

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/>

Third Sunday of Easter

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Scripture Readings at Mass

Acts 2:14, 22-33 'It was not possible for him to be held by death.'

Peter 1:17-21 'You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish.'

Luke 24:13-15 'He was known to them in the breaking of bread.'

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

19 APRIL 2026

Fr. Tom writes...

Gradually, like the piece of heavenly music that it is, the Church's year starts to draw us towards a new theme: not a replacement of the great Easter hope of Resurrection, but its consummation. For the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead, is now being offered to every human heart. Not just to mighty prophets, as in the Old Testament, but to the hearts of all who are humble enough to make room for the Divine Guest by which – as the Jewish convert to Catholicism Edith Stein put it in prayer – "deep within me glows Your holy life".

Her words cannot be dismissed as wishful thinking or fluffy poetry. Stein, an academic philosopher in her former life, continued to pray to the Holy Spirit in the weeks before her deportation to Auschwitz: 'Who are you, sweet light that fills me/ And illumines the darkness of my heart?'

We all know how debilitating anxiety, hatred, despair and guilt can be, and we also know full well when we are free of them. The Holy Spirit could not have been more real to Edith Stein, now known as St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross: 'A long life's burden of guilt and suffering/ Fell away from me'. The freedom she discovered on her conversion, and which sustained during her imprisonment, is offered to all who approach the sacraments of the Catholic Church with something of her gratitude. That is, with honesty about our shortcomings, and a hunger that only Jesus Christ can fulfil.

A Prayer by St Benedicta of the Cross:

*"O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strength to serve You.
Enkindle Your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me.
I do not see very far ahead, but when I have arrived where the horizon now closes down,
I trust that a new prospect will open before me and I shall be met with peace.
How wondrous are the marvels of your love, Lord.
We are amazed, we stammer and grow dumb, for word and spirit fail us. Amen"*

CAFOD: Stand with Sudan. Give monthly

On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help:

"So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a regular gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored."



Donate at
cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan

Prayer Ministry

On the last Sunday of every month after 5.30pm Mass at Sacred Heart Church there will be an opportunity to receive individual prayer for anything in your life that is causing you anguish, pain or concern. God works in mysterious ways, but in the history of the Church has often used the prayers of others to provide courage, consolation and even miraculous help in difficult or challenging situations. There will be music playing and pairs of people dotted around the sides of the church offering discreet and caring prayer for anyone brave enough to ask. Many of us have been helped by this kind of prayer ministry and would urge you not to let pride or fear stop you if you are interested. May the Lord be particularly with the volunteers as we start this ministry.

The Tea and Chat Group meet at St Michael's on Thursday 30th April at 2pm. All very welcome.

Bible Timeline The Story of Salvation, continues on Tuesday mornings 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.

Mass for the Sick

St Edmund, Horndean, would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone in Jesus Prince of Peace Parish for a special Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick on Saturday 9 May @ 12noon. Lunch in the hall afterwards and *for catering reasons please email Sue on office@waterlooville-catholic.org.uk* or sign the list in St. Edmund if you wish to attend. They will be collecting donations which will go towards the cost of the lunch and any money left over at the end of the year goes to charities like CAFOD, Rowans Hospice, Jesuit Refugee programme and Aid to the Church in Need.

Stella Maris Easter Appeal - Thank you!

A huge thank you to all those who donated Easter eggs for seafarers – they were moved by your thoughtfulness, for remembering them this Easter, and for the support, care, and prayer that you give each Easter. Please see some photos attached –



examples of the chaplains and volunteers handing over your chocolate goodies. Stella Maris is very grateful for the support you give each Easter – we continue to keep our supporters in our prayers. Kind regards, Gregory Hogan, Southampton Regional Port Chaplain for Stella Maris.

James Ryan's London Marathon 2026 for the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

James would like to thank everyone who attended the Pastoral Area Quiz Night and donated to the cause; the Pastoral Area has given wonderful support. A total of £1053 was raised on the night, and the total as of the 14th April is £2024, which is a phenomenal amount. You can follow James' story, and training runs at his JustGiving Page

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/james-ryan-8>. If you want to track James on the day, his running number is: 20907; this is important for those who guessed James' finish time. The closest will receive a hamper after the race has been run. James asks for prayers on Sunday 26th April for the race and the people JRS serves.

The Humphreys' Family Trek for Rare Dementia Support

Alison Humphreys writes... Three years ago, Fr John was diagnosed with a rare form of dementia, Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD). Since then, we have been helped tremendously by Rare Dementia Support, which is part of the National Brain Appeal Charity. It provides much needed help and advice for people with rare dementias and their families. To help raise funds for this important work, on May 2nd Fr John's children, Clare, Rosemary and Edward, are doing a 36 mile sponsored walk from Dean Park Cricket Ground in Bournemouth to the Utilita Bowl at Eastleigh. This is in recognition of Fr John's love of cricket. They would be delighted if you felt able to sponsor them. The link to their Just Giving Page is: www.justgiving.com/page/humphreys-walk

LITURGICAL WEEK

DATE	TIME	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION	VENUE	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 18 April Of the Second Week of Easter Vigil Third Sunday of Easter	11.30am 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Confession Mass Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	For those making their First Holy Communion Mike Woodgate, RIP & Woodgate family
Sunday 19 April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Mary and Bill Robinson Elsie May Pratt RIP Douglas Gooch, RIP (FM) People of the Parish
Monday 20 April Of the Third Week of Easter	7am 7.30am 12.30pm	Mass Holy Hour Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel	Sarah Bridget Steer, RIP
Tuesday 21 April Of the Third Week of Easter	7.30am 10.45am 6pm 6.30pm	Holy Hour Funeral Service for Teresa McDuff Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart The Oaks Crematorium St Edmund St Edmund	Joe Charlton
Wednesday 22 April ST GEORGE, Patron of England, solemnity	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	Geraldine Hines RIP Margaret Bush, RIP
Thursday 23 April Of the Second Week of Easter	7am 7.30am 9.30am 10am	Mass Holy Hour Adoration & Confession Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Edmund St Edmund	Holy Souls Philip Lamb
Friday 24 April Of the Third Week of Easter	11.30am 12noon	Adoration Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	In Thanksgiving
Saturday 25 April ST MARK, Evangelist, feast Vigil Fourth Sunday of Easter	11.30am 12noon 2pm 5-6pm 6.15pm	Confession Mass Wedding Carl Heslop & Fiona Darroch Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Holy Souls Fr. Frank Reynolds, RIP (FM)
Sunday 26 April FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Arlene Lodrick & Emmie Willis, RIP. D'cd mem of Lodrick, d'Esperance & Adams families Stephen Harrison RIP Sheila & Michael Crombie, RIP People of the Parish