

Scripture Readings

2nd Sunday in Lent (The year of Luke, Year C), Parish Mass Book page 75. This Sunday's readings: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18, Psalm 26, Philippians 3:17-4.1, Luke 9:28-36.

Next Sunday's readings:

Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15, Psalm 102, Corinthians 10, 1-6, 10-12, John 4:5-42 (Year A).

World Youth Day

August 2011 - Madrid

World Youth Day 2011 will take place in Madrid. Young people who will be aged between 16 & 35 in August 2011 will be able to join the Portsmouth Diocese Group, led by Bishop Crispian. To find out more about this great opportunity to meet other young Catholics from around the world at a wonderful international gathering please come to an information session at St James today from 12.30 - 1pm. If you cannot attend please send your contact details to the Parish Office.

Offertory Collections - your donations make the life and work of the parish possible. Last Sunday's offertory: £1528.34 received from Sat: 6pm, Sun: 9am, 11am, 6pm (University Chaplaincy), Votive lights £94.35, Church upkeep £35.70, Papers £35.70.

Parish Liturgies for the week commencing 28 February

Sunday	2 nd Sunday of Lent	
SJ (Sat)	6pm	Ivy and Bert Hora's intention
SW	9am	Flavien & Colette Houndeffo's int
SJ	11am	People of the parish
SW	6pm	<i>University Chaplaincy Mass</i>
Monday	St David	
SJ	12.15pm	Nicole and Peter Wilford's int
Tuesday	Lent week 2	
SJ	<i>No mass today</i>	
Wednesday	Lent week 2	
SJ	12.15pm	Bob and Joan Smith's intention
Thursday	Lent week 2	
SJ	12.15pm	Christopher McNulty RIP
Friday	Lent week 2	
SJ	12.15pm	In thanksgiving
Saturday	Lent week 2	
Prison	9am	Priests intention
Confessions	SJ Saturday, 5pm - 5.45pm or by appointment	
Rosary - weekdays	SJ Monday to Thursday after 12.15pm mass	
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	SJ Friday, 12.45pm - 2pm	
Mass in Ukrainian Rite	SJ 2 nd Sunday of the month at 1pm	

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest Canon John O'Shea
Parish Secretary Jackie Welton
Email any of the above at:
✉ parish@jameswilliam-reading.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer Helen Andrews
✉ parish@jameswilliam-reading.org.uk
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This parish is a part of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No: 246871



The Roman Catholic Parish of
St James and St William of York, Reading

NEWSLETTER

2nd Sunday of Lent
28th February 2010



The Woman at the Well

Fr John writes

I'm pleased to say that I am about to complete my first month in the parish community and so far so good. It has been a deep learning experience for me, getting to know the traditions, the practices, the way things are done here. As a community you have much to be proud of, such a great heritage and at the heart of the Reading. The depth of faith in the people of the community is tangible and evident at all our Masses, I greatly appreciate it.

This year we will have four adults for Baptism at Easter, and next Sunday at the 11am Mass we will celebrate the **First Scrutiny** which is a special rite celebrated after the homily. We are asked to pray that 'The Elect' will be given a spirit of repentance, a sense of sin and the true freedom of the children of God. The Gospels of 'Year A' are to be read for the next 2 Sundays as the rites are based on these Gospels. Next Sunday we will have the Gospel story of the Samaritan Woman's meeting with Jesus at the well. John 4:5-42. May I suggest that you read this Gospel story during the coming week. This is a classic story, the woman is nameless and feels she is worthless. No good Jew would drink from this woman's bucket. Yet Jesus drank from her bucket and welcomed her the lost outsider back into the family of God. This Gospel story invites us to turn away from sin towards the Healer, the Liberator who offers living water.

Questions for reflection on next Sunday's Gospel:-

- 1 What images, phrase strike you from the story?
- 2 How do you understand the relationship between Jesus and the woman?
- 3 Who have you excluded from your friendship? Why?
- 4 What actions or changes are called for if you are to break down the barriers of division and exclusion.
- 5 Where are you refreshed? Who refreshes you? What 'well' do you need to go be refreshed?
- 6 Are you prepared to turn your life completely over to God?

Prayers

Please pray for our sick parishioners including Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Lily Bryanton, Gertrude Burke, Doreen Campbell, Mary Carty, Pat Goodman, David Gower, Roy Haslam, Conchita Heywood, Faith Kassulamemba, Francis Kiromo Mwaniki, Mary Perino, Claudina Rodrigues, James Rogers, Gillian White and Patricia Wilson.

Lent - Stations of the Cross



During Lent we will reflect on the Stations of the Cross on Sundays at 4pm in St James Church.

Fairtrade Fortnight: The Big Swap

For this year's Fairtrade Fortnight (22 February - 7 March), we are all asked to join in a national Big Swap -- swapping the brands of things we usually buy for Fairtrade products. You might be surprised at the range of Fairtrade goods now available, not just tea and coffee, but fresh fruit, cotton clothes, wine, footballs, flowers, beauty products, and lots more. And did you know you can buy them at M&S, Tesco, John Lewis, Sainsbury's and many other High Street shops? To encourage us to get swapping, the Fairtrade Foundation is logging all swaps on their website (www.thebigswap.org.uk), aiming to reach one million and one swaps. After this week's Masses, members of the Social Justice Group will offer you a Big Swap sheet, on which you can pledge the swap or swaps you'd like to make, and we'll log the total for the parish on the website.

There will be also Traidcraft stall after all three Masses to give you some ideas about the swaps that you could pledge.

Parish Diary for week commencing 28 February

Sunday

Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9am and 11am masses

Traidcraft sale after all Masses

Christian Aid Lent leaflets and free Fairtrade tea bag to be distributed at all Masses

World Youth Day Group mtg, presbytery, 12.30pm

CAFOD Lent Fast Day collection after all Masses

Stations of the Cross, St James, 4pm

Monday

Disability works start at St Williams

Wednesday

Parish Finance Committee meeting, presbytery, 8pm

Thursday

UCM, St James, 1pm

ABC Group (RCIA), Presbytery, 8pm

Bishop Crispian to visit the Pastoral Council meeting for our Pastoral Area on Thursday, 4th March at English Martyrs Church. This is to review the progress of the parishes working together and to plan for the future.

Friday

World Women's Day of Prayer, 10am St Mary's Minster Church, Reading
Living Our Faith mtg, 7.30pm St James, presbytery

St Joseph's Convent School Open Morning

St Josephs Convent School will be holding an Open Morning for 9.15am - 1pm on Friday, 5th March. prospective parents and pupils can 'drop in' and see St Joseph's in action on a normal school day, take a tour of the school led by pupils and talk informally to the Headmistress and senior staff over refreshments. With the oncoming move to co-educational status in September 2010 we welcome visits from parents of both boys and girls.

Advanced notice - Dates for your diary

- * Passover Meal at 7.30pm on Thursday, 25th March in St James church. Open invitation to all parishioners. Tickets go on sale shortly.
- * Lent Penitential Service at 7.30pm on Friday, 26th March in St James Church. Five priests to help us so hopefully all of our community will avail of this special Service of Reconciliation.
- * Lent Penitential Service at 11am on Saturday, 27th March in English Martyrs church.
- * First Holy Communion childrens 'First Confessions' 2.30pm on Saturday, 27th March, St James church. (Note change of time from 11am)
- * Lent Penitential Service at 7.30pm on Monday, 29th March in St Joseph's church, Tilehurst.
- * Dramatised Stations of the Cross at 11am on Good Friday, 2nd April in St James church.
- * International Mass at 11am on Pentecost Sunday, 23rd May in St James church followed by 'Foods of the World'. All the different communities will be invited to participate in the Mass.
- * Patrons Day on Sunday, 11th July in St Joseph's Convent School.

Women's World Day of Prayer

As you will know, our diocese is twinned with the Diocese of Bamenda in the Cameroon and for that reason Roman Catholics of the Portsmouth Diocese are being urged especially to take part in the Women's Day of Prayer on 5th March which has been prepared by the Christian women of Cameroon. Their theme is 'Let everything that has breath praise God'. The Central Reading Service is at 10.30am on Friday, 5th March at the Minster Church of St Mary the Virgin in the Butts. Though organised by women locally and the service prepared by women of a different country every year, men are very welcome too.

Choir Practices

Would you like to sing with the choir at Easter? There will be practices at St James at 7.30pm on:

Wednesday 3rd March, Thursday 11th March, Tuesday 16th March, Wednesday 24th March (after the Oscar Romero mass), Wednesday 31st March. All are welcome.

Novena to St Joseph

All are invited to join the Mill Hill Community for a special Novena of Masses and prayers. Prayer is the foundation of all mission work both in this country and abroad and the Novena is a great way of building links of prayer across the world. The Novena Masses will be offered in St Joseph's Church, 36 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7EG from Wednesday, 10th March to Thursday, 18th March at 7.30pm each evening except Saturday at 6.30pm and Sunday at 10.45am. There will be a Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph on Friday, 19th March at 10am.

If you are unable to attend but would like to receive a Novena booklet to join us in prayer please contact us by emailnovena@millhillmissionaries.com. Petitions are welcome and can be sent to Fr Denis Treacy, Mill Hill Missionaries, PO Box 3608, Maidenhead, SL6 7UX. All petitions will be placed at St Josephs' Altar and will be remembered in the Masses and prayers during the Novena. Thank you.