



# NEWSLETTER

4th Sunday Ordinary Time

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## St James & St William of York, Reading

Dear Parishioner,

I hope this meets you and yours well.

Lent begins next week, on February 17th, so it's time to think about doing something for Lent. In this newsletter we have some information about CAFOD's Lent challenge 'Walk for Water' and an invitation to join our own parish challenge for Lent 2021 'Saying Yes to God'. You'll find a couple of other opportunities to reflect on Scripture for Lent as well.

Ash Wednesday is on February 17th. Due to the Pandemic we can't distribute Ashes in the usual way. Mass will be at 12.30pm only, with ashes being sprinkled on the head of those who wish at the end of Mass. There will not be the usual visible sign on the forehead. So looking ahead here's a prayer idea for Ash Wednesday to use something visible. . .

How about looking around outside and picking up a small stone, or a fallen twig, use it as a focus for your Lenten journey of prayer and repentance. Think about something you would like to say sorry for, some area of your life you would like to renew during Lent. Maybe take it home or leave it in your coat pocket to remind you. Then when you are ready, or during HolyWeek, drop it somewhere while your outside, as a sign of your willingness to leave your sins behind and turn to God!

During Lent we will offer a series of prayer ideas on the website. These will begin on the first Sunday of Lent.

Finally, there is some information this week about Confirmation for young people in the parish.

Until next time, keep safe and take care.

Fr. Chris



## A SEASON — OF — PRAYER

### LENT 2021

at St. James and  
St. William of York  
'Saying Yes to Life'

Read 'SAYING YES TO LIFE,  
by Ruth Valerio or [CLICK  
HERE FOR A VIDEO TALK](#)  
Drop in at 7p.m. on the Wednesday's of Lent to chat about the chapters week by week. Starting on Ash Wednesday, 17th February for about 40 minutes.

Please email: [stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
to get the Zoom link.



Lent Challenge

One in three people around the world don't have clean water near their home. It takes phenomenal willpower to keep your community alive in the face of this challenge. Walk for Water is the only Lent challenge you need: 10,000 steps a day - done your way. Every day. For 40 days. Go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

Find out more [HERE](#)

*We need someone each week to host the 'Saying Yes to Life' zoom session (using the parish zoom account). If you have the Zoom skills we need, could you offer to host one or more of the sessions please contact the parish office [stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) . Thanks.*





# COFFEE CONNECT

Join us on Zoom, Sundays at 12pm

Meet ID : 498 947 8585  
Password : 006273

A place to gather, connect and belong.



## CATHOLICS AND THE BIBLE:

Here are a couple of other ideas for Lent?

The God Who Speaks: 'Caring for our Common Home. What would Noah have done?' [CLICK HERE](#)

'Echoes of God: Journeying with the Word of God'. This is a 7 part series taking you through the Bible. Just read and reflect on one part a week. [CLICK HERE](#)

## 'FINDING HOPE IN SCRIPTURE'

6 Monday evenings during Lent. Discover aspects of the virtue of hope from the Bible with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. Each reflection will be followed by adoration and Compline. To join: [CLICK HERE](#)

## FAITH IN ACTION GROUP

The Faith in Action Group would like to thank parishioners for their generous donations of food and plastic carrier bags to ReadiFood food bank. The demand for food parcels continues to grow. There are containers at the back of both churches for your donations. Please join us for our meeting this Monday 8th Feb at 7.30pm - [ZOOM LINK](#)

**ReadiFood** Food Parcels  
Reading's Food Bank for those in Need

# MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

## SAT 6TH VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

6.00 p.m. Hetty Hill R.I.P.

## SUN 7TH 5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

9.00 a.m SWT Irène Garwood R.I.P.

11.00 a.m People of the parish

## MON 8TH 5TH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

12.30 p.m. Andrew Petz R.I.P.

## TUES 9TH 5TH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

12.30 p.m. Celebrant's intention

## WED 10TH ST SCHOLASTICA

12.30 p.m. Jan Sobel R.I.P.

## THURS 11TH 5TH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

12.30 p.m. Merino Fernandes R.I.P.

## FRI 12TH 5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

12.30 p.m Stephen R.I.P. & family

11.00 a.m SWT People of the Parish

## SAT 13TH VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

6.00 p.m. Manuel Rodrigues R.I.P.

## SUN 14TH 6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

9.00 a.m SWT People of the parish

11.00 a.m Roberto Salcedo R.I.P.

## ENVIRONMENT WEEKLY TIP

A neighbour started a WhatsApp group in case anyone self-isolating needed supplies. Over time our community has become more neighbourly and green! We now give things away for free and there's always someone who needs e.g. a whisk, a colander, a computer desk, paint, plants etc. and these goods get a prolonged lease of life. *Could you start something similar with your neighbours?*



## CONFIRMATION 2021

Any young person who would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 23rd May 2021, should please ask their parents to send an email to the parish office to ask for further information.



## MASS INTENTIONS

To book an intention email the parish office or drop an envelope at the church with the details. Please include your contact details so we can get back to you if we need to.