



The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

23rd March 2025 - Third Sunday of Lent- Year C

The Parish Team

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The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1LP Tel: (01243) 823619
Email: bognor@abdiocese.org.uk Website: 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
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

Grumbling and searching

In this third week of Lent we, like the Israelites in our first reading, may sometimes feel like grumbling as our Lenten fasts begin to pall. But we see that God meets them and directs them to the rock, which itself points to Jesus, from which they receive the water they need in spite of their grumbling and quarrelling.

In our Gospel we hear the familiar story of the Samaritan woman at the well, who has arrived there because she too needs water. She is met by Jesus, who asks her for water and enters into a conversation with her; it is hard for us today to understand the scandal of such a situation at the time. As they talk, Jesus points her not only to the water that will satisfy their immediate need, He gifts her the understanding of the who He is and what he is truly offering her, "a spring of water welling up to eternal life". And the woman recognised Him and "left her water jar and went into town" – she was no longer concerned with why she came to the well, it no longer mattered, she knew that she had been gifted far more than the water she was seeking, she knew that what mattered was spreading the Good News straightaway.

Perhaps we can ponder on what our own "water jar" is that we may need to leave behind, to make room for and respond to what Jesus wants to gift us this Lent season and how, like the Samaritan woman, we can share those gifts.

Jennifer Hutton

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.

Saturday 22nd March		
St Richard's	9.30am	Dan Whitehouse RIP
OLOS	6pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 23rd		Third Sunday of Lent
OLOS	9am	Richard Craddock RIP Anniversary
OLOS	11am	Leonore Cosgrove RIP
Monday 24th		
OLOS	10am	Paddy McVeigh RIP
Tuesday 25th		The Annunciation of the Lord
St Anthony's	9.30am	No Mass
OLOS	10am	Requiem: Dorina Drinkall-Fernandes
St Anthony's	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 26th		
OLOS	10am	Brenda Cremmen RIP
St Richard's	1.30am	Stations of the Cross
Thursday 27th		
OLOS	7pm	Vincent Patrick Willcocks RIP Anniv.
Friday 28th		
OLOS	11am	Tony Newton RIP
OLOS	11.30am	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 29th		
St Richard's	9.30am	Intentions of Fr Dominic Kavanagh
OLOS	6pm	Beatrice & Peter Meheux RIP
Sunday 30th		Fourth Sunday of Lent
OLOS	9am	Neville Taylor RVM RIP Anniversary
OLOS	11am	People of the Parish

Morning & Evening Prayer

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

Rosary - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesdays after 10am Mass

Adoration and Rosary - St Richard's

Wednesdays during Lent 10.30am to 11.30am

Adoration - St Anthony's

Thursdays 11.30am to 12.30am

Adoration - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows

Resumes after Lent

Requiem in Aeternum



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

Basil Robin Mills RIP

Ellie Butler RIP

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time:
Richard Craddock, Dan Whitehouse, Helen O'Sullivan, Jim Campbell, Cally Okonta, Vince Willcocks, Shirley Gouldstone, Bernard Butler, James Campbell, Betty Wilkinson

Prayers For The Sick

Your prayers are asked for:

Jill Taylor, Hilary Ceppa, Frances Hind, Teresa Willcocks, Matthew McKay, 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

Forthcoming Funerals

Our Lady of Sorrows

Dorina Drinkall-Fernandes RIP

Tuesday 25th March, 10am

St Richard's, Slindon

Basil Robin Mills

Tuesday 8th April, 2pm

Christopher Hull RIP

Friday 11th April, 10am

Please pass these details to anyone who might like to hear so that all who wish may gather to pray.

Masses in Polish

Saturday 6pm St Anthony's

Sunday 9am St Anthony's

4pm Our Lady of Sorrows

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Across the next three Sundays, starting from today, we shall be celebrating the Scrutinies which are mandatory rites celebrated with our catechumens to bring to completion their preparation for baptism, confirmation and the eucharist - the three rites of initiation. This is what the Instruction on the Rite has to say:

The Scrutinies, which are solemnly celebrated on Sundays and are reinforced by an exorcism, are rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose. The Scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.

If this sounds a little strong, perhaps we should remember that what Jesus is asking from each of us is total conversion to Him - away from former ways of life towards a new life. We have to leave much behind including lifestyles that are not in conformity with the Gospel of life.

The Instruction continues:

In order to inspire in the elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ, three Scrutinies are celebrated. By this means, first of all, the elect are instructed gradually about the mystery of sin, from which the whole world and every person longs to be delivered and thus saved from its present and future consequences. Second, their spirit is filled with Christ the Redeemer, who is the living water (gospel of the Samaritan woman in the first scrutiny), the light of the world (gospel of the man born blind in the second scrutiny), the resurrection and the life (gospel of Lazarus in the third scrutiny). From the first to the final scrutiny the elect should progress in their perception of sin and their desire for salvation.

We, as the family and people of God, should accompany our catechumens with love and faith and by setting an example of Christian living which is inspiring and, above all, real. The Scrutinies are as much a challenge to us as to the Elect.

Please pray for them as I will.

Love and prayers

Fr David Benedict

Deanery Reconciliation Service—Arundel Cathedral, Wednesday 2nd April at 7pm

You are invited to join Bishop Richard and the priests of the Deanery. Let us pray together, share our sorrow for our sins, experience the joy of forgiveness.

Lenten Soup Lunches

- ***Our Lady of Sorrows Fridays at 12 noon*** following Stations of the Cross at 11.30am. Monies raised will be in aid of CAFOD
- ***St Richard's, Slindon Wednesdays at 12 noon*** following Stations of the Cross at 11.30am. Monies raised will help 'Breakfasts for the Homeless' provided every Sunday at Our Lady of Sorrows.
- ***St Anthony's Monday 31st March at 12.30pm*** in aid of CAFOD

Introduction to Christian Meditation

Meditation, also known as contemplative prayer, seeks God in silence and stillness beyond words and thoughts. The Bognor Meditation Group (part of WCCM, World Community for Christian Meditation (<https://wccm.org/>)) meets most Wednesdays at 7.30pm at 6 Victoria Drive (Friends Meeting House).

We are a friendly welcoming group and during Lent are holding a 6 week introduction to Christian Meditation, starting on Wednesday 12th March. Each session will last about 45 minutes, which includes a period of silent meditation. You are very welcome to join us for any or all of these sessions.

For more details call Frances and Bennie Pieters Tel 01243 262319.

Sr M Hildegard Walls osm RIP

The funeral of Sr Hildegarde will take place at St Catherine of Alexandria Church, Littlehampton on Thursday 7th March at 12noon. Fr Jim Wall will be the celebrant and Fr Chris O'Brian o.s.m. will be concelebrating. Any parishioners wishing to attend would be most welcome.

Knight of St Columba Redshirt Fundraising

The Knights of St Columba will be organising a second collection at the end of Masses for the next three weekends to support the six young people from our Parish as Redshirts at this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage. Further fundraising events will be announced in the near future. Your generous support is always appreciated.

Care Not Killing—Urgent Petition

In April (or possibly May) MPs will again vote on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. The Independent newspaper reports that 142 MPs who initially backed the Bill could withdraw their support (citing safeguarding concerns). Please consider signing this petition either on the sheets available in the church or using the QR code



Another Parish Live Simply Event

The CAFOD Together Group in conjunction with Tools with a Mission are collecting LAPTOPS to send to Africa. These must be in good working order and must be Windows 7 or above. You can either wipe the information yourselves or Tools with a Mission will professionally wipe them and supply you with a Certificate of Confirmation.

If you wish to receive this Certificate please label your laptop clearly with your name and email and a request for confirmation. Ensure your request is firmly attached to the laptop. Please deliver laptops to the Parish Centre after all Masses on the weekend of 29th/30th March. Queries: 07736814364



A couple in our parish aged 80 and 79, Colin and Gabrielle Thorpe have signed up for this. You can donate by visiting <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/gabrielles-and-colins-big-walk>



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.



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, phone the office or simply turn up!

A big Thank you!

To all who helped make the CAFOD Together Seed Justic event so meaningful. £220.80 was raised for CAFOD and Caritas' work in Gaza. It was a joy to witness so many parishioners, young and old, participating in events and building community. Well done.

Celebrating baptism is a joy for families, and for the parish family, and we're delighted to welcome families looking to celebrate this wonderful gift of God. To register for the next preparation course on the 3rd and 10th of April, please contact the Parish office.