



# SACRED HEART PARISH

In The Diocese of Portsmouth  
Reg. Charity No. 246871

4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

Year B

14 March 2021

Welcome to all our Parishioners and all who are joining us via the website or Facebook  
Live streaming of the Mass this weekend is at 10am on Sunday  
Website: <https://www.sacredhearhook.org/live>  
Children's Liturgy will live stream at 11:30am on Sunday mornings

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Today's second reading reminds us that Jesus came not simply to save us from something, but to save us for something. That something is life as a son or daughter of God. Through the mercy, the goodness and graciousness of God we are transformed: we become, in the incredible words of St Paul, "God's work of art" destined to live "the good life as from the beginning (God) had meant us to live it".

Perhaps we tend to think of ourselves more as disaster areas than work of art. But today we are being asked to think again. We are assured by God's word that we are "God's work of art". If that is God's vision, then can it inspire us, in our own small way, to live up to God's expectations? Again, when we see goodness not in terms of keeping commandments but rather in terms of making a return of love to a God who first loved us, then what could give us greater joy than trying to live "the good life" as God has always meant it to be? If Sunday by Sunday we could bring to mind these truths, wouldn't every Sunday be a "Laetare Sunday", a day filled with gratitude and rejoicing for all that the Lord has done, is doing, will do in order to turn us into "God's work of art"?

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

## SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC MASS ATTENDANCE

Father Paul with the help of members of the Parish Health and Safety team has made the sad decision to keep our church closed to public attendance.

Mass will be live streamed on Sunday mornings at 10am via FaceBook and our Website.

Please keep an eye on the website and newsletter for more updates.



## POPE FRANCIS MARCH PRAYER INTENTION

Intention for evangelization - Sacrament of reconciliation Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

**Priest in Charge:** Rev. Paul Leonard

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs Jan Hughes

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**email:** [hello@sacredhearhook.org](mailto:hello@sacredhearhook.org)

**Website:** [www.sacredhearhook.org](http://www.sacredhearhook.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/sacredhearhook](https://www.facebook.com/sacredhearhook)

**Safeguarding Minister:** Mrs Maggie Wood **email:** [safeguarding@sacredhearhook.org](mailto:safeguarding@sacredhearhook.org)

Sacred Heart Church, The Priests House, London Road, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9LA

### Liturgy of the Word

#### 4th Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** 2 Chronicles 36: 14 – 16, 19 - 23.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Psalm 136: response v6

*O let my tongue  
Cleave to my mouth  
If I remember you not!*

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 2: 4 – 10

Gospel Acclamation

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

**God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;  
Everyone who believes in him has eternal life.**

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

**Gospel** John 3: 14 – 21



### LENT 2021

Lent is a time to prepare for Holy Week's commemoration of Our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection.



Lent is a time of:

**Prayer:** we are encouraged to pray more.

**Fasting:** we give up the food we enjoy as a sacrifice.

**Almsgiving:** we give more to those who are in need.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This Lent please join us for a virtual Stations of the Cross.

Thank you to Maggie and Emrys who have recorded the Stations of the Cross for us, you can find the recording on our website and Facebook page.

**On Sunday 21st March at 3pm please join us for a special Zoom Stations of the Cross, for more information please contact Jan on [hello@sacredhearthook.org](mailto:hello@sacredhearthook.org)**



### LAETARE SUNDAY

*Rejoice*

This Sunday, is the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It's mid-Lent Sunday: traditionally, Laetare Sunday ('Rejoicing Sunday') from the words of the Introit *Laetare Jerusalem*, 'Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her; be joyful all who were in mourning'. As Pope Innocent III said: *Today is the middle of Lent, so some relaxation ought to be provided, lest the faithful break down under the severity of their Lenten fasts*. So rose vestments can be used, flowers too. Simnel cakes were often baked for the day. But next Sunday in England is also Mothering Sunday – and we wish all mothers a very happy day! In mediaeval England, today was a holiday from work when people went home to the mother church in which they were baptised. As families gathered, they gave gifts to their mothers, hence Mothering Sunday, a day we pray for our mothers too. Please remember to say a prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary next Sunday for your mother and grandmother.

### PARISH DONATIONS

Dear Friends

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish, or set up a Standing Order, our bank account details are:

Lloyds Bank

**Sort Code:** 30 93 04

**Account number** 00880117

**Name:** PRCDTR Sacred Heart Hook

(Please also use this for cheque payments)

### ONLINE OFFERTORY AND DONATIONS

An easy way to give online using your debit card has been set up on our website at

<https://www.sacredhearthook.org/donations>

Just click the button and follow the instructions.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

God bless. Fr. Paul

### MONTH OF MARCH—ST. JOSEPH

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph and we celebrate his feast day on 19th March. The Holy Father Pope Francis has dedicated this year to St. Joseph in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as the Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on 8th December, 1870. Let us continue to invoke him in our prayers.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

The S.V.P. now have a confidential mobile phone line to assist & help.07434 773219.

### **CAFE series - Let it be - Monday 26th April @ 7.30pm**

Sacred Heart Church will be hosting another Cafe series course called Let it be which is about our Lady Mary. The cafe sessions involves watching a video and discussions in smaller groups. Here's the link to find out more - its a 5 weeks course it will end on 27th May. [Let It Be | CaFE - Catholic Faith Exploration](#)  
If you are interested please do get in touch with Joan Kent on [jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **PRAYER BLANKETS**

#### **- can you lend us your skill and time?**

Are you a keen knitter? Good at crocheting or sewing? The aim is to have a prayer blanket made by knitting individual squares which will then be pieced together to form a blanket / shawl which will be blessed by Fr Paul and sent to those in the parish who are sick or in need of some comfort. If you are interested to learn more please do reach out to Andrea at [andrea.waldram@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.waldram@gmail.com).  
**URGENT request for any spare wool, please contact Andrea if you are able to help with knitting or wool.**

### **SECOND COLLECTION**

Our Second Collection this Sunday is for the Clergy Assistance Fund which supports the invaluable work of the Clergy Support Team. The Team is responsible for looking after our clergy, from supporting newly ordained priests to settle into their ministry, to providing ongoing support and formation for those in active ministry, to caring for our clergy through illness or in a time of need.

As a Diocese, we are responsible for supporting the 73 diocesan clergy in active ministry, 40 from religious orders or overseas and 45 in retirement, who with dedication and care serve our parishes, chaplaincies, schools, outreach and mission: bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church.

We rely on your commitment and generosity to do this. If you would like to give a gift to this collection, you can donate here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-assistance-fund>

### **YEAR OF THE WORD**

Bishop Philip Egan writes: "During this continuing Year of the Word – the God Who Speaks – we are also keeping a Year of St. Joseph. This is a happy coincidence and I recommend prayerful reflection on the passages in the Gospels that speak of St. Joseph. One of these is Matthew 1: 18-25, the so-called 'Annunciation to Joseph.' A powerful line to reflect on from this gospel is verse 24: "When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do." There is a lot behind this: think of how he must have felt. Think of what must have been going through his mind. Imagine the prayers he must have offered to God, and then the resolution to act. For more on the Year of St. Joseph, go to: [www.yearofstjoseph.org](http://www.yearofstjoseph.org).

### **THE PASSAGE**

The pandemic fundamentally changed how The Passage helps those who are homeless. We continued to run frontline services and adapted quickly to move hundreds of people into temporary hotel accommodation. This gave us a unique opportunity to address our clients' needs and help them find safe routes off the streets.

However, there is now a new group of people at immediate risk of becoming street homeless due to the economic crisis. The Passage is committed to preventing people from sleeping out; even one night can have a devastating effect and make recovery and resettlement much more difficult. In response, we have developed No Night Out, a new service providing safe, temporary accommodation, combined with specialist support matched to people's specific needs. It offers clients long-term solutions to help prevent homelessness.

From 12.00 noon on Tuesday 16 March, The Passage is running a campaign with the Big Give; this is an online matched giving scheme to raise the funds for No Night Out. Anything that donated to The Passage via The Big Give website before noon on Wednesday 24 March will be doubled at no extra cost to the donor. Further details of the work is at [www.passage.org.uk](http://www.passage.org.uk).

**Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921886 [andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk)