



EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

ST. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED

ST. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY

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4TH WEEK OF LENT 10TH – 19TH MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	4TH OF LENT – 'LÆTARE'		
10th Mar.	9.15am	Children's Liturgy	(Parish Rooms)
	9.30am	Parish Mass	<i>PRO POPULO</i>
	11.15am	Holy Mass	(St. Patrick's)
	6pm	Holy Mass	
Monday	<i>Feria</i>		
11 th Mar.	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>		
12 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Millie Charlton RIP</i>
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>		
13 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Eddie Reevey RIP</i>
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>		
14 th Mar.	9am	School Mass	<i>Our School</i>
	12noon	Funeral Mass	<i>Molly Weber RIP</i>
Friday	<i>Feria</i>		
15 th Mar.	8.30am	Holy Mass	(Hendred House Chapel) <i>John Joseph Eyston RIP</i>
	3pm-4pm	Adoration	(Hendred House Chapel)
Saturday	<i>Feria</i>		
9 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	
	10-11am	Adoration & Confessions	5-6pm

Priest: Fr. Matthew Topham, 01235 835038 or 07901634731
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THE LITANY OF S. JOSEPH

March is the Month of S. Joseph, and to mark this fact, the Litany of S. Joseph will be recited after Mass during the week, These reflections are offered as an aid to devotion.

Joseph Fortissime | Joseph Most Mighty

Of what might the might of S. Joseph be supposed to consist? First, the gentle strength of his fortitude on earth, as we see in his protection of the Holy Family, the Flight into Egypt, and so forth. Such fortitude – unflashy and usually unremarked – is the calling of all Fathers as they guard and guide the families entrusted to them. But Joseph’s Might now – a consequence of that earthly fortitude – is the strength of his prayers, to which the Christian faithful have recourse, convinced of their efficacy.

Joseph Obedientissime | Joseph Most Obedient

The characteristic of S. Joseph in the Gospels is obedience. Admonished not to fear to take Mary into his home (*Matt. 1:20*), Joseph does so. Warned to flee into Egypt, he does so (*Matt. 2:13*). Told to return (*Matt. 2:20*), again, he does so. S. Matthew interposes no hesitation, no questioning, between the divine command and the obedient response. This ready acquiescence with the Lord’s commands is something we ought to strive to emulate, since to be ready to do God’s will is to participate in God, to be joined with Him in a real union *of the will*, not only like S. Joseph, most obedient, but also like Our Lord, “Who became obedient unto death, even death on a Cross” (*Phil. 2:8*)

Joseph Fidelissime | Joseph Most Faithful

In what did S. Joseph have Faith? In the fidelity of God to His promises, certainly. We are not told in the Scriptures of his faith in his Divine foster-Son, but the content of the first angelic revelation to him in sleep contains the germ of it: “you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins” (*Matt. 1:21*). Indeed, salvation through Christ is the crux (if we can pardon that terrible pun) of the Christian faith. Believing this, we imitate S. Joseph, and join with our Father-in-Faith Abraham, who “believed the Lord; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness.” (*Gen 15:6*).

Speculum Patientiae | Mirror of Patience

S. Joseph’s faithful trust in the Lord required patience: it is one thing to assent to God’s will for one’s life once; to do so day by day, year by year, as

those designs unfold – usually unseen to us – is another matter, and requires the virtue of patience. Thus we can look at S. Joseph, as he waits for the command to return from Egypt, or waits for the growth of this foster-son Who is destined to redeem mankind, and see there that patience which we too must have, if we are to persevere in this life of Christian service which God desires of us. But more than that: S. Joseph is also a mirror of the Divine Patience, which flows perhaps from the Eternity of God, Who is never early and never late, but rather always ‘just in time’. With these two reflections, perhaps trust in God’s merciful action in our lives becomes just a little easier.

Amator Paupertatis | Lover of Poverty

There is a kind of reflexive image of the Holy Family as a *poor* family which is not in fact found in Scripture. Perhaps we ought to blame the Franciscans in the 13th century, but the image is certainly an enduring one, and may quite possibly have been true. But the poverty which S. Joseph loved was not simply material want, but the spiritual poverty of which Our Lord spoke in the Beatitudes: “Blessed are the poor *in spirit*” (*Matt. 5:3*), a spirit of smallness, humility, and self-giving love, mirroring the freely-chosen ‘poverty’ of Jesus Christ, Who “though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men” (*Phil. 2:6-7*).

~~~~~**LITURGY CORNER**~~~~~

~An occasional item explaining details of the liturgy to the unfamiliar~

‘LAUDATE’ SUNDAY

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent, but it is also called ‘Laudate’ Sunday.

What does that mean? ‘Laudate’ is the Latin for ‘Rejoice!’ – a command, not a suggestion!

Why is it called that? ‘Laudate’ is the first word – the *incipit* – of the Introit (entrance chant) of the Mass, taken from *Isaiah 66:10*: “Rejoice, Jerusalem...” It’s common to name Sundays like that – ‘Quasimodo’ Sunday (2nd after Easter) or ‘Gaudete’ Sunday (3rd of Advent).

What’s different? Today in many places, purple will be replaced by rose-coloured vestments and hangings, to symbolise the lightened penitence of this ‘rest’ Sunday in Lent. If you’d like to see dignified rose vestments at S. Mary’s, why not chip in to the vestment fund...?

NOTICES

STANDING

✠ **WELCOME** to Mass, especially to those who are new or visiting. Do join us for refreshments are served in the Parish Rooms after the 9.30 Mass (left at the church gate, first right after the bridge).

✠ Lent is an excellent time for **CONFESSION:** heard in S. Mary's on Saturdays, 10-11am, 5-6pm. Confessions can be heard at S. Patrick's after the Sunday Mass.

✠ Spend some time with the Lord in **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** in S. Mary's on Saturdays 10-11am, 5-6pm, concluding with **BENEDICTION.**

✠ **VOLUNTEERS** are needed for Children's Liturgy. Speak to Veronica or Libby if you can help.

✠ **VOLUNTEERS** are also needed for the Flower Rota – no experience necessary – please speak to Jacqui if you can help.

✠ Diocesan **VACANCIES:**
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

✠ **GIVING TO THE PARISH** by standing order or online:

**CDP East Hendred, St Mary
Acc. No. 00877183**

Sort Code: 30-93-04

Or via the **DONA MACHINE** by the door.

NEWS

✠ **ST. AMAND'S SCHOOL** needs your help! We're launching a consultation to help us understand the needs of Catholic families in our parish, however old their children may be. See posters in the porch and flyers by the door for more information.

✠ **THE ŒCUMENICAL LENTEN LUNCH** group continues this Wednesday at 12.30, with short talks on 'Why I am a Catholic/Anglican?' All welcome to S. Mary's Parish Rooms.

✠ **THE VESTMENT DRIVE** continues apace! Many thanks to the sponsors thus far.

✠ **FOR YOUR PRAYERS:** Annie Furlong, Gwenda, Martha, Helen Lewis, John Castle, Daniel Cuevas, John Stringer, Louise Woodhouse, Brenda Paddon, Karen Greig, Mary McNichol, Des McNichol, Madeline Brand, Mary Dorothy Ruple, Graham Titchener, Roy Kemp, Agnes Hickey.

✠ **YEAR'S MINDS:** Margaret Brown, John Curley, Julia Swanson, Mary Teresa Eyston, John Colfer, Brendan O'Neill, William George Mooney, Mary Dainty, Thomas Patrick Rivers, Thomas Dearlove, William Dearlove, Pietro Melotti, Beatrice Burgess.

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