



# The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

*23rd February 2025 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C*

**The Parish Team**

Fr David Benedict Osborne - [david.osborne@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:david.osborne@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Fr Tomasz Mezyk (Polish Mission) - 07771 413345

Parish Secretary: Caroline Battersby - [bognor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bognor@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Parish Administrator: Abigail Leggatt (for building matters) - [admin.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:admin.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Parish Safeguarding Rep: Liz Bedford - 07456 420108 / [sg1.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg1.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk)  
**Please Note new email for Liz Bedford Parish Safeguarding Rep**

**The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1LP Tel: (01243) 823619**  
**Email: [bognor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bognor@abdiocese.org.uk) Website: [www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk](http://www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk)**

**Our Churches**

Our Lady of Sorrows, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 1JX  
St Anthony of Viareggio, Gossamer Lane, Bognor Regis, PO21 3DD  
St Richard of Chichester, Top Road, Slindon, BN18 0RG

**Catholic Schools**

St Mary's Catholic Primary School *Head of School Mrs Kathryn Cole B'Ed Hon NPQH*  
*Executive Headteacher: Mr Peter Edgington BA (Hons) NPQH*  
Glamis Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1DJ Tel: (01243) 822287 Email: [office@stmarysbognor.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysbognor.co.uk)  
St Philip Howard Catholic School *Headteacher: Mr Tim Hulse*  
Elm Grove South, Barnham, West Sussex PO22 0EN Tel: (01243) 552055 Email: [office@sphcs.co.uk](mailto:office@sphcs.co.uk)

***The Lord is compassionate and gracious***

The readings at Mass this Sunday encourage us to be compassionate, towards ourselves, towards others and in all that we do.

All the readings prepare us for Jesus' challenging teaching in the Gospel: Jesus encourages us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hurt us, to lend without expecting reward, to love without counting the cost.

It is sometimes thought provoking to imagine oneself in the crowd when Jesus first spoke these words, when he laid out his plan for our happiness. What did we feel when we heard this reading? Maybe consternation, after all this is not how the world expects us to behave. Maybe, though, we were overwhelmed by a sense of joy and inner peace that the One who was before anything was had revealed how to find true happiness and to know also that this is how Jesus and his Father loves us.

Maybe in prayer this week we might consider the particular challenges that face us at home, at work and in our relationships with others and ask the Lord to pour out his abundant grace upon us.

As we ponder these texts as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year we may also wish to pray particularly for a spirit of reconciliation and forgiveness in all situations of war, strife, injustice and suffering in our world.

*Tony Lucas*

<b>Saturday 22nd</b>		<b>The Chair of St Peter the Apostle</b>
St Richard's	9.30am	Private Intention
OLOS	6pm	Len & Hannah Allen RIP
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>		<b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
OLOS	9am	People of the Parish
OLOS	11am	David Orde RIP Anniversary
<b>Monday 24th</b>		
OLOS	10am	<i>No Mass</i>
<b>Tuesday 25th</b>		
St Anthonys	9.30am	Jane Carol Worsley RIP
<b>Wednesday 26th</b>		
OLOS	10am	Ian McCabe RIP
<b>Thursday 27th</b>		
OLOS	7pm	Helen Lesley Osborne RIP
<b>Friday 28th</b>		
OLOS	10am	Reginald Denis Worsley RIP
<b>Saturday 1st March</b>		<b>St David</b>
St Richard's	9.30am	Leonore Cosgrove RIP
OLOS	6pm	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 2nd</b>		<b>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
OLOS	9am	Nan & Clifford Baker RIP
OLOS	11am	Deirdre Sobey RIP

### Morning & Evening Prayer

Where possible Morning & Evening Prayer will be offered in the half hour before Weekday Masses in Our Lady of Sorrows.

### Masses in Polish

**Saturday 6pm St Anthony's**  
**Sunday 9am St Anthony's 4pm Our Lady of Sorrows**

### Rosary - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesdays after 10am Mass

### Adoration and Rosary - St Richard's

Wednesday 9.30am to 10.30am

### Adoration - St Anthony's

Thursdays 11.30am to 12.30am

### Adoration - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows

Fridays after 10am Mass until 2pm

### Requiem in Aeternum



Your prayers are asked for all those who have died recently:

**Alex Burns RIP**

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time:  
**Roy Weaver, Linda Kelly Anne Francis, Donald McKinnon, Constantine Somerville, Edmund Kirkby-Bott, Sally Petronijevich, Connie Bottomley, Michael Harlock, Christopher Bonnar, Elizabeth Hogston, John Swanson Christine Murphy, Michael Meenan**

### Prayers For The Sick

Your prayers are asked for:

**Hilary Ceppa, Frances Hind, Teresa Willcocks, Matthew McKay, Mark Byerley, Kath Stimpson, Lucia Elsom, Mo Moore, Janet Smith, Baby Elliott, Paula Rathke, John Cooper**

*At the end of each month, this list of friends and parishioners who are sick will be brought to the altar with the prayer intentions on the Prayer Board at OLS. The new month will begin a new list.*

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Is available after weekday Masses at Our Lady of Sorrows and in the half hour before the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses. Or, by appointment.

Tel: 01243 823619

### Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact Fr David

Tel 01243 823619

### Rosary for Life

The Knights of St Columba will hold The Rosary for Life on **Friday 28th February after 10am Mass**. The KOC would like to rekindle contact with SPUC members with whom they originally held this Rosary, all are welcome. The Rosary for Life is held every 4th Friday of the month.

### Welcome to the Parish

If you are new to the parish or visiting on holiday please introduce yourself to one of the Welcomers in the church at the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. They will be happy to help with introductions and any queries you may have. Parish registration forms are also available in the church or on the website.

## CONFIRMATION SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Dear Sisters and Brothers

At the last Deanery meeting the Bishop gave us information about confirmation dates for the coming year. In our Deanery this date is the 13th July and will take place at the Cathedral at 3pm.

At this moment in time we haven't started a programme of confirmation formation. If we are going to arrive at the 13th July with some young people as prepared as possible we need to begin asap!

However, I think it is now time to say that we are no longer going to prepare people for confirmation just because they are 14 years old, or in Year 10 at school. This methodology has been shown to not lead young people to make a real commitment to adult discipleship. Instead it's all too often been seen as a kind of Rite of Passage leading, not to greater commitment and involvement in the Christian life, but out of the door. In former generations it was understood that society's basic Christian ethos combined with these young people's parents' own witness and active involvement in the life of the Church would draw the young people back to the practice of their faith - especially once they began to take on some of life's big things like getting married and having children of their own. This clearly is no longer the case. (Assuming it ever was!)

So, as always, I would like to invite young people to take part in the formation programme. It really is a 'come and see' thing though. Not a sausage machine whereby, once started, the end is compulsory and guaranteed. Just as we prepare couples for marriage in order to enable them to be able to say "Yes" to the question "Are you ready..?" So too, we will work towards the point when any young person will be able to say "I'm ready." Ready to take my faith more seriously; more personally; more affectively and so on. We have no desire to prepare people for their last day in church! We are not preparing young people to receive lots of gifts of money on their confirmation day. We are not preparing young people to be confirmed so that they will please their parents and help them to fulfil the promises made at baptism. We want young people who are interested in discovering how God is calling them to deepen their relationship with Him in Jesus and through the church. We want young people who can see, at least in a beginning sort of way, that confirmation, and the gifts of the Spirit that are given through this sacrament, are for the "building up of the Body (of Christ)"; for mission; for service, for encouragement and so on. We are not going to be just going through the motions.

So, if you are a parent, please talk now to your teenage sons and daughters. It's not so much about being a certain age as about being a certain sort of maturity. Are they interested in deepening their faith? Are they interested in growing in maturity and relationship with the things of the Spirit? Can they see that this sacrament is calling them to service of others and of Jesus? If you can answer yes, or maybe, and most importantly your son or daughter can too, then please ask for an information form from the parish office as soon as possible.

With my love and prayers

Fr David Benedict



Do you want to find out more about Christian belief in the context of our challenging lives and troubled times? Are you curious about what and why Christians believe what they do? Then maybe the Alpha course is for you.

Come and join our next course at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis PO21 1LP (at the back of the church) on **Wednesday 23rd April at 7pm** for a simple meal, interesting film and a chance, in a convivial environment, to ask searching questions about faith. Everyone is welcome, whatever your experience of church. The evening is completely free of charge and there is no pressure to sign up for more. Simply come and see!

To book on the course, or for more details, e-mail Liz at [alphabognor@gmail.com](mailto:alphabognor@gmail.com), phone the office or simply turn up!

**Can you help?** Having a shared meal is an important part of our Alpha course and we are blessed to have some wonderful cooks to prepare these meals but more help is also needed. If you feel you can help either with a main course or dessert please contact Jackie Humphreys on 07468 444074.



## Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year

And journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent.

A couple in our parish aged 80 and 79 have signed up for this (sponsorship details to follow). Could you join them either alone or with friends and get sponsorship to help fight global poverty? Perhaps include in your journey a visit to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our Diocese (Arundel Cathedral, Worth and St Joseph's Guildford) as part of your Big Lent Walk. For more information visit [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) or contact the Parish CAFOD team on 07736 814364

### St Peter's, Shoreham-by-Sea - Saturday 1st March 9.45am to 16.45pm

Have you ever been to Fatima? We invite you to come for a taster day. Our parish has been chosen as the only church in our Diocese for a visit from the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, along with relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. The day includes a procession and mass, prayer, veneration of relics, adoration and video presentation. There will be items for sale, and you are welcome to all or part of the day. (Tea/coffee available; please bring a packed lunch). Email [adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk) for more information.

### Day of Recollection - Saturday 1st March

Please join us for our Parish Lenten Day at St Richard's, Chichester. Starting at 10am with Mass. In keeping with the theme of the Jubilee Year 2025, Anne Shardlow will take us on a journey as pilgrims of hope with the Chartres stained-glass windows. Teas and coffees will be provided. Please bring a packed lunch. The day will finish at 3pm.

### World Day of Prayer Friday 7th March

This year's annual Ecumenical service has been written by the people of the Cook Islands on the theme of "I made you wonderful." Opportunities to worship with fellow Christians will take place at:

- St Mary's, Church Lane, Walberton BN18 0UD at 2.30pm.
- Felpham Methodist Church, 118 Felpham Way, Bognor Regis PO22 8QL at 2pm followed by refreshments.



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

**St Vincent de Paul Society** The next meeting will be on Friday 28th February in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm. If you would like to find out more about the work of the SVP in our Parish please do come along, new members are always welcome.

### Young Adult Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome

Join our pilgrimage for young adults aged 18-30 to celebrate the special Jubilee year. Celebrate with other like-minded people, as we travel to the beautiful city of Rome for opportunities to hear from, and pray with, Pope Francis on the theme of Hope. Cost: £995 including flights, half board, access to Jubilee events and pilgrim pack. E: [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) for information. **CLOSING DATE 31 MARCH**

### Offertory Collections January

Offertory Plate Collections	£2279.90
Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 695.00
Bankers Orders	£5618.00
Contactless Machines	£ 400.00
CAF donations	<u>£ 35.00</u>
	<b>£9027.90</b>

### Second Collections

Pax Christi	£236.64
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Many thanks to all you give to the parish. If you are eligible to Gift Aid your donation, we are able to claim an additional 25% from the Government. In January we received £5059.14 in Gift Aid recovered from the Government. This is a valuable source of income to the Parish, if you are a UK taxpayer and wish to Gift Aid your donation forms are available in the churches, on our website or via the Parish Office, donations can be made by Standing Order or in weekly envelopes. *You can also register for Gift Aid even if you already donate by Standing Order*, if you have any queries please do contact the Parish office.