

Southeast Hampshire Pastoral Area

Jesus Prince of Peace

St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Times

Parish Mass Book page 133

Scripture Readings at Mass

Isaiah 58:6-10 'Your light shall break forth like the dawn.'

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 'I proclaim to you the mystery of Christ crucified.'

Matthew 5:13-16 'You are the light of the world.'

8th February 2026

Fr. Tom writes...

My echo to all that Fr James (and my mother herself) said so eloquently in last week's newsletter regarding and the real hope we have in Christ for eternal life. It was such a grace to experience the beauty of that trust in my mother, as profoundly tired as she was. This parish will always remain in my heart for the kindness shown to her and my family during those unforgettable days. Thank you.

As we approach Lent, it is worth setting one's heart not only in terms of 'what to give up,' but also our motives for doing so. We would all like to have more self-control, and the natural benefits that would bring, but a fast is different to a diet, where we would be only too happy if it proved easy. In fasting, we actually embrace the discomfort, because of the ancient Christian belief that – when we offer up any slight or mortification in union with Christ – we can be closer conformed to Him and His mission to bring true freedom to people. Having a clear sense of for whom or what one is offering up a Lenten fast changes the experience, for when we reach those inevitable moments when restraint seems impossible, we can remember those loved ones. Knowing how many of us have family or friends who have drifted away from the faith, or never known it, I invite anyone looking for a motive this Lent to join me in offering up a collective fast for each other's families and friends, especially those in need of real hope.

Lent 2026

Lent is a season in the Church's calendar when we're invited for forty days to find time for prayer and fasting. It's an opportunity for spiritual growth as we prepare to commemorate the suffering and death of Jesus Christ and the celebration of his resurrection at Easter. These six weeks mirror the amount of time that Jesus spent in the desert to fast and pray. Full details of how we'll be marking Lent at Sacred Heart and St. Edmund in next week's newsletter, but below are important dates to get ready for:

Ash Wednesday – 18th February

Masses with Ashes:

7am at Sacred Heart

10.15am at St Michael & All Angels

12noon at Sacred Heart

7pm at St. Edmund

Lenten Station Masses (All Tuesdays)

6pm – Adoration & Reconciliation, 7pm Station

Mass followed by supper

24th February at St Joseph, Havant

3rd March at St Edmund, Horndean

10th March at St Colman, Cosham

17th March at St Patrick, Hayling Island

24th March at St Michael & All Angels, Leigh Park

DATE	TIME	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION	VENUE	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 7 February Our Lady on Saturday Vigil FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	11.30am 12noon 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Confession Mass Mass for the Sick Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael St Edmund Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	First Holy Communion children, catechist and families For all the sick Juan Snr, Rosa & Teresa
Sunday 8 February FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Special Int of T. Barnett for Michelle George Riley RIP People of the Parish Intention of the Hodges Family
Monday 9 February Feria [5th Week in OT]	7.30am 12.30pm	Holy Hour Mass	Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel	
Tuesday 10 February St Scholastica, Virgin, mem	7.30am 6pm 6.30pm	Holy Hour Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart St Edmund St Edmund	Mick Woodgate, RIP & Deceased members of Woodgate family
Wednesday 11 February Feria [5th Week in OT]	7.30am 10.15am 11.30am 12noon	Holy Hour Mass followed by Adoration Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Muriel Hiney RIP Mary Humphries, RIP (FM)
Thursday 12 February Feria [5th Week in OT]	7.30am 9.30am 10am	Holy Hour Adoration & Confession Mass	Sacred Heart St Edmund St Edmund	John Monteiro, RIP
Friday 13 February Feria [5th Week in OT]	7.30am 12noon	Holy Hour Funeral Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Margaret Bush, RIP
Saturday 14 February ST CYRIL, Rel & ST METHODIUS, Bishop, feast Vigil SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	11.30am 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Confession Mass Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Tom McEntee RIP Francis, Cajetani & Felix Decosta, RIP
Sunday 15 February SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Yvonne Rezler George Riley RIP People of the Parish Damian Whitfield, RIP

Fr. James is taking annual leave returning on Tuesday 17th February. Please keep him in your prayers and he promises to pray for all of us when he is away. Fr Tom will be here, steering the ship while Fr James is away. If you require a priest in an emergency, out of office hours, please call 023 9226 2289 and dial 9 when prompted.

The Rosary group - Meet on Monday at 10 am at St Michael's.

Love the Bible group - New Zoom Series: Psalms -

The School of Prayer - Our new 10-week Ascension group series has begun, led by Jeff Cavins, using DVD teaching and group discussion on Zoom. Resources shared via WhatsApp, or participants may purchase the book (£35). All are welcome. For Zoom details and joining information, please email Kathy Collins if you would like to attend, kathyimcollins1@gmail.com.

Mass for the Sick - St Edmund, Horndean, invites you for a special Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick on Saturday 7th February @ 12noon. Lunch in the hall afterwards and for catering reasons please email Sue on office@waterlooville-catholic.org.uk if you wish to attend. Donations go towards the cost of the lunch, any money left over at the end of the year goes to charities like CAFOD, Stella Maris and Aid to the Church in Need.

Catholic Grandparents and the Elderly - meet at St Michael's on Thursday 12th February at 11 am in the Committee room

Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes - Celebrated at St Colman's Church, Cosham, Friday 13th February at 6.30 pm. Especially for medics, nurses & care workers, all are welcome.

We pray for the rest and peace of the soul of John Tookey-Dickson whose funeral will be on Thursday 19th February at 11.30 am at St Michael's. Please remember his wife Jo, and their family in your prayers.

Bible Timeline – The Story of Salvation, begins on Tuesday 24th February at 10.15am at St Michael's in the Committee room. Each session will have a video, discussion and question time. Please do come along. Kathy Collins will be hosting kathyimcollins1@gmail.com.

Big Lent Community Walk!

Ready for a challenge! Everyone is invited to join the Lent walk again this year on Saturday 14th March, from St Thomas', Emsworth to St Michael & All Angels, Leigh Park. It would be great to have participants from Waterlooville, Hayling, Cosham and Horndean joining parishioners from Havant, Emsworth and Leigh Park. More details coming soon!