

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 21 January 2024

Thought for the Week

This is 'Sunday of the Word of God,' to emphasise the importance of the Scriptures for our lives as disciples of Christ.

"The time has come" says Jesus. It is the beginning of his public ministry. John was arrested. He had to step in and take John's place, take up the mission assigned to him. He began in Galilee. His message seemed simple: "Repent and believe the Good News." In Biblical terms the word 'repent' is much more than being sorry, it is a call to rearrange your entire way of life. It is a radical 'turning around' of your life. Sometimes we know when the 'time is right' - to change direction, leave home, take on a new job. It can be exciting and daunting at the same time.

After his dramatic opening call to 'repent' Jesus walks along the shore where he sees fishermen. He issues a personal call to follow him, and 'I will make your fishers of men' (women too!) Was he going to turn these fishermen into evangelists? He was calling them to change their entire way of life, to become his disciples.

He may have observed the lifestyle of these four young professional fishermen. They learned their 'trade' by watching, listening, observing, and doing what their Dads did. Fishermen's work is hard, exposed to cold and wet; often dangerous in choppy waters; bad weather won't keep them from fishing. They may toil for long hours, night and day and catch nothing. But they don't give up.

Jesus was calling these four men to accompany him, learn from him, follow him and he would teach about attracting 'catching' people with his message of Good News, the new way – kingdom of God – was here. It was a radical change of lifestyle.

Discipleship is a lived experience. That same 'call' is for us, to be disciples of the Good News. It's a call never to give up, to learn from Jesus, do the things he did, bear witness to his message so as to proclaim the 'Good News' by our lives.

Sr Patricia Mulhall, csb

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each Friday from 10:00 - 16:00. All welcome.

The Rosary

The Rosary is prayed after the 12:00 Mass each Friday, please join us.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Edward's: Saturdays: 11:00 - 11:30 and 17:30 - 18:00

Tuesdays: 18:00 - 18:30

Mass Times & Intentions 20 – 28 January

Sat 20	18:00	Teresa O'Flaherty - RIP
Sun 21	09:30	James Galvin - RIP - St Mark's
	11:00	Nora Golec - INT
Mon 22	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Tue 23	18:30	Madeleine Magic - RIP
Wed 24	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Thur 25	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Fri 26	12:00	People of the Parish
Sat 27	18:00	Dharam Wati Maliya - RIP
Sun 28	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark's
	11:00	Jimmy Finnegan - RIP

Parish Diary 20 – 28 January

Sat 20	10:00	First Holy Communion - Reconciliation Service + Refreshments in P/C
	15:30	Confirmation Preparation - P/C
Sun 21	12:00	Tea & Coffee - P/C
		Baptism - Vincent Drummond, Elsie & Amelie Burgess
Tue 23	10:30	UCM - AGM Meeting - P/C
	19:15	RCIA Meeting - St Brigid's Room
Thur 25	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room
Sat 27	15:30	Confirmation Preparation - P/C
Sun 28	12:00	Tea and Coffee - P/C

Morning & Evening Prayer

Tue 23	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Wed 24	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's

Fr David

Fr David will be away from the 22 January until 31 January. Mgr Tom McGrath will be covering Masses.

Offertory

S/O - D/D £1,848.08 Envelopes £227.34 Loose £515.74

Communion to Sick and Housebound

If you, or you know someone who is unable to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office.

UCM/AGM

This will be held in the Parish Centre at 10:30 on the 23 January in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

office@catholicwindsor.org

Richard Flisher: Finance Manager

finance@catholicwindsor.org

Sharon Cole-Blows: Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

Pat Burke: Safeguarding Representative

safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org

Pastoral Team

Canon David Hopgood: Parish Priest

canondavid@catholicwindsor.org

Rev George Young: Deacon

revgeorgeyoung@hotmail.com

Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

Presbytery: 44 Alma Road, Windsor Berkshire, SL4 3HJ

Phone: 01753 865163

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth – Charity No. 1199568

Christian Unity Week

Christian Unity week runs from 18 - 25 January. Please pray for our fellow Christians in Windsor.

Second Collection - Cathedral

Ahead of this year's Second Collection for the Cathedral of St John the Evangelist, Mother Church of the Diocese, which is scheduled to take place on **21 January**, Canon James McAuley, Cathedral Dean, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia has asked me to pass on the following shortened message to you.

"Never has this annual collection by parishes for the Mother Church of the Diocese been more critical or needed. Your support is vitally important to us."

The "Saturday Social"

. . . . is coming to St Edwards! Beginning **Saturday 3 February**, immediately after 18:00 Mass (approx. 19:00 - 20:30) we are inviting you to join us in the Parish Centre for snacks, fellowship and spiritual growth by watching [The Chosen](#) series together as a community. Fully crowdsourced, The Chosen is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Individuals, couples and families with children are all very welcome to join (we'll have some games and other things set up for little ones not so interested in watching the series). We are planning on meeting: 3 Feb, 17 Feb, 2 March, 16 March, 6 April, 20 April, 18 May and 1 June.

CAFOD Meetings

You are warmly invited to come to a CAFOD meeting to find about the difference that your donations make. **On Saturday 27 January** the meeting is at Corpus Christi Church hall 60 Sturges Road, Wokingham RG40 2HE from 10:30 to 13:30 or on **Saturday 3 February** at St Philip Howard Church Hall, Bishopsfield Road, Fareham PO14 1ND. A simple lunch will be provided at both meetings so please book your place so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo on jlwry@cafod.org.uk or phone 07710 094447

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk

Put your faith into action this Lent by connecting with your local and global community in a meaningful way. Sign up for CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and challenge yourself to walk 200km in 40 days. You'll be joining a big team all over England, Wales and Scotland walking, raising money and helping people around the world as they overcome poverty. You can sign up as an individual, parish or school here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

Crib Collection

The Friends of the Holy Land have thanked you for your support which goes towards a total that nearly reaches £200,000! They were humbled by your response and are making sure your love and care is going directly where it is needed: £100,000 has already gone directly into Gaza to help those sheltering from the war, they are adding 15 new families to their Family Support Programme, they have expanded their emergency support programme and are currently developing major projects to improve the water supply, employment and the healing of the most vulnerable, planned for the next three months. They are most grateful for your ongoing support as the conflict deepens and shows little sign of a ceasefire being close. With your help they will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters directly with our arms around them.

<https://5xgf8.img.sp1brevo.net/im/sh/zpRMaZCu0pF7.jpeg?u=7xwQLFBtniwQn8DaWBvn09Zag6gn0UN>

Friends of the Holy Land

Pastoral Area - Come and Join us

Prayer is essential in our relationship with Jesus Christ and belief in the power of prayer will help us to listen to God's will as our parishes join together. Let us all take this Pastoral Area Prayer into our ministries, our schools and our private prayer over the coming months.

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with hearts full of faith and hope as we pray for the successful joining of our two parishes in this pastoral area.

Lord, we seek your guidance and blessings for this journey as we strengthen our faith community and fulfil your mission to evangelise and bring people closer to Jesus Christ.

May your wisdom enlighten our journey as we join together in faith, love, and unity.

In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we offer this prayer.

Amen.

Please take a copy of the Pastoral Prayer from the back of the Church and pray it as often as you can.

St Francis of Assisi - Ascot

You can log on to their website for a copy of the newsletter: www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

Renewal starts with You

In his Pastoral Letter about the future of the Diocese in October 2022, Bishop Philip invited us all to establish or pledge our commitment to Six Holy Habits.

Our ambitious Mission Plan will fail, he said, without a deep spiritual renewal in ourselves and in our parish communities.

Have you adopted Six Holy Habits?

- Keeping Sunday special, a family day by attending Mass on Sunday - Could I prepare better for Mass, arriving in good time, reading the Gospel and the prayers?
- Spending five minutes a day in prayer - what help do I need to pray and to know the Bible better?
- To do penance on Fridays, and to serve the poor and needy - what does poverty mean in my area and how can I help?
- Every fortnight make a Holy Half Hour before the Blessed Sacrament - how can I hear more clearly the voice of Jesus calling me?
- Going to Confession once a month or so - how can I best prepare?
- Joining a small group for formation, prayer and fellowship - Many groups would welcome new members - or why not start a new one?

How have you responded? Share your story with us at communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deceased

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following who have recently died:

Sheila Clare: Her funeral will take place on **Monday 5 February** at St Edward's Church at 09:30.

Frank Holland: His funeral will take place on **Friday 9 February** at St Edward's Church at 12:00.

Hermintrud Simons: Funeral details to follow.