



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Lent, Year A | 8th March 2026

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Parish Clergy: Fr Tristan Cranfield (tristan.cranfield@abdiocese.org.uk)

Deacon Tom Murray (tom.murray@abdiocese.org.uk)

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Holy Mass Open to Parishioners and Live-streamed

7th March – Saturday of the Second Week in Lent

10:00 am Mass – Joseph Cherian RIP

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

(1:30 pm - First Holy Communion Programme Session 5 in the Parish Hall)

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - *Confession*

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Paulose Vithayathil RIP and Devassy Kallrackal RIP

8th March – Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 am to 8:30 am - *Confession*

9:15 am Mass - For the Wellbeing of Josef Istona

11:15 am Mass - Matthew Moonan RIP (*including Rite of Welcome for the Recently Baptised*)

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

5:00 pm - Italian Mass

9th March – Monday of the Third Week in Lent

8:00 am to 8:30 am - *Confession*

12:00 noon Requiem Mass for Anna Juster RIP

7:00 pm - Commissioning Workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

10th March – Tuesday of the Third Week in Lent

7:30 am Mass - Mike Fennelly RIP

8:00 am to 8:30 am - *Confession*

10:30 am to 3:00 pm – *Adoration (Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood)*

11th March – Wednesday of Third Week in Lent

NO MASS

(12:00 noon - Mass at Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, West Grinstead)

6:00 pm - *Polish Adoration*

7:00 pm - Polish Mass

12th March – Thursday of the Third Week in Lent

12:00 noon Mass - Rev Seamus McGeoghan RIP

5:00pm to 5:45pm – *Confession*

(6:45 pm - Confirmation Programme Session 7 in the Parish Hall)

13th March – Friday of the Third Week in Lent

11:15 am - Stations of the Cross

12:00 noon Mass - Deceased Members of the Carroll and Goulder Families RIP

Followed by Confession

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - *Confession*

6:00 pm - *Rosary & Adoration*

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

14th March – Saturday of the Third Week in Lent

10:00 am Mass – Ambi Kochikkat RIP and Paulose Vithayathil RIP

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

1:30 pm - First Holy Communion Programme Session 6

3:30 pm - Silent Prayer (*Meet upstairs in the Parish Hall for refreshments, then proceed to the Church*)

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - *Confession*

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Lis McIntyre RIP

15th March – Fourth 'Lætare' Sunday of Lent

8:00 am to 8:30 am - *Confession*

9:15 am Mass - Pro Populo

11:15 am Mass - John Pentony RIP

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

2:45 pm – Syro-Malabar Rite Mass

5:00 pm - Italian Mass

Useful Contacts

Horsham Parish Office
01403-253667 - Mon-Fri | 9:00 am - 2:30 pm
Sue Smith | Cozette.Rice

Safeguarding
Michelle Downey - sg1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk
Adeline Hawkes - sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Health & Safety
hs1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Hall Hire
Please inquire at the Parish Office

Baptism Team
horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Chair of Parish Finance
David Innes | stjohnsfin@gmail.com
SVP President A010810@svp.org.uk
07765778413

Bereavement Support
Please email stjhorsham@gmail.com
or get in touch with the Parish Office.

St John's Primary School
Finula Farr | 01403-265447

St Robert Southwell Primary School
Helen Connor | 01403252357

St. Wilfrid's Catholic Comprehensive, Crawley
Mike Ferry | 01293 421 421

Our parish relies on
your generous donations,
please click or scan here
to donate.



Last Week's Collection

£3,034.88

(£1,284.88 Offertory;
£1,750 Standing Orders).

Second Collection

£1,384.94

Thank You
You could add 25p to every £1
you give by joining Gift Aid.

FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENT - PLEASE SEND BY WEDNESDAY 5:00 PM TO

horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

OUR VISITING SEMINARIAN, BARNABAS, WRITES

“The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:14).

In this holy season of Lent we are encouraged to put the things that don't really nourish us to one side to make more space for Christ, who alone can give us what we really need. As with the Samaritan woman at the well, Christ knows us better than we know ourselves, and He patiently prompts us to reveal our hearts to Him, with all its contradictions and brokenness, so that He can bring us true healing. Recently at St John's, there have been many examples of people escaping the noise and distractions of the world to come closer to Christ and be nourished by the living water that only He can give. The Saturday before last, our young people preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation enjoyed a peaceful retreat day at Micklepage, in which they learned about different vocations within the Church, and the value of the sacrament of reconciliation, which they then celebrated before returning home. Last Sunday, we hosted a well attended day for those discerning a vocation to the priesthood for the diocese, in which we exchanged our stories and heard from Fr Tristan about both the beauty, and the practical realities of the priesthood. They then very patiently suffered to hear yours truly speak about the many joys of this placement, as well as the blessings and challenges of life in the seminary. Moreover, we also had our children preparing to make their first Holy Communion celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this week, as they continue to prepare to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time.

All these events make me think of what is borne out of this Sunday's readings; God's abundant generosity. It is beautiful to see that in our parish of St John's, and indeed throughout the whole world, Christ is calling those of all ages and backgrounds, each with their unique story, to come to Him so that He can bring them healing, forgiveness, and ultimately, eternal life. Perhaps this week as we continue with our Lenten observances we can offer up some of our penances and prayers for our young people as they prepare to receive the sacraments of the Church, as well as our inquirers who have taken this brave step to consider if the Lord could be calling them to serve Him as a priest for this diocese.

Let us also continue to pray for peace in the world amidst all the tragic events in the Middle East.

May Christ bless us all, and may He grant us a happy continuation of our observances this Lent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR TRIDUUM AND EASTER SERVICES (THURSDAY 2ND TO SUNDAY 5TH APRIL) -

There is a Sign-Up sheet at the back of the Church, for Sacristans, Co-ordinators, Welcomers, Readers, Offertory Collectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you are willing to help at any of our Triduum or Easter services, please add your name to the sheet, **by Sunday 15th March**. We especially need Readers (8 in total) for the Easter Vigil! Thank you, as always, for your help with these important ministries.

“THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED; LISTEN TO HIM” (MATTHEW 17:5) - At St John's, we have the opportunity to experience some catechesis in the parish to help us in our journey of growing closer to Jesus and listening more closely to him this Lent. On **Mondays at 17:00**, Fr Tristan will be giving a live online talk on the liturgy on YouTube (to access, head to his YouTube channel Fr_Tristan_Cranfield), which will be recorded so you can watch it later if you wish. Moreover, Barnabas will be facilitating a video course by Dr Scott Hahn on the Gospel of Matthew, with prayer and group discussion, in the Main Hall on **Fridays at 19:30 (but not on Friday 6th March)**. Both series are intended for anyone in the parish, and indeed any friends who may be interested in learning more about Christ and his Church. All are welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SVP SOUP LUNCHESES - The SVP cordially invite you to their remaining 3 Wednesday Lenten Soup Lunches in the church hall from 12.00 – 1.30, on Wednesday 11th, 18th and 25th March. Donations will again go to South Sudan.

ST PATRICK'S EVENT - Fun and craic evening, funds for St John's and St Robert's Schools. Church Hall after Mass, 7.00 for 7.30pm on **Saturday 14th March**. Admission by donation on the night. A fun family evening, please join us. There will be a raffle on the night. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ - The next meeting of our Bereavement Café will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 14th March, from 11am. Please do mention this to people you know who may benefit from an informal chat over tea and coffee. There are leaflets at the back of the church with more information.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA – The next World Youth Day will take place from 3rd to 8th August next year in Seoul, South Korea. There is further information on the website: <https://wydseoul.org/en>. If you're aged between 18 and 35 and would like to go, please register your interest via the Parish Office or speak to Fr Tristan.

RECLAIMING HUMANITY: ATTENTION & LOVE IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD - An afternoon Exploring Catholic Social Teaching with **Fr Toby Lees OP. Sunday 22 March · 1:30–4:15pm · Fitzherbert Community Hub**. Fr Toby Lees OP — Dominican priest, moral theologian, and Priest Director of Radio Maria England — will explore how forces in our culture fight for our attention, weakening our capacity to love; how fragmentation affects our humanity, and how we can stay grounded through contemplation, communion, and generosity. All are welcome to join early for a shared lunch at 12:45pm (please bring a packed lunch or a dish to share). No booking required. Donation only. Tea, coffee, and cake provided. **Venue:** The Fitzherbert Hub, St John the Baptist Church, BN2 1AP. **More info:** joanna.gilbert@abdiocese.org.uk.

GRANDPARENTS' FORMATION DAY – **Thursday 23 April 10-4pm at St John the Evangelist parish hall, Horsham**. Join us for what promises to be a wonderful, engaging and affirming day with guest speaker, David Wells. You will be able to listen to the inspirational experience of David Wells as evangelist, father and grandfather. A chance to meet with people from across the grandparent network of the diocese and those who are keen to bring the faith to the next generation. For more details on David's powerful, fun and engaging talks on our faith you might like to visit his website W: davidwellslive.com To register, go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events If you have any questions about the day please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

YOUNG ADULTS' EASTER RETREAT AT WORTH ABBEY! - Maundy Thursday 2nd April - Easter Sunday 5th April. (Plus, optional walking pilgrimage from Brighton, leaving Palm Sunday). Come and celebrate together the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the greatest Feast of the year and climax of our faith. Talks from monks / space for personal reflection / group discussion / social time / beautiful liturgy. Retreat cost: £200 (£100 places available - please enquire at retreats@worth.org.uk for more details). To book your place visit: www.worthabbey.org/our-retreats and click on the 'young adults' tab.

LIVE SIMPLY “Live simply so others may simply live”

REORDERING OUR DESIRES FOR THE CARE OF OUR COMMON HOME THIS LENT

The desire for endless consumption, polluting energy, and convenience can masquerade as progress, even as it deepens ecological and social wounds. Lent invites us to ask: which desires are truly shaping my choices? When we choose restraint, solidarity, or advocacy for climate justice, even at personal cost, we often experience a deeper freedom: the freedom of coherence between my faith and my actions. - *From the Laudato SI Movement's Reflection for the First Sunday of Lent*

Email livesimply_stjohnshorsham@yahoo.com with your Live Simply questions and ideas.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

THE COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING (Book of Exodus 17:3-7)

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the LORD said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise. **R**

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand. **R**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R**

SECOND READING (Letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:1-2, 5-8)

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

GOSPEL (John 4:5-42)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come here.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.'

Just then his disciples came back. They marvelled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you seek?' or, 'Why are you talking with her?' So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?' They went out of the town and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, 'Rabbi, eat.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Has anyone brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, "There are yet four months, then comes the harvest"? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me all that I ever did.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LET US PRAY FOR

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK INCLUDING

Paul Wycliffe, John Maher, Charlotte Curson, Edwina Slater, Tony Sefton, Baby Ruby, Sheila Pike, Bill Hughes, Geraldine Garvley, Ashley Elliott, Diana Foley, Robin Sherfield, Helen Daly, Pat Danielian, Anne Mullarky, Vilma Marshall, Carolyn Whitefield, Sheila Budgen, Zoe Keane, Mark Wiesner, Brian Harris, Shane Campbell, Laura Rawlinson (Walshe), Grace Khushi, Amanda Molloy, Jarad Nunns, Gina Partridge, Margaret Georgeson, Jan Davies, Alan Frendo-Cumbo, and Katrina Sharpe.

WE PRAY FOR

Norah Hart RIP, Derek Warwick RIP, Anna Juster RIP
and ALL HOLY SOULS.

Coffee After 9:15 am Mass Host

ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Readings for Next Week

Reading 1 - First Book of Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Psalm - Ps 23(22): 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R.1

Reading 2 - Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel - John 9:1-41