

First Sunday of Lent Year B - 18th February 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

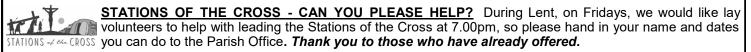
The Season of Lent is underway, which of course takes us through to Holy Week and Easter. I thought it might be helpful to provide a list of dates for your diaries because I know only too well how booked up people become and it's important to ring-fence these opportunities in the coming months:

- Open Parish meetings: Thursday 7 March and Tuesday 12 March, both starting at 7pm
- Mother's Day: Sunday 10 March
- Penitential Service for Lent (with Confessions): Thursday 21 March, 7pm
- Palm Sunday: 24 March: Masses at the usual times with Blessing of Palms
- The Solemn Easter Triduum: Thursday 28 Sunday 31 March
- Mass for First Communion: Saturday 1 June, 10am and 2pm
- Corpus Christi Procession: Sunday 2 June, 3pm
- Mass for Father John's Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination: Friday 19 July, 7pm

I've added the last date to the list for advance warning! The plan is for a Mass of Thanksgiving on that evening in July, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. All are welcome so please keep the date free.

Meanwhile, I hope that your Lent has got off on the right foot. A lot of parishioners were able to come to Mass on Ash Wednesday and received a mark on their foreheads of repentance and a desire to change. There are a number of ways we can really make use of these weeks running through to the end of March. Whatever we choose to do – we should do something, taking to heart the Gospel message proclaimed on Ash Wednesday which encouraged prayer, fasting (self-sacrifice) and alms-giving (helping others in need). But remember, Lent doesn't have to be a miserable time. As someone once said: 'God loves a cheerful giver'. **Father John**

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 23rd February This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters & brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Please bring back the attached envelope with your donation, next weekend. *Please be generous. Thank you.*



On Fridays in Lent there will be Mass at 7.30pm after Stations of the Cross.

FUNERAL MASS for FATHER ANTHONY SYMONDSON SJ will be here at 12.30pm on Wednesday 21st Feb.

MARIA DOLORES AGATHANGELOU (DORIS) RIP, who was part of our knitting group, died peacefully in her sleep in the early hours of Monday 22 January. A Requiem Mass for her will be on **Friday 23 February 12:30pm** by Father Paul at **St Joseph's Church, Christchurch**. All welcome to the wake afterwards in St Joseph's Hall from 1.45pm.

CAN YOU HELP? Can you give a lift to Matilde to church from Castlepoint area? Even if it is only now and then, as she can no longer drive. If you can help, please call her son, Oscar, on 07883201364.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 There will be practices for Reconciliation services at the sessions on Saturday 24th February. There will be two Reconciliation Services:

Thursday 29th February at 6pm and Wednesday 6th March at 6pm.

Children will be allocated to a particular service by Deacon Greg. Deacon Greg's email is: fhc.boscombe@gmail.com

SVP Tea Gathering will be in the Memorial Room on Thursday 29th February from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. All welcome

<u>MARCH FOR MEN 2024</u> - "On Saturday 9th March, I am taking part in a 5km walk to raise money for the men's health services at our local hospitals. If you would like to sponsor me, the link to my fundraising page is https://uhdcharity.enthuse.com/pf/liam-foy If you are unable to donate online then please put the money in an envelope with your name & I will enter it for you. Thank you. – Liam Foy"

<u>CAFOD</u> Annie and David Benfield invite you to a Lent Soup Lunch on Friday 23rd February from 12 noon, at 21 Montague road BH 5 2EW Southbourne, in aid of CAFOD.

THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO DO FOR LENT THIS YEAR? The Ignatian Spirituality Centre Glasgow is offering daily reflections ' Following Pope Francis Through Lent'. https://www.onlineprayer.net/ or consider 'Pray as You Go' (app or online) & follow 'The Cry of the Cross' daily reflections of the Pray as You Go Team https://pray-as-you-go.org/player/2024

THANK YOU The Dignity Centre, 108 Christchurch Rd Bournemouth. - A place of welcome and support for the local asylum seeking and refugee population. All at the Centre once again send heartfelt thanks for the generosity and care that has been shown by parishioners and friends. More clothes have been offered and the response for toiletries meant that a car boot full could be delivered. Special thanks to a family for their very kind donation to purchase rucksacks from 'The Bag Shop' in Boscombe, who in turn gave a generous discount in support of the Centre.

<u>**RIGHT TO LIFE**</u> Support an amendment to reduce abortion from 24 to 22 weeks. **Pick up a postcard from the back of church and send it to your MP.** More info at: rightforlife.org.uk

<u>THE PASSION</u> A moving and memorable retelling of the Easter story by LAMPS on **Thursday 21st March at 7.00pm** in St Jospeh's, Christchurch. Tickets £10 includes refreshments Call Claire Riche on 01202 423431 or see poster.

EASTER TRIDUUM RETREAT at the Verbum Dei Retreat Centre, on the Isle of Wight - 28th - 31st March. If you are interested to join it or want to know more information about it, please contact them on: **verbumdei.iow@gmail.com**

<u>RELAY FOR LIFE BOURNEMOUTH 2024</u> will take place on Saturday **13th July** at Glenmoor and Winton School, Beswick Avenue, Bournemouth BH10 4EX It is a 12 event, starting at 10am. The Candle of Hope Ceremony starts at 9pm. RFL celebrates the power of community fundraising in the fight to beat cancer. Teams of friends & family fundraise for life-saving research, then unite as a community at a weekend festival to honour everyone affected by cancer and celebrate the progress we've made in research. If you can help in any way either by fundraising, advertising, sponsorship, entering a team or just come along on the day to support please get in touch. bournemouthrelayforlife@gmail.com

FEAST OF ST PETER'S CHAIR 22nd FEBRUARY This feast places the Chair or "Cathedra" of Saint Peter, or rather the specific mission Jesus entrusted to Peter, at its centre. The feast originated around the "cathedra" of Peter, where the Bishop of Rome resided and governed. The "cathedra", was a fixed "seat" of the Bishop, placed in the mother church of the Diocese – hence the word "cathedral" – which was the symbol of the Bishop's authority who, as a successor of the Apostles, is called to protect the flock and transmit the teaching of the Gospel to the Christian community. We can say that the first "cathedral" was the Upper Room where Jesus gathered His disciples for the Last Supper. Later, Peter moved to Antioch, where Jesus' disciples were first given the name "Christians" (cf. Acts 11:6) and became first Bishop of Antioch, which is why they celebrated the Feast of the Chair of Peter on 22 February. The gospels speak of Saint Peter as the rock upon which Christ built his Church. Peter is considered the foundation of the Christian Church, which is now a symbol that his Chair represents *Source: Vatican News*

<u>CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL VACANCY SEMH LEAD (Social, Emotional and Mental Health)</u> We welcome interest from a candidate with an interest or background in education and children's mental health, to manage provision for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. You will work alongside the Inclusion Leader and DSL (Designated Safeguarding Leader) to provide an alternative curriculum to meet the specific social and emotional needs of individual children. More information is available on the school website www.cccpschool.co.uk/vacancies The closing date is midday Monday 18th March. Interviews on Tuesday 26th March.

VOCATIONS: "I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTIONS: That prayer, penance and almsgiving will enable more men and women to follow the Holy Spirit as He leads them to discover their vocations in Christ, we pray to the Lord.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS are Friday mornings 10.30-11.30am and at Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. Gifts may be dropped off in the church porch. **TINNED FOODS** always appreciated. *Thank you for your continued generosity.*

TO SET UP A STANDING ORDER (Can be Gift Aided) Go to your bank: You will need the parish business bank details, which are: CDP BOURNEMOUTH CORPUS CHRISTI Sort code 30-93-04. Parish Account number: 01786041 Or donate online at our website: http://www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/ or on our Facebook page or to donate via Give As You Live, *click on the QR CODE*

<u>GIFT AID</u> If you are a UK taxpayer please consider Gift Aiding your donation. The parish can reclaim 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. To join the Gift Aid scheme, or if you want an annual box of offertory envelopes, please send contact details to: **accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk** Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568



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