



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A | 15th February 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

14th February – Ss Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop (Feast)

Patrons of Europe

NO MORNING MASS

NO Confession, Adoration & Benediction

4:00 pm - Silent Prayer (*Meet upstairs in the Parish Hall for refreshments, then proceed to the Church*)

NO Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Colin Cooper RIP

15th February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 am Mass - Fr John Garry RIP

11:15 am Mass - Vic Tompkins RIP

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

2:45 pm - Syro-Malabar Rite Mass

5:00 pm - Italian Mass

16th February – Monday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 6

12:00 noon Mass - Thottathil Loney Thomas RIP

17th February – Tuesday, The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order (Memorial)

NO MASS

(9:30 am - Mass at St Gabriel's, Billingshurst)

10:30 am to 3:00 pm – Adoration

18th February – Wednesday, Ash Wednesday

7:30 am – Distribution of Ashes

12:00 noon Mass - Robert Eifion-Wynne RIP (First Anniversary)

NO Polish Adoration

NO Polish Mass

7:00 pm Mass - John Moynihan RIP

19th February – Thursday after Ash Wednesday

12:00 noon Mass - Maurice and Ethel O'Connor RIP FM

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

20th February – Friday after Ash Wednesday

11:15 am - Stations of the Cross

12:00 noon Mass - Intentions of Bernie Ward

Followed by Confession

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm - Rosary & Adoration

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

21st February – Saturday after Ash Wednesday

10:00 am Mass - Elena, Pilar and Rosario Palacios RIP

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

5:00 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Pro Populo

22nd February – First Sunday of Lent

8:00 am to 8:30 am - Confession

9:15 am Mass - Intentions of the White Family

11:15 am Mass - Alfredo and Angela Tavolieri RIP

1:45 pm - Polish 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@abdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding

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

Health & Safety

hsl.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

£2,906.09

(£1156.09 Offertory;
£1,750 Standing Orders).

Second Collection

£780.22

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

FR TRISTAN WRITES

On Wednesday, Lent begins: forty days where the Church invites us to return, with all our heart, to Christ, in preparation to celebrate the mysteries of our redemption in Holy Week. When we receive ashes on our forehead we hear the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." It is a beautiful phrase: not really a comment on our sinfulness, so much as a reminder of our fragility. We are creatures, made in God's image; we are utterly dependent on Him! It is the illusion of independence that is what so often leads us astray, and it is this illusion which the disciplines of Lent - prayer, fasting and almsgiving - seek to put right, by putting our relationship with God and with others first. Each action of Lent is a chance to "remember" our dependence on the Father. In recalling our dust, which He gave life to, He fills us again with the breath of His mouth, the everlasting life of the crucified Son so that we may not die in sin, but rise as He did on Easter Sunday. Together, we walk as a community through Lent, in reconciliation with the Father and one another, like the people of Israel on their forty years wandering towards the Promised Land. Last year, you may remember that I recorded a short podcast each day entitled "A Lenten Alphabet"; these are still available on YouTube, should you wish to use them. This year, on Mondays, I will be giving a live catechesis on the meaning of the Lenten liturgies and the Triduum to prepare us to celebrate the Easter Mysteries together. And on Fridays, Barnabas will be leading in-person sessions on the beauty of St Matthew's Gospel (together with video material from renowned biblical scholar and Catholic convert Scott Hahn). Along with extra time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Stations of the Cross, there is plenty for us in the parish to help kick start a time of spiritual renewal, and to walk more closely with Christ; to die to self and live for others: to live for Him, who died for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAIRTRADE BIG BREW - Coffee after the 9:15am Mass on Sunday February 15th will be a Fairtrade Big Brew event featuring a Fairtrade quiz and a children's guessing game alongside a selection of Fairtrade cakes and biscuits. Please come along and support this fun event. Fairtrade ensures that farmers and producers in the developing world have a reliable income and helps them protect their farms against the effects of climate change. All proceeds to Transform Trade. St John's is a Fairtrade parish.

TODDLER GROUP - the Toddler group will not be meeting next week on 18th February as it is half term. Their next session will be Wednesday 25th February 2026.

GRANDPARENTS GROUP - All parishioners are invited to join with the Grandparents group on Thursday 19th February for a meeting, starting with coffee at 10.15 and ending at 11.30, to hear a talk by Barnabas, a seminarian at the Venerable English College in Rome currently with us at St John's.

FOODBANK COLLECTION (NEXT WEEKEND) - SVP Horsham will be collecting goods for the Horsham Foodbank next weekend, 21st and 22nd February. Over 90% of the food that is distributed by foodbanks is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to the continuing work of the Foodbank. The Foodbank is grateful for whatever you can provide but they currently have a particular need for the following goods: Tinned Vegetables, Rice, Instant / Pot Noodles,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tinned Spaghetti, Cooking Sauces, Jams and Spreads. You can leave your goods at the back of the church on the table provided. Many Thanks.

CALLING ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - You should by now have received an email from the Parish Office, asking you to come for your annual training, prayer, and to be re-commissioned for service bringing Holy Communion to the Sick, distributing the Blessed Sacrament at Mass and helping with Eucharistic Exposition. This year, those who do not receive a note of accreditation from the parish priest will not be able to continue in the role, so it is especially important that you are properly commissioned. A choice of dates for the Commissioning has been sent to you, but if you feel you ought to be on the list and have not received an invitation, please do get in touch with the office.

OUR LIVESTREAM – You can now join our livestreamed Masses either via our website or via Church Services TV (our new livestream partner) at <https://www.churchservices.tv/horsham>.

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.

DISCERNMENT RETREATS - at Minster Abbey Benedictine Monastery. These are for single catholic women aged 18-35 who are open to discerning a monastic vocation. The next Retreats are Palm Sunday weekend 27th-29th March 2026, 7th-9th August 2026 and 9th-11th October 2026. For more information and to book a place, please contact Sister Walburga at ministervocations@gmail.com. The website for the Monastery is www.minsterabbeynuns.org.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 24TH – 30TH JULY 2026 – Applications are now open for this year's diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Full details are available at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>.

LIVE SIMPLY “Live simply so others may simply live”

HORSHAM COUNCIL LAUNCHES FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS

Weekly food waste collections will be starting soon. Each home will receive a small caddy for use in the kitchen and a larger bin to be placed outside on your normal bin collection day. By recycling food waste separately, the amount of rubbish sent to landfill or other disposal sites will be significantly reduced, lowering harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Full details of the scheme can be viewed here: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/news/2026/01/council-to-start-rollout-of-weekly-food-waste-collections-for-horsham-district-residents>

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

THE COLLECT

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. 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 Sirach 15:15-20)

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person’s every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Blessed are those who walk in the law of the LORD!

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!
Blessed are those who keep his decrees!
With all their hearts they seek him. **R**

You have laid down your precepts
to be carefully kept.
May my ways be firm
in keeping your statutes. **R**

Deal bountifully with your servant,
that I may live and keep your word.
Open my eyes, that I may see
the wonders of your law. **R**

LORD, teach me the way of your statutes,
and I will keep them to the end.
Grant me insight that I may keep your law,
and observe it wholeheartedly. **R**

SECOND READING (First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 2:6-10)

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him’ —

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.

GOSPEL (Matthew 5:17-37)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with

his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.” But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply “Yes” or “No”; anything more than this comes from evil.’

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. 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, Derek Warwick,
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

Audrey Eager RIP, Anna Juster RIP and ALL HOLY SOULS.

Collections Announcements

WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY, A DAY OF FASTING
(mandatory for those aged 14 and over)
and abstinence (mandatory from age 18 until 59).

Coffee After 9:15 am Mass Host

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP (FAIRTRADE BIG BREW).

Readings for Next Week

Reading 1 - Book of Samuel 2:7-9, 3:1-7
Psalm - Ps 51(50):3-4,5-6b.12-13.14, 7R.cf.3a
Reading 2 - Letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:12-19
Gospel - Matthew 4:1-11