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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 17th March 2024

Special Second Collection this weekend for the Clergy Assistance Fund

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Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Hebrews 5: 7-9

John 12: 20-30

The first reading from the prophet Jeremiah follows the story of the destruction of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar and the Israelites exile in Babylon in 587 BC in the first reading from the Chronicles last weekend. Jeremiah is known as one of the major prophets and was ignored and mocked by the Jews after the nearly 50 years of King Manasseh who introduced religious corruption and moral decadence. His grandson King Josiah, who was only 8 years old when he ascended the throne, was educated by wise guardians and grew up with a loving spirit, caring for the poor and respecting the law of the Lord. He tried to carry out profound religious, political and social reforms. Jeremiah supported the young pious king and told the Jews that they had to reform their behaviour and keep their covenant with God. They treated his warnings with contempt and suffered the consequences until they eventually reformed in Babylon. Jeremiah then speaks of a new covenant that God will establish with his people unlike the old covenant, the new covenant would be written in their hearts and Jeremiah emphasised God's mercy and transformative power.

The second reading from Hebrews presents Jesus as the model of obedience and submission to God's will, even in the face of suffering. It highlights the idea that true obedience to God can involve hardship and pain but leads to greater wisdom and fulfilment of God's plan for salvation. Jesus earnestly prayed to the Father and through suffering gained the possibility of eternal salvation for his followers.

The second reading fits well with the Gospel reading from John. The Greek pilgrims that had come for the Passover in Jerusalem were either new converts to Judaism or "truth seekers" greatly impressed by the royal reception given to Jesus on Palm Sunday. They asked Philip if they could meet Jesus who uses the metaphor of a grain of wheat that must die to produce life, illustrating the necessary passage through death to reach the fullness of life. Jesus' death and resurrection is the path to new life for all believers. Malcolm.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Jane Barber RIP	Saturday 16th St Clement Mary Hofbauer Born in 1751 in Czech Republic son of a farmer and butcher who died when he was 6 years old. Aged 15, apprentice baker in Znojmo. Baker at Austrian Priory. Hermit. Baker in Vienna. Hermit at a shrine in Rome. Trained as a priest at Vienna University. Joined the Redemptorists in Rome and ordained a priest. Established Redemptorists in Warsaw in Poland. Refuge for homeless boys and girls. Active parish. Expelled from Poland by Napoleon. Chaplain to a hospital and Ursuline nuns in Vienna. Founded a College. Intellectual discussions with students. Brought rich, influential and artistic people into the Church. Stopped Germany creating a national Church. Died 15 th March 1820. Vienna streets crowded for his funeral.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 17th March Fifth Sunday of Lent Pat, John, Valerie, Peter and Carol Moon RIP
6.30 pm Mass Thottappilly Mathai RIP 1st Anniversary	Monday 18th St Cyril of Jerusalem Born in about 315 near Jerusalem. Deacon, priest and then Bishop of Jerusalem. Opposed heresy of <i>Arianism</i> which the Bishop Acacius of Caesarea supported. Jerusalem, being in the Holy Land, was considered more important than Caesarea and this caused conflict between Cyril and Acacius. Acacius accused Cyril of selling Church property, which he did to feed the poor. Bishop Cyril ignored him. Synod deposed Bishop Cyril who went into exile. Reinstated and then deposed again twice more. Took part in the Second Ecumenical Council in 381. Helped to rewrite the Nicene Creed to exclude <i>Arianism</i> beliefs. Died 386.
10 am Mass	Tuesday 19th St Joseph While Mary had a visit of the Angel Gabriel to explain the virgin birth of Jesus, Joseph had a divine revelation in a dream. The teenager responded to care for Mary who was aged only 13 or 14. Despite Mary being close to giving birth, the two teenagers travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Joseph is again told in a dream to travel to Egypt to avoid the massacre of the " <i>Holy Innocents</i> " by King Herod, a really dangerous journey. Back in Nazareth Joseph becomes famous as he is more an artisan, a skilled craftsman in wood and stone, than just a carpenter. He is the patron saint of workers and many organisations. There are many religious Orders that use his name. It seems he died before Jesus started to gather disciples.
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm 6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 20th St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne Born 634 in Scotland. As a child saw vision of St Aidan of Lindisfarne. Military career fighting for Christian King Oswy of Northumbria against the pagan King Penda of Mercia for 4 years. Joined Melrose monastery with Prior Boisil in 655. Short time as guestmaster at Ripon monastery. Synod of Whitby decided on Roman rite rather than the Celtic customs which Cuthbert used. Made Prior of Lindisfarne to change monks to Roman rite. Retired to be a hermit. Elected Bishop of Hexham but changed to Bishop of Lindisfarne.
10 am Mass	Thursday 21st St Enda of Aran Born about 450 in Ireland. An Irish prince who succeeded his father as King of Ulster. He was a warrior king who successfully fought his enemies. The soldier king was converted to Christianity by his sister who was an abbess. Became a priest and founded a

	monastery on one of the Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland in Galway Bay. Monks lived a very austere life in stone cells, never heated, and slept on the ground. They met for liturgies and meals in silence. They sustained themselves with farming and fishing and made their own clothes from the wool of their sheep. St Enda and St Finnian were considered fathers of Irish monasticism.				
NO MASS	Friday 22nd St Nicholas Owen Born in Oxford in 1562. Trained as a carpenter and stone mason by his father. Short in stature, he was disabled with a limp. 2 brothers were priests and other brother printed and secretly sold Catholic books during Penal Laws of Queen Elizabeth I. Travelled with Fr Edmund Campion SJ as Jesuit lay brother. Started making hiding places for priests – “priest holes”. Arrested with Fr Edmund. Released but considered a harmless disabled servant. Travelled with Jesuit Provincial Fr Henry Garnet, Spent 18 years from 1588 creating ever more ingenious priest holes and even secret rooms for celebrating Mass in homes of Catholic recusant families all over the country. Arrested and died as a martyr under torture refusing to reveal his secrets in 1606.				
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Mora and Michael Hunter RIP	Saturday 23rd St Turibius of Mongrovejo Born in 1538 in Spain to noble parents. Qualified lawyer. Professor teaching law. High reputation as a lawyer. King Philip of Spain made him Grand Inquisitor. Ordained a priest in 1578. Made Archbishop of Lima in Peru. Stood up for the indigenous Indians against their Spanish masters. Reformed the clergy to learn Indian languages. Produced catechisms in Quechuan, Aymara and Spanish. Visited all parts of his diocese, staying with local communities. He baptised and Confirmed almost half million converts including 4 future saints, the most famous St Martin de Porres and St Rose of Lima. Started 1 st seminary in Western Hemisphere				
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 24th March	Palm Sunday	Diana Stimson RIP	1st Anniversary	
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION					
Your prayers are needed for the following people					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Special Second Collection this weekend for Clergy Assistance Fund

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team, responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. The team organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy.

Online donations on the following link: [Clergy Assistance Fund Second Collection 2024 | Give as you Live Donate](#)

Special Collection for flowers for Easter to be taken next weekend Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March

Please be generous so that Shirley Keates can decorate our church beautifully for our Easter celebrations.

SVP Social this Wednesday 20th 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.

Lenten programme for the next few weeks

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

Maundy Thursday 28th March: Washing of the Feet Service at 7.30 pm

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

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

Charity chosen by Fr Michael 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

Please donate generously in Lent. There will be a basket for each charity in the porch. Graham Churchill is the contact

Second charity to support during Lent. Project organised by Fr Blaise, former priest at SVP, in Malawi

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 especially for single mothers, widows and orphaned children. The project initiated by Fr Blaise will empowered them with skills for income generating activities that are not dependent on 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 produce 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

Parish collection for last weekend 9th and 10th March

							CAFOD Lent Day		
Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Retreat Adoration Hall Rent Parents of 1 st Communion	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£64	£16	£145.64	£242.54	£51.98	£520.16	£20, £50, £80 £241.24	£20	----	£931.40