



The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

26th July 2020 ~ 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

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Greetings from Victor C. Onwukeme, aged 55. At the age of 15, fired by God's love, I felt strongly called by God to serve him in the Catholic priesthood. So, I entered the new minor seminary in my Diocese. The year I graduated from the minor seminary I was among the few selected to teach other students the same year. We call this prefecting and I did this for one year. As I was prefecting, Fr Jim Sheerin, SPS visited my seminary and spoke to us about the young missionary congregation called Missionary Society of St Paul. This excited my interest immensely. Consequently, I applied and was granted admission. I did a two-year initial formation followed by three years of philosophy and four years of theology.

I was ordained on 29th of June 1996. Immediately after ordination, I was assigned to teach in our Formation House. From there I was sent to Rome for further studies on Sacred Scripture. I did a licence at Pontifical Biblical Institute, (Biblicum) Rome and a doctorate in Biblical Theology at Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas, (Angelicum) Rome. At the end of my studies I was assigned to teach in our major Seminary in Abuja. I was later appointed Vice Rector and then Rector of the same Seminary. After serving as Rector for six years, I took a year of Sabbatical at St Patrick's Cathedral Armagh. After my Sabbatical, I was assigned as parish priest of St Mary's Catholic Church Karu, Abuja. I was working in this parish when I was elected to serve as Father General of my Order. I have just finished my term and I am at the moment on one-year Sabbatical.

I am looking forward to my arrival in the Parish in October and to meeting you all. Let us pray for each other in the meantime.

Keep up-to-date with what's going on in the Church throughout the week, follow Bognor Slindon Catholic Parish on Facebook & Instagram



[Instagram.com/bognorslindoncatholicparish](https://www.instagram.com/bognorslindoncatholicparish)



[facebook.com/bognorslindoncatholicparish](https://www.facebook.com/bognorslindoncatholicparish)

Saturday 25th – St James

9.30am, St Richard's – Jerome Pessa RIP

Sunday 26th July – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10am, Our Lady of Sorrows – People of the Parish

Monday 27th July

10am, Our Lady of Sorrows – Funeral Mass

Gerry Symington RIP

Tuesday 28th July

10am, Our Lady of Sorrows – Tony Winch RIP

Wednesday 29th July – St Martha

**10am, Our Lady of Sorrows – Intentions of Ann &
Gordon Trumper and family**

Thursday 30th July – No Mass

Friday 31st July – St Ignatius Loyola

***11am, Our Lady of Sorrows – Funeral Mass**

Maureen Higgins RIP

Saturday 1st August - St Alphonsus Ligouri

9.30am, St Richard's – Brenda Salisbury RIP

Sunday 2nd August – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10am, Our Lady of Sorrows People of the Parish

Masses from Our Lady of Sorrows will also still be available on the internet. NB Friday Mass at 11am



Requiem in Aeternum

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

Ann Collier

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time –

Eileen Hennessey, Christopher Humphreys, Hazel Nuthall, Arthur Archer, Renee Brillantes, Margaret Humphreys, Pamela Wildsmith, Tony Humphreys, Betty Guzy, Harold Duhaut, Derek West, Leo Lajos Solti

Prayers for the Sick

Your prayers are asked for

Paris Stevens, Ian Bell,

Michael Gregory,

Margaret Grace

Please contact the Parish Office by email for anyone you wish to be included in our prayers.

Masses with a Congregation

It's been a great joy to be able to celebrate Mass with a congregation again, and many thanks to the cleaners, welcomers and those who have come to Mass, for all that has been done together to make this a safe return to public worship for our community. From Monday 13th July, we'll be operating a slightly different timetable, including one Mass at St Richard's on a Saturday at 9.30am. Please continue to book your place through the Parish Office. (There have been some spaces at each Mass this week, so this gives us some flexibility to welcome people to Mass more than once a week, but I trust you will understand if we ask you to look at another day or date.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During this time, the Sacrament of God's mercy has continued to be celebrated (often in my garden!), and I'm always pleased to offer that, but also from 18th July, I'll be available in Our Lady of Sorrows from 11am – 12 noon on a Saturday morning for those wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation – this will be in the Lady Chapel, where a temporary confessional has been set up.

Face coverings

As the wearing of face coverings in shops becomes mandatory, the Bishops' Conference have issued a clarification on whether face masks are required in Church. They say: *People are also strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a church.*

For the wellbeing of all parishioners please bear this in mind particularly at Mass times and consider wearing a face covering at the very least upon entry and exit of the church.

Please Note Change of Time for Private Prayer

To allow time for cleaning after Mass the Church will now be open for private prayer from
12noon to 4pm Monday to Friday at Our Lady of Sorrows

You are invited to Weekly Night Prayer Sundays at 8pm.

Our time of prayer will be led by a range of people who worship in one of the three churches that make Bognor & Slindon parish. So every week will be slightly different, no need to prepare anything.

Take part via
www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk/ways-to-pray

Newsletter and Fr Chris' weekly email

To help as many as possible to keep in touch, **do you know of any parishioners who are unable to access these on our website or receive emails?**

If so, and they would like a printed copy posted to them, please contact the Parish office.

Scripture Resources

Every Friday the Catholic Bible School publishes questions which can be used to prompt conversations about the Scripture Readings for Sunday's Mass. You could use them with your family and others in your home, or use them for personal reflection.

Here is the link

<http://www.catholic-bible-school.org/sundays>

Parish Office

Whilst the Parish Centre is still closed to the public, the office can still be contacted by email or telephone Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm for any enquiries, Mass Intentions, Prayers for the Sick and Newsletter items.

(Please submit Newsletter items by 1pm Wednesday)

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton virtual Lourdes Pilgrimage 25th to 30th July

Each year, we journey together as pilgrims to the holy Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, however, due to Covid-19, this year we will have to travel in spirit and mind and not body.

We are pleased to be able to invite you to join us for a virtual Lourdes Pilgrimage from the 25th to the 30th July. Including virtual events for families and for Redshirts (those ins years 10&11).

Find out more at www.ablourdes2020.org

Support in Financial Need

The pandemic has had an impact on people in many different ways, not least financially. If you (or someone you know) are experiencing hardship with finances at the moment, the parish is able to offer you support with supermarket vouchers for use at Morrisons. Please contact Fr Chris or Caroline in the Parish Office (01243) 823619 and we'll be glad to help, Please be assured of our discretion and sensitivity.



Kids church: Summer challenge 2020

Every week as a family take some time to read the Sunday gospel readings. To help we've created a summer challenge!

Everyone who completes the summer challenge will be awarded a special certificate and goody bag.

Find out more at www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk/kids-church

Help Needed with Cleaning and Welcoming at Our Lady of Sorrows

Thank you to all who have volunteered to Welcome and clean over the past few weeks, without your help we would not have been able to open for private prayer or celebrate Mass. With the holiday season additional volunteers are urgently needed for cleaning after Mass and Private Prayer opening times. Perhaps if you are attending Mass and are able to stay to help or have some time after 4pm on a weekday please contact the Parish Office. If you are able to offer one hour or more a week as a Welcomer, please contact Mike and Mirem O'Brien 01243 580058 or 07443 580058

What is CAFOD doing to help people survive the coronavirus crisis?

CAFOD has joined forces with the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to help millions of vulnerable people whose lives are at risk as the coronavirus pandemic spreads across refugee camps and countries suffering conflict.

Families who have been forced to flee their homes in places including Syria, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, now face another deadly threat as coronavirus takes hold in new areas. There are not enough hospital beds or supplies to treat those who fall ill, and families face hunger as a result of lockdowns, price rises and job losses.

We need to reach and protect the most vulnerable who have already lost everything.

In order to continue protecting and improving the lives of those in poor communities, your gifts are needed now more than ever. Your essential support will help families survive.

Donate through one of the following websites:

www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirus or through our parish CAFOD JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Our-Lady-of-Sorrows> you can also contribute by supporting Colin and Gabrielle on their daily walk for CAFOD through their JustGiving page by following the link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Colin-Thorpe>