sacred Heart Church and Hall every Thursday of Lent. The money raised will go to the Fareham and Portchester Lenten Appeal. Contact: 01329 318869

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 7TH FEBRUARY 2012



Present: Father John Humphreys, Father John Cooke, Mrs Veronica Gaoua, Mr Rod Chadwick, Mr Tony Lidgate, Mr Michael Ricketts (Chairman), Mrs Christine McGrew, Mrs Sarah Maspero, Mrs Katharine Crozier, Sister Agnes, Mrs Rebecca Goodlad (Minutes).

Apologies: Deacon Langford Vincent, Deacon Tony Strike, Father Jozef Gruszkiewicz, Father Peter Glas, Mrs Jane Dugan, Mr Alfons Heinrich

1. **Welcome and prayer:** We were led in prayer by Father John Humphreys

2. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of 4th October 2011**

A Day of Formation has been arranged for Adorers on Saturday 26th May 2012 at Immaculate Conception Church, Stubbington. It is hoped this will be the culmination of a novena of prayer from Ascension Day to Pentecost in prayer for the Parish. All adorers are welcome through personal invitation or application to the Parish Administrator.

3. **The New Bishop Appointment**

No news. Bishop Crispian is recovering very well from his operation. The doctors are pleased with his progress.

4. **Parish Formation – Planning for the Future**

The Council had a wide-ranging discussion on five papers prepared by Mr Mike Ricketts for their consideration. Action was decided as follows:

A) The Area Pastoral Teams: To prepare a briefing paper on their area in conjunction with the Administrators to be presented to the Council at their meeting on 24th April. This will be used by the Subcommittee of the Pastoral Council to prepare a model of how the parish can function with a reduced clergy number. They will prepare a strategic overview of the whole Parish and research the Mass communities to make this evaluation to report back to the PPC at a later date.

B) The Area Pastoral Teams / Parish Pastoral Council: To prepare a questionnaire to be used across the Parish to involve parishioners in the planning for the future of the Parish.

C) The PPC Members: To encourage communication across the Parish. Each member will take on an interest in an area of Parish Life in order to encourage communication across the Parish community.

5. **Pastoral Team Reports**

All the activity shows a vibrant, caring community. We have much to be proud of.

6. **Administration and Communication**

This summary is for you in this edition of the Anchor which contains all the Lenten activity in our Parish leading up to Easter.

7. **Any Other Business**

Our Parish Priest, Father John Humphreys will be on sabbatical from September to November this year. Deacon Tony Strike is leaving the area from March 2012. We wish him and his family well. Mrs Mary Kilbride has resigned from the Parish Pastoral Council. She was thanked for all her hard work.

8. **Date of the Next Meeting – Tuesday, 24th April 2012**

A full copy of the Minutes is available for inspection from the Parish Administrators. Any comments or requests should be directed to Rebecca Goodlad at the Parish Office (Tuesday am/Thursday am) at Portland Street, Fareham Tel: 01329 318869