

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH WOKING NEWSLETTER

Father Peter Andrews, Parish Priest
Father Simon Hall
Deacon Russell Young



February 21st 2021

First Sunday of Lent, Year B

LENT 2021

As we begin this Season of Lent how do we view it? A time of colourless drudgery to be got through, an irrelevance to our daily lives which have trouble enough now? Do we care if resolutions, often made out of habit, get broken quickly and are then 'forgotten' as irrelevant anyway? Or, do we actively, indeed excitedly, engage with it as a, literally, God-given opportunity to come closer to Him, to get to know Him better?

The Opening Prayer for Mass on Ash Wednesday says, "Grant, Almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects." That should be our aim and any acts on our part of prayer, charity and, yes, sacrifice, will be rewarded by the God for whom they are made, and directed.

Strengthened by our efforts I pray that we may all be able to rejoice with the resurrected Christ at Easter. Then the words of St Mark's Gospel, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mk 1:15) will resound in our hearts and actions. God Bless, Fr Peter

LENTEN EMAIL SERIES

If you would like to receive either set of Lenten emails, please email the parish office. The Lenten Challenge is a series of 25 short emails, each with a daily challenge to help you to focus on what is important during this season of Lent, and the Lent Reflections consist of a weekly email, which you would receive on each Wednesday throughout Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be Live Streamed from St Dunstan's at 7.00pm each Friday evening during Lent. Sadly, the Church will not be open. A recording will be available by clicking on the 'Featured Video' tab on the streaming page during the following week.

CHILDREN - LENT 2021 THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

Many Catholics give up something during Lent. Often the thing they give up is something that they feel they spend too much time or money on, or something that is bad for them. They might give up chocolate or crisps. Or they could try to watch less TV or give up playing computer games. If you were going to give up something for Lent, what would it be and why?

We often give money to charities during Lent. This is to help people in need. Have you ever done anything for charity? If so, what did you do? If not, if you were going to raise money for a charity, which charity would it be and why?

Praying is an important part of Lent. Spend time during Lent in prayer, talking to God.

Lent is the period for getting ready for Easter. Stations of the Cross help us to prepare. Can you draw one of the Stations of the Cross or find a Station in the church?

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE
SOULS OF

**Onofrio Diliberto RIP and
Sr Sabine Kabore RIP.**

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
May they rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK
especially for **John Ballam** (husband of Freda).

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 20th February, Saturday after Ash Wednesday

10.00 am *Maura O'Reilly RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

6.00 pm *Zdzislaw Marczewski RIP*

7.45 pm Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 21st February, First Sunday of Lent

9.00 am *All Parishioners*

10.30 am *Frances Dwyer and family*

12 noon Mass in Italian

5.30 pm *Fabienne Wright RIP*

Monday 22nd February, The Chair of St Peter the Apostle, Feast

10.00 am *Michael Harding RIP*

Rosary and Adoration until 2.00 pm

Tuesday 23rd February, Tuesday of the First Week in Lent

10.00 am *Mary Murray RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

Wednesday 24th February, Wednesday of the First Week in Lent

10.00 am *Jose Orta RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

12.30 pm *Funeral Service for Christine Gosney RIP*

Thursday 25th February, Thursday of the First Week in Lent

10.00 am *Maura Crawshaw RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

Friday 26th February, Friday of the First Week in Lent

10.00 am *Eunice Connelly RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

7.00 pm *Stations of the Cross (Streamed only)*

Saturday 27th February, Saturday of the First Week in Lent

10.00 am *Canon Peter Humfrey RIP*

Rosary and Adoration

6.00 pm *Romuald Mróz RIP*

7.45 pm Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 28th February, Second, 'Transfiguration' Sunday of Lent

9.00 am *Michael Donovan RIP*

10.30 am *Halina Mazurk RIP*

12 noon Mass in Italian

5.30 pm *All Parishioners*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment only.

All services will be Live Streamed at st-dunstans.org/streaming

Online Prayer Petitions - Click on the 'Submit Online Petition' link on the website. Thank you.

COVID-19 Indulgence: press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/03/20/200320c.html

READINGS FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21st, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

Genesis 9:8-15 The destruction of the world by God is consigned to the past. God's covenant with all living things is established. The sign of the covenant is the rainbow set in the sky. This suggests God's regard for the whole Cosmos.

Psalm 24:4-6, 7b-9 Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

1 Peter 3:18-22 Jesus died for the unrighteous, to lead them to God. After His death, he went in spirit to the unrighteous dead to preach new life to them. He had to die to enter the realm of the dead and touch them. In this way the last enemy, death, is conquered. Everything is now subject to God, and with the greatest enemy conquered, the entire Cosmos can be left at the Father's feet.

Mark 1:12-15 Jesus is driven by the Spirit into the wilderness. Here he begins the self-abandonment which comes to fruition on the cross. In the wilderness he lives among the wild beasts and the angels minister to him. He is cast between the heavenly realm and the elements; he abides between the extremes of creation. On the cross he will bring all extremes together: 'This is the time of fulfilment.

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Readings for February 28th, Second Sunday of Lent: Genesis 22:2,9, 10-13,15-18; Psalm 115:10, 15-19; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10.

CHILDREN

Introduction The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, when blessed ashes are used as a reminder of the dust from which we are created. Lent is a time of renewal, new beginnings and fresh opportunities for growing closer to God.

Reflection In today's reading, we hear how Jesus prepared himself for his mission of sharing God's Word with the people by going into the desert. A traditional desert image is one of sand and heat, with dunes, few plants and little obvious signs of life. By going into the desert, Jesus found himself in a simpler place stripped of everyday distractions and surrounded by peace and stillness. Spending time alone with God in prayer gave Jesus the strength and faith he needed to begin preaching to the people. Although Jesus was tempted to turn stones to bread, he resisted.

Activity Choose a stone, find a place where you can sit comfortably. Play some music quietly. Holding the stone loosely in your hand, close your eyes, take a deep breath and relax. Close your fingers around the stone in the palm of your hand. Slowly turn it in your hand. How does it feel? Is it clean and smooth? Does it have bumps or feel rough? These stones are like our lives. They have rough and smooth bits, but each one is unique. Open your eyes, place the stone in front of you and pause to reflect on these words: 'Lent is a time for...loving God more, saying sorry, finding hope and forgiveness, cleaning up our lives, making new beginnings'.



Closing prayer Loving Father, help us to choose right instead of wrong and help us to keep any promises we have made because of our love for you. Amen.



**DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON
INVITED - LENT 2021**



THE MISSION BEGINS: MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

It is not too late to join the diocesan Invited mission for Lent, which starts this Monday, with the first episode premiered on the diocesan website and on social media. For those that have signed up, on Thursday, from 7.30 to 8.45 pm, there will be the first of the virtual meetings on Zoom to discuss the content of Monday's episode and to reflect on the readings for next Sunday.

To find out more about Invited or to sign up for the Zoom sessions, visit www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited. The specially commissioned worship song can be found on YouTube <https://youtu.be/-43A-X6aOcw>.

If you are unable to access the material on-line and would like to receive it in printed form, please contact Mark on 07981 374117 as soon as possible. Mark will then arrange material to be available to you.

You, are Invited.

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - LENT 2021
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26th**

Friday February 26th is a CAFOD family fast day and this Lent CAFOD has a special emphasis on ending water poverty. In poor countries people still spend up to 10 hours a day just to collect water for their families. There are envelopes available in the narthex or you can donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/lent. There you can also find out more about the CAFOD "Walk for Water" initiative. Please also see the note below where Thereza Macnamara describes how she is taking part in the "Walk for Water" challenge and how you can support her.

WALK FOR WATER CAFOD APPEAL BY THEREZA MACNAMARA

Please help me raise £1500 for CAFOD to install two solar powered water pumps in memory of my mother Aurea Dias Lobo. Whilst the UK is suffering from floods, people like Abdella who lives in Afar Ethiopia, has to get up at 6 am and climb halfway up a mountain to collect water. It takes him 5 hours for the return journey and he has to do this twice a day to get water for his family every day. Afar is one of the hottest places on earth with temperatures in excess of 40 degrees Celsius. I aim to walk 500,000 (half a million) steps in 40 days, an average of 12,500 steps a day.

If you would like to donate, please go to Thereza's page of Justgiving by clicking on the following link <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/Thereza-Macnamara-Lobo> to help me meet my goal. If you do not feel like donating online, please feel free to drop off a cheque (payable to CAFOD) or cash donation at my house – Fleetwood (last house on the left), Poplar Grove, Woking, GU22 7SD. Please write your name and phone number on the envelope and also your address on the back of the cheque if you would like CAFOD to claim the 25% gift aid on your donation. Remember that higher rate taxpayers can effectively get back 25% on their donation, since their personal allowance is increased by the amount of their donation. Every little helps so if children can even donate 20p, that will help me with my target. Please also ring my doorbell for a special thank you. My phone number is 01483 673789 if you wish to contact me.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The Parish Magazine is seeking contributions for the Easter edition. Of particular interest for this issue are the life and deeds of St. Joseph, as the Holy Father proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph" from December 8th, 2020 to December 8th, 2021, in order to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. We also welcome stories, comments, letters, reflective accounts, prayers or photos. These can be sent via the church office for "the attention of the editor" or alternatively to zjlightfoot@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is 10th March.

GRANDPARENTS GROUP

The Grandparents Group would like to try a Zoom meeting get together. If you don't have your own internet access maybe a family bubble member could help you? We would love to hear from you and let you know of future dates planned for the group in our diocese. Best wishes Sue and Ray rayandsuegrimmer@gmail.com.

ST DUNSTAN'S SVP

If you are lonely or have other concerns and need help, we can be contacted by leaving a message on our mobile 07947 714139.



FROM RAINBOWS TO READING

To celebrate World Book Day, St Dunstan's Primary School would like to invite parishioners to display children's books in their windows ready for a book hunt.

Please do this at your earliest convenience, so we can spread the joy of reading within our St Dunstan's community and beyond!

ST DUNSTAN'S SCHOOL OFFICE ASSISTANT VACANCY (PART TIME)

The school is currently advertising for the following vacancy:

School office Assistant – Monday and Tuesdays: 8.30am – 12.00pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8.30am – 3.45pm (with 1 hour unpaid lunch break)

Surrey Pay Grade 3 – (starting point dependent on relevant experience): £11,141.06 – £11,937.12 (actual salary)

Closing date for applications: Friday 26th February 2021. Start date: Monday 19th April 2021 (at the latest).

Term time only plus 5 Inset days, plus one day before the beginning of new academic school year.

Application forms and job description are available to download on the school website under vacancies or through the eteach website. Alternatively please contact the Headteacher's PA Mrs A. Murray at amurray@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk.

St. Dunstan's Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its care and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS disclosure and sign the Catholic Education Service contract of employment.

IF YOU COULD ASK ANY QUESTION ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

The diocesan Vocations Team is organising a new series of online talks on this subject to take place later in the year. We're asking everyone around the diocese to submit questions they would like to ask a panel of priests about their vocation, the Church's teaching on priesthood, the life of parish ministry - anything! Please e-mail your burning questions to tristan.cranfield@abdiocese.org.uk by Thursday 11th March and the best ones will be picked to be answered in the talks. Please keep vocations in your prayers, too: we need more priests!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY, 5th MARCH 2021

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Vanuatu with the theme of 'Building on a strong foundation'.

Because of the worldwide pandemic, here in Woking changes have been made for the location of our annual service. This is being premiered at 10.30 am on Friday, 5th March. Go to YouTube and search for 'Parish of St Peter's Woking'. Details and a link are also on St Dunstan's website and you can watch at anytime afterwards.

For a copy of the order of service please call Jane Potter, 01483 772981.



ST. DUNSTAN'S

MAYBURY AND SHEERWATER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A new group Maybury and Sheerwater Neighbourhood Watch has been set up last week. The link is Maybury and Sheerwater Neighbourhood Watch | Facebook. The group has been created with the aim of improving safety within the Maybury and Sheerwater areas of Woking. The aim is for the local community to be alerted to and to share information on crime issues. The members are welcome to share useful information to the Facebook page, but posts not related to Neighbourhood Watch will be deleted.

HOME START - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To offer practical & emotional support to local families who are struggling with the challenges that parenting young children can bring (routines, multiple birth, disability, post natal depression, isolation or lack of a parenting role model in their lives).

If you have parenting experience and 2-3 hours a week to spare, contact Home-Start Runnymede & Woking on 01483 740367, email info@homestartraw.org or visit www.homestartraw.org for more information.



Our next preparation course for new volunteers starts mid-March via Zoom.

THE LONDON JESUIT CENTRE

The London Jesuit Centre is recruiting to its central team:

- Theology Lead
- Spirituality Team members (2 posts)
- Social & Environmental Justice Lead.

Further information is on the LJC website <https://londonjesuitcentre.org/> The closing date for applications is Friday 26th February 2021.

St Dunstan's Catholic Church, Shaftesbury Road, Woking, Surrey, GU22 7DT, 01483 760652.

Website www.st-dunstans.org

Diocesan website abdiocese.org

Email woking@abdiocese.org.uk

Twitter [@stdunstanchurch](https://twitter.com/stdunstanchurch)

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

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