

Fourth Sunday in Lent – 10 March 2024

Thought for the Week

The first reading this weekend shows how God remained faithful to his people in spite of their infidelities. God's promises were not nullified by the sins of his people. It was because of their sins that God allowed his people to be exiled to Babylon. His mercy is seen in their home coming.

The second reading stresses the enormity of the love God has shown us in Christ. It makes it clear that we owe our salvation, not to our own efforts, but to the goodness of God.

We are shown in the Gospel how God's love and mercy are seen in the fact that he sent his Son to save us. Jesus came into the world as a light. Sadly, some preferred darkness to the light, thus sealing their own condemnation. Judgement is not passed by God; people judge themselves by their response to the light.

People condemn themselves by adopting a negative attitude. God sent us light. If people get lost it is because they haven't accepted the light; the fault is not God's but ours.

It's terrible to reject the light, to reject God's offer of love; but how sweet to walk in the light of his love. Our part in the process of redemption is to accept the gift in all humility and try to respond in kind. We are able to love God because God loved us first.

There is darkness in all of us. We need to let the light of Christ shine into that darkness, whatever form it takes, but there is goodness in us too. We are also attracted to the light. We should trust this goodness and try to follow it.

I have witnessed the good and light in our Parish Community as we all have embraced the Time Talents and Treasures Ministries Fairs over the last two weekends. Let us all make the last Ministries Fair this coming Sunday one to remember.

Deacon George

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

Penitential Service

There will be a Penitential Service for the whole parish at St Edward's Church on Saturday 16 March at 11:00.

Mass Times & Intentions 09 - 17 March

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| Sat 09 | 18:00 | John Grilli - RIP |
| Sun 10 | 09:30 | Marcella Dyke - St Mark's |
| | 11:00 | Maud Hughs - INT |
| Mon 11 | 10:00 | Eucharistic Service |
| Tue 12 | 18:30 | David Murray-Bruce - RIP |
| Wed 13 | 10:00 | Angela O'Hara - RIP |
| Thur 14 | 10:00 | Anne Dougan - RIP- St Mark's |
| Fri 15 | 12:00 | People of the Parish |
| Sat 16 | 18:00 | Duncan McGready - RIP |
| Sun 17 | 09:30 | People of the Parish - St Mark's |
| | 11:00 | Henry Golec - RIP |

Parish Diary 02 – 10 March

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| Sat 09 | 10:00 | First Holy Communion - Session 3 - Church |
| | 10:00 | HPCT Family Day - P/C |
| | 19:00 | Saturday Social - P/C |
| Sun 10 | 12:00 | Tea & Coffee - P/C |
| | 15:00 | Stations and Benediction - St Edward's |
| Mon 11 | 18:30 | Catenians Ladies Evening - P/C |
| Tue 12 | 19:15 | RCIA Meeting - St Brigid's Room |
| | 19:30 | Marriage Preparation - P/C |
| Wed 13 | 18:30 | Men's Group - St Brigid's Room |
| Thur 14 | 18:30 | Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room |
| Fri 15 | 12:30 | Lenten Lunches - P/C |
| | 18:30 | Stations of the Cross - St Edward's |
| Sat 16 | 11:00 | Penitential Service - St Edward's |
| | 19:00 | Saturday Social - P/C |
| Sun 17 | 11:00 | Engaged Couples, Blessing of Rings |
| | 12:00 | Tea and Coffee - P/C |
| | 15:00 | Stations & Benediction - St Edwards |

Morning & Evening Prayer

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| Tue 12 | 18:00 | Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's |
| Wed 13 | 09:30 | Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's |

Fr David's Diary

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| Tue 12 | 10:00 | Department of Clergy , Sandhurst |
| Thur 14 | 10:30 | Personnel Meeting + Bishops Council – Portsmouth |

Offertory

S/O - D/D £1,848.08 Envelopes £267.10 Loose £901.68
Cafod (*Purple Buckets*) £436.08

Works to be carried out at St Mark's & St Edward's

The diocese has now given formal permission for us to carry out repair work on the stonework of St Edward's Church. Also for internal works at St Mark's Church. Hopefully this work will commence over the next few months.

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

LENT

Friday Lenten Lunch

Our parish Lenten Lunches continue until **22 March**. Please come and join us for a 'hearty' bowl of homemade soup and fellowship; soup will be served from 12:30. Donations this year will go to CAFOD and the St Edward's & St Mark's Union of Catholic Mothers 60-year Anniversary.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday from **16 February**, at **18:30** at St Edward's

Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Each Sunday during Lent from **18 February** at St Edward's at **15:00**

Penitential Service

This will take place at St Edward's on **Saturday 16 March** at **11:00**.

Lenten Alms - A collection for Cafod will be taken each week using the purple buckets.

Talk - Eastertide Overview - by Fr Kevin Hughes

Saturday **23 March** at St Mark's Church at 10:00. All welcome.
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/he-is-not-here-an-eastertide-overview-tickets-856040378817>

Walk of Witness - Good Friday 10:45 starting from St Andrew's, Clewer. More information to follow.

CAFOD - Big Lent Walk

As our CAFOD representative, Jacoby has signed up to this year's Big Lent Walk. Jacoby would be most grateful for any sponsorship please! You can donate to CAFOD via her JustGiving page:
<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/jacobys-big-lent-walk-for-cafod>
or online at cafod.org.uk

Saturday Social

On **9 March**, immediately following the 18:00 Mass in St Edwards Parish Centre, we will view [The Chosen](#) Season One, Episode 3 entitled 'Jesus Loves the Little Children.' For those interested, we'll have time for small group discussions after. It's a great opportunity to continue to grow our community and do something more Christ-focused during Lent. Snacks and beverages are provided. Donations are accepted. All are welcome! We are planning to **meet on - 16 March, 6 April, 20 April, 18 May and 1 June** to complete all of Season One.

Vacancy - Clerk to the Governors (First School)

If you are interested in this position please download an application form from www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk. Term time only, approximately four hours per week.

Family Mass

The first Sunday each month is a Family Mass. If any of our **young people** would like to read at the 09:30 or 11:00 Mass on the first Sunday of the month, or help in any way with the Liturgy, such as the offertory, collection and welcomers, then please do please contact: For 09:30 Mass: Mandy McGovern: 07864 547709
For 11:00 Mass: Cathy Kitson: cathy.kitson@hotmail.com

Contactless Giving

We now have the facility for Parishioners or Visitors to donate by using a card instead of cash. This can be used for donations, (which can also be gift-aided), second collections, and purchases from the repository. We hope it will prove useful.

Time, Talents and Treasures

We are all here for each other as we continue to build the future of our Parish community and become closer to Christ. Over the next few months we are asking everyone to consider how they can contribute their **TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURES**.

Come, stay for a cuppa after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday and find out more.

We are all called by Christ to consider how we can support each other through service, prayer and sharing our time, talents, and treasures. Please explore the life of our Parish here:

[PARISH-HAND-BOOK-23-11-20.pdf \(catholicwindsor.org\)](#),

and view the interesting variety of new videos.

Pastoral Area - Come and Join us

St Francis of Assisi - Ascot

You can log on to their website for a copy of the newsletter:

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

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.

Forward into the Future with Trust & Christian Hope

Fr Philip Harris has now taken up his post in Ascot, responsible for the day-to-day pastoral care of St Francis, with Fr David as Canonical Parish Priest of Ascot and Windsor.

Right to Life

Right to Life have left postcards at the back of both Churches for you to fill out and send to your MP. www.righttolife.org.uk

Special Collection

There will be special collection at all Masses this weekend for the **Clergy Assistance Fund**, this fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team, responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. The team organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals. It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy. Online donations can be made by using the following link:

[Clergy Assistance Fund Second Collection 2024 | Give as you Live Donate](#)

Deceased

Please pray for the soul of Marie Grey who died recently. Her funeral will take place at 10:00 at St Mark's on 4 April.