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**Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> **Pauline Clarke HR**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024**

**Happy Birthday Fr Michael on Sunday Repository open at weekend Administrator away next week**

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**Exodus 20: 1-17**

**1 Corinthians 1: 22-25**

**John 2: 13-25**

In the first reading from Exodus, God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses. The Law was given to Israel to help them become wiser. It was given to them in order to strengthen their relationship with God and help them organise their social and religious life. Hence the commandments of God are meant to form a sacred community. That is, a community rooted in the genuine worship of God. A community that lives in justice and peace with real respect and love for each other.

The second reading to the Corinthians in Greece states that "*Christ is the power and wisdom of God*". Greeks were always searching for wisdom. The Greek word for wisdom is "*sophia*" and the word philosophy means "*love of wisdom*". But Paul explains what seems a paradox. "*God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength*". We sometimes fall into the trap of thinking we have to prove that we are powerful and wise in the eyes of others. Real moral strength and wisdom can often appear weak and foolish in a materialistic world.

In John's Gospel, Jesus is very angry that the Temple should be a sacred place reserved for prayer and worship. At that time worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice. Jews at Passover travelling from afar could not bring animals with them. They also had to exchange Roman coins for the Temple coins that were needed to pay the Temple tax. So, this animal market and the moneychangers were driven out of the Temple by Jesus. How often do we turn a "blind eye" to something that is wrong or unjust? When vulnerable people are abused or ill-treated; when racist language is used: when the disabled are mocked. We must not remain silent or indifferent but stand up for the principles of Christ.

Mass times		Feast Days	
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Peter RIP	<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> St Chad</b>	Born about 634 in Northumbria, the youngest of 4 brothers St Cedd, St Cynibil and Caelin who all became priests, two of them bishops. Taught by famous Bishop Aidan at Lindisfarne. Monk in Ireland. Appointed Abbot of Lastingham by his brother Bishop Cedd. Appointed Bishop of York by King Oswy to replace St Wilfred who was absent for years in France. Returned to Lastingham when St Wilfred returned. Then Archbishop Theodore of Canterbury made him Bishop of Mercia. Made his centre Lichfield and converted many in the Midlands of England away from paganism including King Wulfere and his Queen. First Bishop of Lichfield. Died 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 672.	
9.30 am Mass	<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	
6.30 pm Mass	<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> St Casimar of Poland</b>	Born in 1458 at Wawel Castle, Kraków, Poland second son of King Casimir IV of Poland. Prince Was brought up by his loving mother and a priest. Prayerful youth who helped the poor. Involved in a war and had to lead an army aged only 13. Made peace much to the annoyance of his father. Vowed never to take up arms again. Pleaded with his father to act more justly. Gave his wealth to the poor. Refused marriage. Austere and holy life. Died aged 29.	
10 am Mass	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> St Piran</b>	Born 420 in Ireland. Became a monk and founded a monastery in County Offaly. His austere beliefs upset some monks. They tied him to a mill-stone and rolled him over a cliff into stormy water. Water calmed and he landed in Cornwall at Perranzabuloe, near present day Perranporth. Known in Ireland as Ciarán of Saighir but in Cornwall as Piran. Lived as a hermit. First disciples a badger, a fox and a bear. His sanctity and austerity won him veneration. Joined by many Christian converts. Rediscovered tin smelting which had been started in Roman times. St Piran's flag, a white cross on a black background, represents tin smelting rising to the top from the black tin bearing ore. Founded Abbey of Lanpiran as abbot. He died in 480 and was buried at Perranzabuloe. St Piran's Cross is in the Perranporth sand dunes there. Patron saint of tin miners.	
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm 6.30 pm Mass	<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> St Colette of Corbie</b>	Born 1381 in France. Carpenter's daughter. Orphaned aged 17. Tried being a lay religious in 2 Orders. Then a Franciscan hermit aged 21 for 4 years. Had visions of St Francis of Assisi to make the <i>Poor Clares</i> observe stricter rules of austerity. Antipope Benedict XIII gave her powers to reform the <i>Poor Clares</i> . She met a lot of opposition. Eventually started new convents with rule of absolute poverty and went barefoot. Rules of fasting and abstinence. 18 convents in her lifetime with her nuns that were known as <i>Colettine Sisters</i> .	
10 am Mass	<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> St Perpetua and St Felicity</b>	Perpetua had a young baby. Felicity was a pregnant slave girl. With others they were arrested in Carthage, North Africa for wanting to be Christians in 203. Baptised in prison. Tried and condemned to be thrown to the wild beasts in the Coliseum in Carthage. Both died by the sword as martyrs with their companions	

<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> St John of God</b> Born 1495 in Portugal. Left home. Travelled with a priest to Spain. Was a shepherd. Joined Spanish army to fight the French. Then fought the Islamic Ottoman Turks in Europe for 18years. Distinguished military career. Went to Africa to release Christians from the Islamic Moors. Returned to Spain. Met John of Ávila who encouraged him to work with the poor. Had visions of infant Jesus and Virgin Mary. Opened a hospital, night shelter for homeless and a refuge for prostitutes. Founded an Order of Brother Hospitallers of St John of God.				
<b>6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Hilary Sendall RIP</b>	<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> St Francis of Rome</b> Born 1384 in Rome to wealthy parents. Wanted to be a nun. Arranged marriage at age 13 to noble soldier and socialite. Initially unhappy but settled down to happy marriage with 3 children. Did works of charity with her sister-in-law Vannozza, her spiritual friend. Flood in Rome brought disease and famine. Frances organised help. Great Schism between pope and 2 antipopes. Civil war in Rome. Children of Frances threatened. Husband was wounded. Home destroyed. Turned her palace into hospital. Plague in Rome killed her son. Daughter and husband died. Founded Oblates of Mary for lay women following the Rule of St Benedict.				
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>				
<b>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</b>					
<b>Your prayers are needed for the following people</b>					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	

### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **Roy Perry is making good progress in his recovery. Now in Rehabilitation Ward in Royal South Hants Hospital**

Tina says her husband Roy is hoping to be home within a week. He will still have to wear the hard neck collar for a few weeks until the fracture is completely mended. Other than that he is now walking well with one crutch so he has been very lucky. Tina would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support. Roy has now been removed from the prayer list.

#### **SVP Social this Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March – 1pm to 3 pm**

There is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along and bring your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of two hours, whatever suits you. Look forward to welcoming you. Renee and Pat.

#### **Second charity to support during Lent**

Fr Blaise, a former priest at SVP, returned to his homeland, Malawi, 6 years ago. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. Economy is heavily dependent on agriculture, unpredictable climate and unplanned population growth created poverty and lack of food. It is the single mothers, widows and orphaned children who bear the greatest burden. This project initiated by Fr Blaise will empower them with skills for income generating activities that are not dependent on favourable weather conditions. They are taught tailoring and dyeing skills to produce items to sell; how to produce nutritious foods for their families and for sale; basic hygiene and child care and home management so they can participate in the economic development of their families.

**Please donate generously in Lent. There will be a basket for each charity in the porch. Christine Thomas is the contact**

#### **Volunteers needed so we can properly celebrate Holy Week**

12 parishioners are required to participate in the feet washing on Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at the 7.30 pm Mass. Also readers are needed for the 9.30 am Mass on Palm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March (4 readers), the 7.30 pm Mass on Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March (2 readers), the 3 pm Mass on Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March (4 readers), the 8 pm Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March (5 readers) and the 9.30 am Mass on Easter Sunday (2 readers). Maria Linnell has put a list for volunteers in the porch

#### **Charity chosen by Fr Michael and Fr Thomas to support during Lent. Reaching the Unreached**

Reaching the Unreached was set up in Tamil Nadu in south east India in 1978 by De La Salle Brother James Kimpton. There are now 4 Children's Villages, 10 Hostels so that around 1,000 children are in care. There are 8 Nursery Schools, 3 Primary Schools and a Secondary School for children of the most disadvantaged families locally. Other ventures include house building, nearly 9,000 built; bore well drilling, around 2,500 wells; Self Help Groups to empower rural women; affordable loans to start small businesses or borrow money for emergencies such as medical care to avoid high interest rates of money lender

**Lenten programme for the next few weeks** Strove Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February: Mass at 10 am. Pancakes served after Mass

Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Masses at 10 am and 6.30 pm

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Parish Retreat led by Dominican Sisters, 12 noon: Mass with Father Thomas. See below

Palm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: Mass at 9.30 am Holy Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Reconciliation Service at 5.30 pm. Mass at 6 pm.

Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Washing of the Feet Service at 7.30 pm

Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> March: Stations of the Cross at 2.30 pm followed by Good Friday Service at 3 pm.

Holy Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass at 8 pm Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March: Mass at 9.30 pm

#### **All invited to Lenten Retreat for St Vincent de Paul on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 10 am to 4 pm**

The day will include talks, Mass, the Rosary and Adoration. Hot drinks and biscuits will be served during breaks. Participants should bring a packed lunch.. Donations of £10 per person should be made before the event to secure your place.

To book your place and for payment details please contact [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

#### **Parish collection for last weekend 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Parish collection for last weekend 24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> February							Two charities for Lent		
Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Lenten Retreat	Reached the Unreached in India	Fr Blaise Malawi Project	TOTAL of all money
£682.59	£170.65	£107.55	£242.54	£51.98	£1,255.31	£10	£223.52	£181.90	<b>£1,670.73</b>