

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 4 February 2024

Thought for the Week

The Gospel for this Sunday gives a vivid description of Jesus curing Simon's mother-in-law, then spending the evening curing and healing those who came crowding in from the town - it must have been an exhausting day. St Paul in his letter to the Corinthians speaks of his duty to preach the Gospel. He then goes on to say that he has made himself a slave of everyone. I certainly know priests, religious and many good parishioners over the years who never seemed to rest, they seem to constantly be in work mode - and indeed tell everyone about it! I think that at times some of us may be so busy doing God's work we have no time for God!

One of the most important passages in today's Gospel is when we are told that in the morning, long before dawn **Jesus got up and left the house and went off to a lonely place and prayed there.** To be able to have time to pray must have been important for Jesus as we read that he did this on several occasions. In today's Gospel it seems as if he left people behind him so he could pray. As always, Jesus, our example, is showing us what we must do in our lives.

St Paul says it is his duty to preach the Gospel. It is true to say that it is ours as well. Another of our duties is to look after ourselves, in such a way that we have time to ponder on the Gospel, and to deepen our knowledge and love of Jesus in prayer. In a few weeks' time we will be speaking about a **Week of Accompanied Prayer**, where we will have an opportunity to deepen our prayer life. More to follow!

Canon David Hopgood

Adoration of the 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

Anointing of the Sick

On account of the funeral taking place that day, the Anointing of the Sick will not be celebrated on Friday 9 February. This will now take place on **Friday 8 March.**

Mass Times & Intentions 3 – 11 Feb

Sat 03	18:00	Ronnie O'Toole
Sun 04	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark's
	11:00	Mary Connolly - RIP
Mon 05	09:30	Sheila Clare - RIP - FUNERAL
Tue 06	18:30	Decd members of Clery Retirement Fund
Wed 07	10:00	Rosa Santa Catarina - RIP
Thur 08	10:00	S Daniel Fernandes - RIP - St Mark's
Fri 09	12:00	Francis Holland - RIP - FUNERAL
Sat 10	18:00	Christina O'Reilly - RIP
Sun 11	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark's
	11:00	Catherine Heaslip - INT

Parish Diary 3 – 11 Feb

Sat 03	10:00	First Holy Communion - Eucharist Session 1
	10:00	Fr Kevin Hughes - Lenten Preparation Talk St Mark's
	12:15	Baptism - Iris and Eli Carne
	19:00	Saturday Social - P/C
Sun 04	10:30	Coffee Morning at St Mark's - All welcome
	12:00	Tea & Coffee - P/C
	12:15	Baptism Preparation - St Brigid's Room
Tue 06	10:30	UCM Meeting - Barry Thompson will update members on the work of SVP - P/C
	19:15	RCIA Meeting - St Brigid's Room
Wed 07	19:30	Mothers Prayers - St Brigid's Room
Thur 08	10:00	Newly Ordained Priests meeting - P/C
	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room
Fri 09	10:00	Called & Gifted - Stage 2 - P/C
Sat 10	15:30	Confirmation Preparation - P/C
Sun 11	12:00	Tea and Coffee - P/C
	12:15	Baptism Preparation - St Brigid's Room

Morning & Evening Prayer

Tue 06	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Wed 07	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's

Fr David's Diary

Tue 06	10:00	Team Meeting for Vocations Vicariate - Basingstoke
Thur 08	10:30	Meeting of Newly Ordained Priests - P/C

Offertory

S/O - D/D £1,848.08 Envelopes £194.50 Loose £707.01

St Edward's Middle School

Some of the children from the Middle School will be taking part in the 09:30 Mass on 4 February at St Mark's.

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

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Pastoral Team

Canon David Hopgood: Parish Priest

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Rev George Young: Deacon

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Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

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

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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth – Charity No. 1199568

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](#) 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.**

SVP Special Collection on 3 / 4 February

I wish to offer my sincere thanks for your donations for SVP at Christmas and to the special collection, this weekend. If you would like to offer your donation with gift aid, you can, via our National website www.svp.org.uk Red tab in top right hand corner "Donate Now", Box - Where should it go? Menu-A specific branch or area - Next Box Branch or Project Name - St Edwards/St Marks Windsor B170321 and then just follow instructions for donations. It will finally give you an option for gift aid. We look forward to explaining more about our work over the next few weeks. Thank you again. *Barry Thompson* - presidentb170321@svp.org.uk

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>

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 23 February

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

Friends of the Holy Land . . .

. . . would like to thank all parishioners who raised £269.39 for Christians in the Holy Land. Please continue to remember FHL and those they help in your prayers.

Lost Property

If you have misplaced anything, please do check the two plastic lost property containers on the bookshelf in the Church porch. These items include a pearl earring and a cream mac. Any unclaimed items will be disposed of in two weeks time.

Foreign Notes and Coins

Many thanks to those of you who contributed your discontinued foreign notes and coins. We raised the sum of £131.73 which has been forwarded to Missio/Red Box appeal. *Vic Mullan*

Flower Team

Do you love flowers? Would you like to join St Edward's flower team? No experience necessary as we will guide you

through. Interested? Please speak to Margaret Vickers or Jo Leedom.

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

World Day of Prayer

Please join us at **St Mark's Church** at **19:00 on Friday 1 March** for this year's World Day of Prayer service, followed by refreshments. World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation led by women which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers.

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine, who are calling us to connect with the land where Jesus was born, ministered, died and rose. The theme of the service 'bear with one another in love' seems very appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing to the love of Jesus Christ. **All welcome!**

Thank you

Frances and the Costello family send their grateful thanks to all who sent Sympathy and Mass Cards, and also gave support before and after Tom passed away. *God Bless you all.*

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: Her funeral will take place on **Thursday 22 February** at St Edward's Church at 10:00.

Peggy Flanagan: Funeral details to follow