



PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

Office: Alexandra Rd, Andover, SP10 3AD Tel: 01264 352829

Father Austin email: agurr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Office email: office@catholic-andover.org.uk

or stjtb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Website: www.catholic-andover.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Jackie Kelly: safeguarding@catholic-andover.org.uk

Office Hours: Monday: 8.30am - 3.30pm; Tues. & Thurs.: 8.30am - 12 noon; Fri. 8.30am - 2.30pm.

NB: The Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays / Father Austin's Day off: Wednesday.

13th and 14th April - Third Sunday of Easter

At the risk of endless repetition PLEASE DO NOT PARK DOWN THE CENTRE of either car park. Emergency vehicles would not be able to access the church and you are preventing people leaving in an emergency. PLEASE ONLY PARK IN DESIGNATED PARKING BAYS not 'anywhere you like' or in Croye Close. Ample parking is available at Beech Hurst Council Offices each weekend, a short walk away. *The Parish Office.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Here in the Easter season we get to see the point and the purpose of Easter. Jesus really died, and Jesus really rose from the dead. He died and rose to fulfil the prophecies, and he died for us: to redeem us and he rose to show us the way home. The readings today show the story and the purpose of the actual death and actual resurrection.

In the first reading from Acts, Peter tells the people that Jesus *really* died, was put to death through their own actions, but then rose like it was told. He says he personally witnessed and experienced this.

The Gospel of Luke continues the idea of truthfulness. Peter says *I* witnessed this. It *really* happened. The two disciples in Luke see Jesus alive after the crucifixion. They are afraid it is a ghost, but Jesus speaks to them. Shows his wounds. Tells them to touch him – he is flesh and bones. Eats fish in front of them. He is alive. Living, breathing, eating, flesh and bones. He died and he rose in fulfilment of the scriptures, and he tells them that they are the witnesses of these things.

Peter tells the people they didn't know any better before, but now that this has all happened, the way it was foretold, they need to repent now and believe and change their ways. The second reading continues on this theme. John says the people need to keep the commandments and follow Jesus. He is an advocate for his people now, the ones who sincerely believe. Jesus says in the gospel that he fulfilled the prophecies and that repentance and forgiveness of sins are to be preached in his name. Jesus died to redeem us, if we truly believe and follow him.

The readings today all make the point that this is real. They *really* saw this. They *really* experienced this. This *really* happened. And the reason it really happened is to redeem us. To save us . . . if we let it. We have to believe and follow Jesus.

T.W.

DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS: 14th - 20th April

Sunday: Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child. **Monday:** Parish Finance Committees.

Tuesday: St. Bernadette, Pangbourne. **Wednesday:** Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus. **Thursday:** Parish of St. Joseph, Havant.

Friday: Diocesan Trustees & Finance Council; Association for Latin Liturgy. **Saturday:** The Neocatechumenal Way in the Diocese.

The weekend of 20th and 21st April there will be a Second Collection for the Clergy Training Fund.

DON'T FORGET - SOUP LUNCH AFTER THE 12 NOON MASS ON FRIDAY 26TH APRIL! ALL WELCOME!

The next pre-Baptism evening course will be on Tuesday 28th May 2024 from 7.00pm to approximately 9.00pm in the Parish Hall. Completion of the session is required before booking a baptism. To register for the course, please email / telephone the Parish Office. Both parents are requested to attend - but not children - and you must be registered with the Parish.

Marriage Care will be hosting another in-person Preparing Together Day on 6th May at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 2HE. Couples should visit the website: www.marriagecare.org.uk to find out more information and to book a place with Marriage Care.

Second Collections: Clergy Training Fund 20th April

Each year we make an appeal to support the Clergy Training Fund in response to the ever-increasing costs of training priests and deacons to serve in our Diocese. There is no state funding for seminaries or for the formation of permanent deacons and so the money required to provide each student with accommodation, living costs and tuition for a number of years needs to be found from the generous support of people who contribute to this fund. The Clergy Training Fund is also used to finance the on-going formation of diocesan clergy, whether it be for professional studies or to support the educational costs for those on sabbatical. We can claim Gift Aid on this collection, please do use your envelopes!

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FROM 13TH APRIL - 26TH APRIL

Confessions will be from 5.30pm to 5.45pm each Saturday or you can ring the office to make an appointment.

Sat. 13th Andover Mass 6.00pm Roman Bühler RIP

Sunday 14th April - Third Sunday of Easter

Whitchurch Mass 9.00am Suzie Hollinson RIP - Anniversary

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am For the People of the Parish

Mon. 15th Andover Mass 10.00am

Tue. 16th Andover Mass 10.00am

Andover - Healing Prayers 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 17th No Mass or Service -

Thur. 18th Whitchurch Mass 10.00am

Fri. 19th Andover Mass 10.00am

Sat. 20th Andover Mass 6.00pm

Sunday 21st April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Whitchurch Mass 9.00am Alf Rawlings RIP - Anniversary

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am

Mon. 22nd Andover Mass 10.00am

Tue. 23rd Andover Mass 10.00am

11.00am Funeral Service at Charlton Crematorium for James 'Jim' Daly RIP

Andover - Healing Prayers 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 24th No Mass or Service

Thur. 25th No Mass or Service

11.00am Funeral Service at Charlton Crematorium for Joseph Burdett RIP

Fri. 26th Andover Mass 12 noon

Mass followed by **Soup Lunch** in the hall - all welcome!

Please pray for: Esmé Coveney, Rita Lane, Tom Wilkins, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Sheila Muir, Sheila Roberts, Mary Hathaway, Christopher Brown, Lisa Ramage, Mervyn Owen, Michelle Taylor, Bernard Ivinson, Fiona Hilleard, Carol Keenan, Mary Oak, Tony Fabian, Sile Monnelly, Helen O'Connell, Ben and Frances Dunne, Robert Williams, Simon and Victoria Rowney, Douglas Manning, Guy Foa, Diane Mahoney and Diane Gan.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joseph Burdett and James Daly.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Advance notice: The Parish Office will be closed from 12 noon on 2nd May to 8.30am on 13th May inclusive.

The **ANDOVER FOODBANK** would like to thank everyone who has donated to us in recent weeks.

Please find listed below the items that are **urgently needed: Tinned Tomatoes; Tinned Meat; Tinned Veg; Long Life Fruit Juice; Toothbrushes; Washing Up Liquid and Conditioner** Also: **Tinned Spaghetti; Tinned Fruit; Jam; Pasta Sauce; Rice; Cleaning Spray; Toothpaste; Shampoo; Conditioner and Laundry Pods.**

Our opening hours are Monday - Friday 9.30 - 12.30 and donations can be brought to the door, left in the collecting boxes in the porch or can be put in the collection boxes at all the local supermarkets. Thank you.

J S BACH'S ST JOHN PASSION sung by **ANDOVER CHORAL SOCIETY** at St Mary's Church Andover on **Saturday 4th May** from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. *Andover Choral is accompanied by the brilliant Westminster Chamber Orchestra and professional soloists.* Tickets £15 available from: The Lights Box Office, Andover in person or by phone 01264 368368 or online at: ticketsource.co.uk/andover-choral-society

The Ticketsource box office on 0333 666 3366, or choir members (see Paula Degg at 6.00pm Mass)