

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 17th February

First Mass of Sunday

ND 5.30pm Bodil & Leslie de Cruz RIP

SS 6.00pm Nita & Peter Dubois

Sunday 18th February

SJ 8.00am Mother Bernadette

SS 9.30am Private Intention

SJ 10.30am Joaquina Ferreira RIP

SJ 6.30pm For the People of the Parish

Monday 19th February

SJ 7.30am Paula Gaudion & family

SS 12 noon Auguste Tardivel & parents & brothers

Tuesday 20th February

LP 7.30am Fred Le Gallez RIP

SJ 9.30am Mary De Cruz RIP

Wednesday 21st February

SJ 7.30am Mary De Cruz RIP

ND 12.05pm Odette Honey RIP

Thursday 22nd February

LP 7.30am Sybil Zuur RIP

SJ 9.30am Philip & Emilienne Cooper RIP

Friday 23rd February

SJ 7.30am Marian Key RIP

LP 11.00am Private Intention

SJ 6.30pm Magdalene Fernandez RIP

Saturday 24th February

SJ 10.00am Christopher Baber RIP

First Mass of Sunday

ND 5.30pm For the People of the Parish

SS 6.00pm The Shore family RIP

Sunday 25th February

SJ 8.00am Sheila Plant RIP

SS 9.30am Andrea Harvey's Intentions

SJ 10.30am Yves Davy, Roger & Beulah West RIP

SJ 6.30pm Ella Buie's Intentions

St Mary & St Michael Catholic School PTFA Wine Tasting

Friday 9th March 7.30pm - in the school hall £15 per person to include the tasting plus cheese & biscuits. There will also be a wine raffle on the night. Please call Jess on 243411 for more information.

This week's Psalm Response

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Prayer of the Church: Week 1

Feast Days this week

Thursday: THE CHAIR OF ST PETER

Confessions on Saturday

St Joseph's: 10.30am - 11.00am

Notre Dame: 5.00pm - 5.20pm

Star of the Sea: 5.30pm - 6.00pm.

Finance

Thank you for your generosity towards the work of the Church in Guernsey:

Offertory: **£2,231**

Standing orders approx: **£750**

Total: **£2,981**

Covenant with the Poor: **£21**

WINGS: £949

CAFOD's Lent Fast Day is on Friday

25th February. CAFOD Lent Project – our Lenten almsgiving will be used to support CAFOD's work in Zimbabwe to provide villages with the tools and seeds they desperately need to grow crops to feed their families, provide some surplus for sale and seeds to sew in the future to grow more food. Peanut and sesame seeds cost £22 per family; a mixture of vegetables £50 and gardening tools to be shared by 6 families £250. The Overseas Aid & Development Commission will match fund £ for £ every £1 we collect and the total will then be doubled by the UK government. So every £1 you give will mean £4 reaches Zimbabwe! Further details are on the website and notice boards.

Please note that the fast day envelopes and also collecting boxes are available in the church porches

Many thanks for your support.

SJ - St. Joseph's Church

ND - Notre Dame Church

SS - Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

LP - Le Platon Home

Parish of Our Lady and the Saints of Guernsey

THE LINK

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B 18th February 2018

St Joseph & St Mary Church, La Couperderie, St Peter Port

Notre Dame du Rosaire Church, Burnt Lane, St Peter Port

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Rue des Monts, St Sampson



Parish Priest and Dean

Canon Michael Hore

Assistant Priests

Fr Paul Dzwig; Fr Michał Turbaczewski

Deacon

Mark Leightley

Residence & Parish Office: Amphill House, Cordier Hill, SPP, GY1 1JH. **Tel 720196**

E-mail guernsey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk **Website** www.catholic.org.gg

The Parish Office is open weekdays 9.30am - 1.30pm

Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No 246871

We are at the beginning of Lent, a time of penance, purification and conversion. Most of us are familiar with the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is not an easy program, but then Christianity is not an easy way of life.

Lent is supposed to be a season of a successful journey through the desert of penance to a new land and a new, deeper, intimacy with God. But often, we find ourselves going back to the same old Lenten pathways of past years and end up getting nowhere. We all need to improve, to change for the better.

Lent should suggest to us basic questions: Am I advancing in my faithfulness to Christ, in my desire for holiness, in a generous apostolate in my daily life? During this time, God will call us to look carefully at ourselves and identify our weakness and sin. In so doing, we can undergo a change of heart and draw closer to the Lord Jesus.

The Lenten journey is calling us to fast, and doing so to develop new patterns of thinking. We Catholics fast on Friday. So why is it that the Church instructs Catholics to abstain from meat on Fridays (as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday)? Catholic peoples from time immemorial have set apart Friday for special penitential observance by which they gladly suffer with Christ that they may one day be glorified with Him. This is the heart of the tradition of abstinence from meat on Friday where that tradition has been observed in the holy Catholic Church. Abstinence from meat is given as the very basic penance, while the purpose of the regulation should always be kept in mind. For example, it does not necessarily give a person the license to eat a lobster dinner every Friday in Lent. The whole point is to make a sacrifice that draws a person closer to Christ, who out of love for us made the ultimate sacrifice a person can make. Some fast on bread and water on Fridays. Feeling hungry reminds us that we are fasting to achieve spiritual miracle. God respects and rewards the sacrifice you are making. He knows that you are serious. Lenten fasting should be appropriate for you, given your age, state of health, and state of life.

We need to broaden our idea of fasting. Some fast from sweets or alcohol throughout Lent. Others fast spending lunch hour in prayer or at noon Mass. Another idea is to cut out all snacks between meals or to stop eating out. The money saved from not buying various things should be given to an apostolate or ministry serving the physically or spiritually poor. These observances help us turn away from whatever has distracted us and to turn back to God.

Fr Michał

A warm welcome to all visitors who join us this weekend. Please join us for Tea & Coffee after **8.00am and 10.30am Masses** in St Joseph's Hall and after **9.30am Mass** in Our Lady Star of the Sea.

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Meetings in St. Joseph's Parish Room (**SJ**), Our Lady Star of the Sea Centre (**SS**), Centre for Peace (**CP**). Services in the Church.

SUNDAY

7.00am Sunday Service on **Radio Guernsey presented by Pat Devenport**
10.30am Parish Schola at Mass (**SJ**)

MONDAY

12 noon Mass preceded by Stations (**SS**)
7.30pm Rosary-**during Lent (CP)**

TUESDAY

10 -11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (**SJ**)

WEDNESDAY

Rosary preceding 12.05pm Mass (**ND**)
7.00pm Holy Hour & Rosary (**SJ**)

THURSDAY

10am-11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (**SJ**)

FRIDAY

6.30pm Mass followed by Stations (**SJ**)

SATURDAY

11.00am Legion of Mary (**SJ**)
5.00pm Stations of Cross before
5.30pm Mass (**ND**)

BENEDICTION

Why not make a real effort this year to come along to Benediction at St Joseph's Sunday 25th March at 4pm and spend just thirty minutes of quiet reflection and adoration with the Blessed Sacrament.

Please remember in your prayers:

- **BAMENDA** for the civil unrest there;
- **Mark Le Gallez, Shirley Jehan, Mike Cormack, Rev George Lugton, Martyn Torode** and all who are sick in our community;
- **Victor Gontier** who died recently;
- **Fred Le Gallez, Pearl Digard** and all whose anniversaries occur about now.
May they rest in peace.

The Island Prayer Scheme this week asks prayers for **Delisles/Galaad Methodist Churches.**

A Thought for Lent

I shall pass through this world but once.
Any good that I can do
or kindness I can show
To any human being,
Let me do it now,
Let me not defer or neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again.

Stephen Grellet

Fr Paul will be in Alderney between 23rd February - 4th March to cover whilst Father John is recovering from illness.

St Padre Pio & St Philomena Prayer Group

Thursday Evening the 22nd February our prayer will start as usual at 7.30pm. Should anyone need a lift to and from Jenny & Bill Trubuil's home, simply ring 255163 and arrangements will be made to assist you. God Bless

Holy Hour and Rosary for Vocations
Wednesday 21st February
7.00pm in St Joseph's Church.



We are a 'Fairtrade' Parish **Get Ready for Fairtrade Fortnight**

26 February-11 March
Fairtrade Men's Big Breakfast 50
Les Cotils, Harry Bound Room
Saturday 24 February at 8.45am
£9.95 for Full English & £5.95 Continental.

Centre for Peace Rosary
Please note Rosary during Lent will take place on **Monday** nights.

Hearing Aid Box Found at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Please contact the Parish Office, 720196

St Joseph's Bookstall
Walk with Me "*Lenten Journey of Prayer*" booklets on sale price £1.

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS FOR LENT 2018

"Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24: 12)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in His providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our conversion". Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24:12).

These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time. They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord's passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many. You can read the full message in the Portsmouth Diocese e-News

LENT 2018

In Lent we are all asked to remember prayer, almsgiving & fasting.

Please note the following:

Opportunities for PRAYER in the Parish

Mondays 7.30pm at Centre for Peace (**during Lent**)- **Rosary**
Wednesdays 7.00pm St Joseph's - **Holy Hour with Rosary**
Sunday 25th February St Joseph's 4.00pm - **Benediction**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mondays 11.30am in Our Lady Star of the Sea followed by 12 noon Mass;
Fridays 7.00pm in St Joseph's preceded by 6.30pm Mass;
Saturdays 5.00pm in Notre Dame followed by 5.30pm Mass.



REFLECTIONS BY JENNIFER GEACH - THE JOYFUL SEASON OF LENT

Lent comes early this year, and so we have hardly drawn breath from the end of Christmas at Candlemas before we find ourselves lurching into Lent. The word Lent means spring, and properly used the time of Lent, the "joyful season" as it is called in the prefaces of the time, gives us an opportunity to take stock and consider where we are, and where we are going: it is an annual opportunity to get our bearings. And we do this with the three age old weapons: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These tools, and only these tools, will enable us to free ourselves from sin, and bring us closer to the life of God. You can read the full reflection in the Portsmouth Diocese e-News - www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SUPPORTING OUR SISTER DIOCESE IN BAMENDA

Now that I am back from my visit to Cameroon, I have been re-reading the Declaration by the Bishops of the Bamenda Provincial Episcopal Conference of 4th October last year after the demonstrations and government-imposed curfew. It makes sobering reading. You can read it for yourself in the Portsmouth Diocese e-News - www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk With all good wishes and an assurance of my prayers, **In Corde Iesu Philip Bishop of Portsmouth.**