



EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

ST. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED

ST. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY

hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

office@hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

3RD WEEK OF LENT 3RD – 9TH March 2024

SUNDAY	3RD OF LENT		
3RD Mar.	9.15am	Children's Liturgy	(Parish Rooms)
	9.30am	Parish Mass	<i>PRO POPULO</i>
	11.15am	Holy Mass	(St. Patrick's)
	12.30	Holy Baptism	
	6pm	Holy Mass	
Monday	<i>Feria (S. Casimir)</i>		
4 th Mar .		<i>No public Mass</i>	
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>		
5 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Pupils of S. Amnd's School</i>
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>		
6 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Alex & Breda Smith RIP</i>
Thursday	<i>Feria (SS. Perpetua & Felicity)</i>		
7 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Private Intention</i>
Friday	<i>Feria (S. John of God)</i>		
8 th Mar.	8.30am	Holy Mass	(Hendred House Chapel)
	3pm-4pm	Adoration	(Hendred House Chapel)
Saturday	<i>Feria (S. Frances of Rome)</i>		
9 th Mar.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Private Intention</i>
	10-11am	Adoration & Confessions	
	NB:	<i>No adoration or confessions this evening</i>	

Priest: Fr. Matthew Topham, 01235 835038 or 07901634731
mtopham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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.

Christi Defensor | Defender of Christ

Against the raging of Herod, God raised up S. Joseph as Defender of His Christ. During the Flight into Egypt, S. Joseph protected the Infant Jesus from harm, a role he will have continued to perform until Christ's Manhood. From Protector of Christ, S. Joseph has now become a protector of Christians – those who are Christ's – by his prayers.

Almæ Familiæ præses | Protector of the Holy Family

The 'Holy Family' is such a stock phrase, and the image so well-worn, that we seldom take time to think about it. We're accustomed to call Mary 'Holy', as we do in every Ave Maria, and 'Holy Joe' is a common enough diminutive for S. Joseph. But why 'Holy'? Both Mary and Joseph shine with the holiness of Christ, the source of all holiness, and Whose holiness is of His Essence, rather than received from another. The Holy Family takes its holiness from Christ, and so does the Church – the 'Holy Family' of Christ's brothers and sisters (cf. Mk. 3:35). S. Joseph is therefore our protector too, not in the physical and moral sense in which he protected Mary and Jesus, but by his intercession with his foster-Son.

Joseph Justissime | Joseph Most Just

S. Matthew calls S. Joseph "a just man" (Matt.1:19), in that he refuses to divorce Mary publicly and instead seeks to put her away quietly. Yet the Law commanded stoning for adultery (*Lev. 20:10-12*). Some of the Fathers argue that this appellation 'just' indicates that Joseph did *not* suspect Mary of conceiving her child in sin, but rather sought to put her away out of humility or fear.

Joseph Castissime | Joseph Most Chaste

The Old Testament Joseph, Jacob's son, is often read as a type of the New Testament Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary. In the episode of Potiphar's wife (*Gen. 39:5-20*), OT Joseph shows himself a chaste man by refusing to lie with another's wife. Our S. Joseph shows himself 'most chaste' by refusing to lie even with his own wife, the Blessed Ever-Virgin Mary. So the Old Covenant rectitude is perfected in the New Covenant renunciation of the use of marriage.

Joseph Prudentissime | Joseph Most Prudent

Prudence is the governing virtue, which orders the exercise of all the others. To call S. Joseph ‘most prudent’ reflects his conduct amidst the many tests of his life: the sudden conception of the Christ-child, the subsequent flight into Egypt, the prudent removal to Nazareth to avoid Archelaus, Herod’s son, and the loss of Jesus after a pilgrimage to Jerusalem (*Luke 2:43-51*). Let us fly to him whenever the trials of our lives threaten to overwhelm our own measure of prudence: now in heaven, Joseph sees more clearly than we do, and will pray for us more perfectly than we for ourselves.

~~~~~LITURGY CORNER

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

VII
A 
-sper- ges me, * Dó-mi- ne, hyssó-po,

The Asperges

What is it? The ‘Asperges’ is a ceremony which precedes the principal Mass on Sundays, in which the celebrant sprinkles – *aspergere* is Latin for ‘to sprinkle’ – holy water over the church and congregation. The sprinkler is the *aspergillum*, and the bucket the *aspersorium*. The Antiphon and verse are taken from *Psalm 50*, the *Miserere*. In Eastertide the antiphon changes to ‘*Vidi Aquam*’ (“I saw water”) based on *Ezekiel 47:1*, and Ps. 117.

What for? The ceremony is a recollection of our baptisms, and a sign of the cleansing of sins by God’s grace. To render both the building and the worshippers – bodies and souls – fit for divine service, in the same manner that the confession (“I confess to God...”) prepares our minds and souls to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Why have I never seen this before? Although common at the High/Sung Mass before the Second Council of the Vatican, the rite fell out of use, despite being included in the post-conciliar liturgical books.

How do I engage with this? It’s customary to make the sign of the cross as the water falls on you, both as a blessing and a reminder of your baptism, in water by the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Should I sing along? Yes! It’s usual to allow the celebrant to intone “Asperges me” until the asterisk (*), and then join in. It’s a memorable tune, and one of the Church’s treasures.

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

✠ **THIS MORNING** we welcome Evelyn Bernadette McKie to the Body of Christ in Holy Baptism at 12.30. May God Bless her!

✠ **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.

✠ A **CATHOLIC MOTHERS** group meets to 'Pray and Play' this Wednesday, March 6th.

✠ **THE VESTMENT DRIVE** continues apace! Many thanks to the sponsors of the Green Set, blessed after Mass this morning.

✠ **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, Anne-Marie Kershaw, Roy Kemp.

✠ **YEAR'S MINDS:** Diana Marguerite France, Elizabeth Hunt, Amy Stibbs, George Dunn, Fr Michael Sexton, Ellen Cuddihy, Alice Couling, Alice Pilcher, Thomas Mulford, Breda Smith, Jo Barr. **R·I·P·**