



The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

8th March 2026 - Third Sunday of Lent - Year A

The Parish Team

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

Parish Secretary: Caroline Battersby - bognor@abdiocese.org.uk
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Parish Safeguarding Rep: Liz Bedford - 07456 420108 / 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 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

Life-Changing Encounters

Text 'win' to xxxxxx for a chance to secure a life-changing amount of money... Think how it would change your life. Texts only cost £2.00 plus your standard message rate." Try this product or that product because your life will be transformed. However much we might try to avoid these banal advertisements with offers that bring very little likelihood of a life-changing encounter, we are bound to have heard something similar. At times when life is very difficult and everything is against us; it could be true that such promises seem more attractive.

In contrast, this weekend we meet the Samaritan woman at the well who encounters Jesus and whose life is truly transformed. In our mind's eye we might see her approaching Jesus at the well: she is alone, it's the middle of the day, the other women have been and gone; she is rejected, shunned by the community for her behaviour.

Jesus risks scandal by engaging with her, seeing her deepest need for healing; he invites her to draw from the well of living water. He is the Messiah she has been waiting for, and her response is a model of Christian discipleship. She believes and, with joy-filled faith, invites others from her community to encounter Jesus.

This week we might choose to pray for the grace to respond generously to God's merciful love and, like the Samaritan woman, invite others to believe and be transformed by the healing love of God.

Tony Lucas

Saturday 7th March	
St Richard's 9.30am	Fr Ramon RIP
OLOS 6pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 8th	
Third Sunday of Lent	
OLOS 9am*	Mrs Desmond Pessa RIP
OLOS 11am*	Brenda Cremmen RIP
Monday 9th	
OLOS 10am	John Wakelin RIP
Tuesday 10th	
St Anthony's 9.30am	Jill Glassock RIP
St Anthony's 6.30pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Wednesday 11th	
OLOS 10am*	Joyce Lawson RIP
St Richard's 10am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Thursday 12th	
OLOS 7pm	Staff & Governors of St Mary's
Friday 13th	
OLOS 11am*	Eamon Corrigan RIP Anniversary
OLOS 11..30am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 14th	
St Richard's 9.30am	Hugh O'Donnell RIP
OLOS 6pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 15th	
Fourth 'Laetare' Sunday of Lent	
OLOS 9am*	Graham Weaver RIP Anniversary
OLOS 11am*	John McKenna RIP

*These Masses will be livestreamed on the parish website
www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk

Mondays after 10am Mass
Prayers in honour of St Peregrine - Patron Saint of Cancer

Rosary - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows
Will be paused during Lent

Adoration and Rosary - St Richard's
Adoration & Rosary will be paused during Lent

Adoration - St Anthony's
 Thursdays 11.30am to 12.30pm

Adoration Our Lady of Sorrows
*During Lent Adoration will be on Wednesdays after 10am
 Mass until 11.30am*

Requiem in Aeternum



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

Michael Thompson RIP

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time:
Elizabeth Lenehan, Stuart Smith, Joe Duffy, Daniel Williams, Rose Edwards, George King, Helen Batie, Jack Nuthall, Jean Swanton, Ray Garnham, Eamon Corrigan, Gurino Orlando Feline, Gwendoline Northern, Maureen Rae, Peggy Seeley, Sr Clement Dunne

Prayers For The Sick

Your prayers are asked for:

Vivi Brooks, Peter McKay, Pete Snook, Peter Fraher, Tilli Polan, Bridget Orfelia Peter Brook, Fr Sebastian Paul, Dexter Greenwood, 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 Gaza, Ukraine and in so many other places around the world. Please also pray for those discerning the vocation of priesthood.

Masses in Polish

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters

This Sunday is the first of the Scrutinies - which are a series of three special rites, celebrated on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent, meant to purify, strengthen, and spiritually prepare those in the RCIA process (the "elect") for baptism at Easter. These solemn liturgical acts involve self-searching, repentance, and prayers of exorcism to deliver candidates from sin and temptation. When we are celebrating the Scrutinies we always use the scripture readings from Year A and the three Scrutinies cover differing, but connected themes.

3rd Sunday: The Samaritan Woman (Christ as Living Water).

4th Sunday: The Man Born Blind (Christ as Light of the World).

5th Sunday: The Raising of Lazarus (Christ as Resurrection and Life).

Water is a familiar symbol used in Christian initiation - baptism - but at a deeper, more fundamental, level is directly connected with the gift of, and sustenance of, life. Each of us has been carried in the womb in a protective sac containing water and protecting us as we develop and it is the bursting of these waters that signals our impending birth. Water sustains us each day and quenches our bodily thirst. It cleanses us. Water is the key element used in baptism symbolising a new birth by dying with Christ and rising to new life. Life in Christ.

Jesus has the most wonderful and insightful conversation with the Samaritan woman in today's gospel and there is much punning and conversation about water. She is at the well to carry fresh water home for her use. But Jesus uses this as a launch pad for a deeper conversation about what she is really thirsting for. He will give her water (if she asks) which will quench her deepest thirst - something that no ordinary water can do. He says: "The water that I will give [him] will become [in him] a spring of water welling up to eternal life." He is referring to baptism of course, but he is referring beyond that action to the deepest reality which is how it is He who is really the water that we long for and need. Jesus is a well we can come to time and time again to slake our thirst. We cannot drink him dry but as his grace and His Spirit flows to us we come back time after time to be replenished, refreshed and cleansed.

In Lent we accompany the catechumens as they progress towards their own baptism and our reminded to keep ourselves drinking from the water of life.

With love and many prayers in these worrying times.

Fr David Benedict

Lent Lunches in Solidarity with the Poor

Simple soup and cheese lunches will take place on Fridays 13th, 20th and 27th from 12pm in the Parish Centre. Organised by the CAFOD Team. Please join us to give witness to our commitment to live in solidarity with the poor.

A soup and cheese lunch, plus a quiz will take place at St Anthony's on Wednesday 11th March at 12.30pm

Bible Group

Why not prepare for Easter with a fresh look at the Bible? For 5 Wednesday evenings in Lent, starting on **25th February at St Anthony's, Rose Green, from 7pm**. An opportunity to learn, discuss and pray the Bible, with the expert leadership of Fr Peter Coxe.

All you need to bring is a bible. For any enquiries contact Nora Courtney on 07940 555671

Beetle Drive—Join us for an afternoon of fun!

A Beetle Drive is a classic, fast-paced party game that's all about fun and laughter! Perfect for all ages, it's simple to play and guarantees a lively time for everyone.

Tickets cost £3 and include a Cream Tea/Soft Drinks, kids go free. Raffle and prizes for each races winner and overall winner **Saturday 14th March, 2pm-4pm** in the Parish Centre.



Second Collection this weekend - HCPT - Hosanna House Pilgrimage Trust

Our local HCPT group 154 accompanies children with disabilities on HCPT's annual Easter pilgrimage to Lourdes. The helpers are volunteers from the Cathedral Deanery parishes, and the children are from St Philip Howard school, Barnham.

How you can help:

Prayer – please pray for the children and adults in Group 154, for many of these children, this is their first trip without their parents. Pray that they will have the openness of heart to respond to the good news of Jesus.

Money – this pilgrimage is our gift as Church to these children and their families. Every child's fare costs £1,500; we are accompanying four children. We cover the cost of our nurse and Chaplain (£1000 per adult) and subsidise helpers who are undergraduate students. The approximate cost is £15,000. **To help us achieve our target, we need to raise a further £5,000.**

Donations can be made in the baskets or contactless machines this weekend OR

Online: www.hcpt.org.uk/payment

Cheque: made payable to HCPT 154 mailed to HCPT, Oakfield Park, Bilton Road, Rugby, CV22 7HQ

Bank Transfers: email group154@hcpt.org.uk

You can follow the progress of our pilgrimage at facebook.com/hcptgroup154

Second Collection Next Weekend - Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda

EVC raises funds to provide desperately poor children in southern Uganda with an education in a loving, caring and supportive environment. Judi Fawcett, Founder and Trustee, will speak briefly at all the Masses about their work. To find out more about the charity please visit www.evugand.org

'Beloved' Art Exhibition

Monday 23rd March to Friday 27th March – The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis

'Beloved', bringing suicide and addiction deaths into the light, an exhibition of paintings of love and hope by Bognor artist Antonia Rolls. After losing both her sons in this way, Antonia believes that God does not abandon anyone, that there is always consolation and light. The paintings bring consolation and light into places where we think there is none.

Opens Monday 23rd March 6pm to 8pm, and daily Tuesday 24th March to Friday 27th March 1pm to 6pm. At 3pm daily during the exhibition you are welcome to join us to say St Faustina's Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Entrance is free, all are welcome. Antonia's books and postcards will also be available for sale.

If you would like to find out more about Antonia's work, please visit www.antoniarolls.co.uk

The Friends of Arundel Cathedral

Invite you to join them in the Cathedral Centre, London Road, Arundel, Saturday 14th March at 3pm (doors open at 2.30pm) for 'The Fascinating Story of the Only English Pope, Nicholas Breakspear, Pope Adrian IV. A talk by Adrian Waddingham CBE on what he changed and what he accomplished. Followed by refreshments. Tickets will be available at the door Friend members £10, Non-members £15 or book at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofarundelcathedral>.

Contact the Administrator Tel 01903 884567 Email: aruncathedralfriends@btconnect.com for any queries.

Offertory Collections February

Offertory Plate Collections	£1,984.22
Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 680.13
Bankers Orders	£5,265.00
Contactless Machines	£ 526.00
CAF donations	<u>£ 25.00</u>
	£8,480.35

Second Collection

Lourdes Appeal **£850.40**

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.