



# The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

3rd May 2026 - Fifth Sunday of Easter- Year A

## 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)  
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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)

Dear Sisters and Brothers

I've been in two minds about writing, each week, a sort of ongoing 'definition of terms' to help us understand some of the "big" words and ideas that pepper the liturgy and scripture. So far I haven't really done much about it - until now that is!

In today's opening prayer we ask Almighty God that He might "constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us...".

I have talked about what the term Paschal Mystery signifies before but this way of putting it is slightly new. Many of us can comprehend the term "Paschal Mystery" as that collection of events which we celebrate in Holy Week and Easter - the passion, death, resurrection and glorification of Jesus Christ and hold it as a kind of umbrella term, or shorthand, for all that. But then to ask that it be 'accomplished in us' takes it to a new level.

So, what are we asking of Almighty God this weekend?

Well, we are asking that the purpose of, and effects of, Jesus' passion, death, resurrection, and ascension be made visible in our own lives - which is an answer to another question : What was it all for?

The answer to that is that it was all for us. It was all for us to remove all that blocks us from a relationship with God and from our true selves. We are "saved" through the Paschal Mystery - saved from sin and death and pointless living and offered a share in God's own life - not because we have earned it but because it has been won for us and offered to us - for free, if we can but believe it and act accordingly.

This is why we celebrate the Paschal Mystery in our liturgies - that the dying and rising of Jesus may be also our own dying and rising from our old selfish, sinful, selves to new, holy, lives that mirror, or image, Christ in our world. The Greek word for that is 'ikon'. We are helped through what we do and pray in our liturgies to become little windows through which people glimpse the life of God in heaven while still here on earth.

I'm not sure that's helped at all. I hope it has.

With my love and prayers

Fr Benedict

<b>Saturday 2nd May</b>		<b>St Athanasius</b>
St Richard's	9.30am	Intentions of Fr Austin Hughes
OLOS	6pm	In Thanksgiving
<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>		<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
OLOS	9am*	Peter Fraher RIP
OLOS	11am*	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 4th May</b>		<b>The English Martyrs</b>
OLOS	10am*	Intentions of Jeanette Walton
<b>Tuesday 5th May</b>		
St Anthony's	9.30am	AG & Yvonne Cooper RIP
<b>Wednesday 6th May</b>		
OLOS	10am*	Pauline Samathar RIP
<b>Thursday 7th May</b>		
OLOS	7pm	Jean (John) Cooper RIP Anniversary
<b>Friday 8th May</b>		
OLOS	12pm*	<b>Requiem: Maggie Stevens RIP</b>
<b>Saturday 9th May</b>		
St Richard's	9.30am	Peter Fraher RIP
OLOS	6pm	Rosa McGarry RIP Anniversary
<b>Sunday 10th May</b>		<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>
OLOS	9am*	People of the Parish
OLOS	11am*	Neil Evans RIP Anniversary

\*These Masses will be livestreamed on the parish website  
[www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk](http://www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk)

### Masses in Polish

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

### Mondays after 10am Mass

**Prayers in honour of St Peregrine - Patron Saint of Cancer**

### Adoration Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesdays after 10am Mass until 11.30am

### Adoration and Rosary - St Richard's

Wednesdays 9.30am to 10.30am

### Adoration - St Anthony's

Thursdays 11.30am to 12.30pm

### Rosary - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows

Fridays after 10am Mass

### Requiem in Aeternum



Your prayers are asked for all those who have died recently:  
**Peter McKay RIP**

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time:  
**Barbara Crespi, Christine Halfpenny, Jean (John) Cooper, Irmgard Blackamore, Angela Clover, Judy Eade, Kathleen Fisher, Cliff Liu**

### Prayers For The Sick

Your prayers are asked for:

**Catherine Wells, Vivi Brooks, Pete Snook, Bridget Orfelia, Peter Brook, Fr Sebastian Paul, Joan Sheilds, Arthur Wicks, Edward Earl, Hilary Ceppa, Teresa Willcocks, Lucia Elsom, Mo Moore, Janet Smith, Baby Elliott, Paula Rathke**

*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.

### Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact Fr David  
 Tel 01243 823619

### Adoration

During time spent in the presence of the Lord your prayers are particularly asked for an end to the continuing conflict in the Middle East, Ukraine and in so many other places around the world.

Please also pray for those discerning the vocation of priesthood.

### Forthcoming Funerals

**Our Lady of Sorrows**

**Dexter Greenwood RIP**

**Wednesday 13th May, 10am**

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

## A Month of Prayer for Priestly Vocations - Good Shepherd Sunday to Pentecost

Let's ask the Spirit for the gift of priests. This year the whole diocese is invited to come together for four weeks of prayer to the Holy Spirit to grant us a missionary spirit, through the raising up of new vocations to all walks of life in the Church. Foremost among these vocations, we need priests. The priesthood is a special gift to the Church, through which Christ is always present to pour out His Spirit on His people through the holy sacraments.

- During the 5th Week of Easter read about the Spirit of truth ( 1 Peter 4: 13-16) and pray for greater numbers to respond generously, to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass.

Leaflets with the suggested prayer itinerary for the month are also available in the churches.



### Corpus Christi - Sunday 7th June, St Mary's School Field, 11.15am

To celebrate Corpus Christi, you and your family and friends are invited to an open-air Mass in St Mary's School field, followed by a bring and share picnic and fun activities. This is a brilliant opportunity to share your faith at a lively and fun church event.

Mass will begin at 11.15am, finishing with a recessional procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration. Don't forget to bring a dish to share and a chair!

### KSC Redshirts/Purpleshirts Quiz Night

Thank you to all of the parishioners who have supported our fundraising efforts towards the Redshirts/ Purpleshirts Lourdes 2026 pilgrimage so far!

Our next social event to further our fundraising is the Redshirts Quiz Night on Saturday **9th May**, starting at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Come on your own or with a team for an evening of fun, competition and food. A light supper will be provided but please bring your own drinks. Tickets cost £5 and will be on sale after Sunday Masses. There will also be a raffle at £1 a ticket.



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 6th May 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!

### The Catenians 75th Anniversary

The Catenians of Chichester Circle (No 158) whose membership covers the Parish areas of both Bognor and Chichester, are celebrating 75 years since their 1951 foundation. Part of the Catenian Association, which was founded in Manchester in 1908, in addition to encouraging fraternal fellowship amongst themselves and their families through participation in a lively social programme, they support parish life, youth bursaries, and local charities. Circle Membership is open to all practising Catholic men of the Parish. To learn more, please contact Daniel Hill at [danielhill45@live.co.uk](mailto:danielhill45@live.co.uk)."

The Circle's founding President, David O'Connell, painted the Altar backdrop and the Stations of the Cross at St. Richard's Church, in Chichester - commemorated by a plaque donated by Chichester Circle and displayed beneath the south wall station of the Nave, nearest the Altar.

## 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.

## St Anthony's May Fayre - Saturday 16th May, 10.30am to 12.30pm

There will be various stalls including - Cakes, Raffle, Jewellery, Books, quality items for our Pretty Things stall, Toys & Games, Bric a Brac Plants and Garden Tools. There will also be Tea, Coffee and Cakes served.

Donations will be gratefully received, these can be left at the Parish Office or at St Anthony's. Graham has again kindly offered to collect items if you cannot make either of the drop off points, he can be contacted on 01243 262467. Many thanks for your support.

## Youthscape youth ministry training, Saturday 16th May and Saturday 13th June - three full in person days at The Franciscan Centre Ladywell, Ashstead Lane, Godalming, Surrey, England GU7 - cost £75

An innovative Youth Ministry training course led by our Diocesan Youth team and The Franciscan Centre team for anyone who works with Young People and Young Adults, including chaplains, catechists or those running (or planning to run) youth groups. Attendance at all three days is necessary.

The sessions include up to date insights about young people to help you to understand and minister to them more effectively, skill builders to help increase your confidence when working with young people, and character development opportunities where we reflect on scripture to conform ourselves more closely to Christ. The overall course cost of £75 covers the cost of cooked lunch, tea and coffee and the official Youthscape course workbook for all three days. Sign up for the course through the Diocesan website events page [Youthscape Essentials training \(18-Apr-2026\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) If you have any questions, please contact Bex Driver, Youth Project Officer E: [bex.driver@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bex.driver@abdiocese.org.uk)

## Saying Goodbye (part of Mariposa International) Chichester Cathedral, 9th May, 3pm

A baby loss remembrance and support service for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend.

To find out more about the charity, please visit the Saying Goodbye website: [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org)

**Gift Aid Envelopes** - For the Tax Year 2026-2027 are now available for collection from the Parish shop or office, the first eligible collection for the new tax year is the weekend of 12th April. Thank you to all who donate this way. If you are a tax payer and wish to donate by weekly envelope, please contact the parish office.

### Offertory Collections March

Offertory Plate Collections	£3,139.15
Gift Aid Envelopes	£1,086.50
Bankers Orders	£6,196.50
Contactless Machines	£ 627.00
CAF donations	<u>£ 25.00</u>
	<b>£11,074.15</b>

### Second Collection

CAFOD Family Fast Day	£850.40
HCPT	£509.00
EVC Uganda	£617.73

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. Since January we have received £18,385 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. If you have any queries please do contact the Parish office.