

CATHOLIC WIGHT

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE ST. BONIFACE DEANERY ISLE OF WIGHT

LENT: A DESERT BATTLE

In the opening line of this Sunday's gospel, we read: ***"The Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness and he remained there for 40 days, and was tempted by Satan."*** This event took place just after Jesus had been baptised by John the Baptist in the waters of the river Jordan. A clear parallelism exists between what happened here to Jesus and what happened to Israel in the great event of the Exodus when, after they had passed through the waters of the Red Sea, they also entered into the wilderness of the desert remaining there for 40 years, where God allowed them to be put to the test.



Jesus' 40 days in the desert shows how he symbolically relived the story of Israel's 40 years in the wilderness during the Exodus. Jesus' three temptations were the same trials Israel faced in the desert, but he proved himself to be a faithful Israelite. He remained faithful precisely where Israel had been unfaithful. In his battle with Satan in these three temptations, Jesus pre-enacts what he ultimately will do for Israel on the Cross: conquer sin and defeat the devil. This is the real battle Jesus fights and the real liberation which he offers.

This first victory over the devil, sets the tone for the rest of Jesus' public ministry. His healings, his forgiving people's sins, or his exorcisms, can be seen as repercussions of his initial triumph over the devil in the desert. All this, of course, points forward to Jesus' work on the Cross, where he definitively conquers the prince of this world and wins salvation for all humanity (cf. Jn. 12:31).

In the 40 days of Lent, Christians participate in Jesus' 40 days of prayer, fasting, and trial in the desert. Through our prayer and mortification, we too prepare to battle sin. But the question we must ask ourselves this Lent is whether we will be like Israel in the desert, failing to put our trust in God, or like Jesus, faithful to Our Heavenly Father, so that we may experience the abundant blessings of the victory of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

Fr Stephen Vooght

PARISH OFFICES

Cowes & East Cowes The Presbytery, 22 Terminus Road, Cowes PO31 7TJ
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Ryde & Bembridge Presentation House, 55 High Street Ryde, PO33 2RE
01983 812127 stmarysryde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

South Wight 7 Atherley Road, Shanklin PO37 7AT
01983 867610 southwight@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Totland/Newport The Catholic Presbytery, 96 Pyle Street, Newport, PO30 1EU
01983 522027 stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parishes: Cowes • East Cowes • Newport & Totland • Ryde & Bembridge • South Wight
Schools: Holy Cross • St Francis • St Mary's • St Thomas of Canterbury • St Saviour's • Christ the King

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 1199568

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Fr Stephen Vooght - svooght@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Rev. Gary May - stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

READINGS FOR SUNDAYS in Year B

First Sunday of Lent – Gen 9:8-15; 1Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Second Sunday of Lent – Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10.

Third Sunday of Lent – Ex 20:1-17; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – FEBRUARY Pope Francis invites us to pray **For the terminally ill.** We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

SILENCE AT MASS As part of the discipline of prayer in Lent it would be good to observe the times of silence during the liturgy, especially the five minutes before Mass begins. Let's try to make this a time of quiet and reflection, not only for ourselves, but also for others in our community.

PROFESSION OF FAITH During the Season of Lent, we will be saying the Apostles' Creed when we make a profession of faith

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT **Bembridge:** Fridays 1000; **Ryde:** Fridays 1800.

Newport: Tuesdays after 1200 Mass & Fridays 1830; **Totland:** Thursdays after 1100 Mass.

Sandown: Thursdays after 1100 Mass; **Shanklin:** Fridays 1800.

Cowes: Fridays 1130; **East Cowes:** Wednesdays 1015 after 0945 Mass.

LECTIO DIVINA on Mondays during Lent at St Thomas, Newport 1830

VOCATIONS "I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or contact Canon John Cooke at: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318869.

"Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God if we have given what we could." St. Gregory Nazianzen

LENTEN ALMS – RYDE & SOUTH WIGHT This year we are going to support Mountbatten Isle of Wight Hospice which is changing the way people across the Island receive end of life care and bereavement support. Purple Lenten Envelopes are available at the back of church.

ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL If anyone wishes to provide feedback, offer reflections or suggestions for the way forward as we engage in the process of becoming one Island parish, or to raise an item for discussion at the next IPC meeting, please email iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or post a notice via your local (parish) office.

YOUTH CLUB Next gathering Friday 23 February at 1730 at St Thomas' church Newport

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 23 February There will be a second collection after all Masses on the weekend of 24/25 February.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated at St. Michael's Church Bembridge on Friday 1st March at 1400. If anyone would like to take part please contact Anne Cooney 07876 715498.

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY Monday 4 March 2024, 1400-1600, St Therese Hall, Presentation House, High Street, Ryde. Come for tea and a chat. Car parking available at the back of the church. If any homebound parishioner needs transport, contact the Parish Office 01983 812127

"ST PATRICK'S NIGHT" on Saturday 16th March 1900, Holyrood Hall in Newport. The tickets are £12 each and this includes a 2 course meal and entertainment. We shall have a big raffle too and all proceeds after expenses will go to our "Youth Club". Contact Barbara/Patrick 653900

EASTER TRIDUUM RETREAT AT VERBUM DEI 28th - 31st March. If you are interested to join it or want to know more information about it, please contact us: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

URGENT ACCOMMODATION for the African and Indian nurses and their families. These nurses were recruited to fill our shortfall at St Mary's but they have great difficulty finding a place to live for themselves and their families. If you think you can help contact Mary Munro 07734445518

CATHOLICS GOING INTO HOSPITAL It is always an issue, but **it is crucially important** that when a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given. As access to the hospital may be restricted, one suggestion is that the patient carries a note to give to hospital staff on admission notifying staff that they are Catholic and that they would really appreciate the Catholic chaplaincy service (Bishop Philip).

PLEASE PRAY for everyone who is sick, for the protection of the elderly and the vulnerable, for all who are suffering anxiety and worry, for the NHS medical staff and all who care for the sick. Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish communities. For those who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Please remember to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

KEEP IN TOUCH To receive the Island newsletter by email please send a blank email to iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk putting 'email newsletter' in the subject line.

SAFE SPACES is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal, and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales. Remote support is provided through a helpline and Live Chat. They can help with advocating with authorities and other agencies, giving emotional support, providing information, and working together in individual support plans. Website www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk Phone 0300 3030 1056

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

Dee Becker 01983 812127 safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Peter Ricks 01983 292782 safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CONFESSION TIMES

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Sandown: Thursday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130

Newport: Sunday 0900-0930 & 1615-1645 Totland: Thursday 1000-1030

Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800

Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration

Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000

And by request

First Sunday of Lent Year B

18 February 2024

MASS TIMES

P: Perpetual F: Foundation

Saturday 17 February *The First Sunday of Lent Year B*

1700 OLV Anne Forde RIP
1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 18 February *The First Sunday of Lent Year B*

0900 SMB All souls in purgatory
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
0900 STC Philip James RIP
0945 STN All Parishioners Living and Dead
1100 OLR Gracia B. Asuncion GE
1100 SDE (with Children's Liturgy) Pro Populo
1100 SHS Eileen Fletcher RIP
1200 SST Lily Kelly RIP & Jimmy Kelly RIP
1700 STN Leo Pecile RIP
1730 STC (Ordinariate)

Monday 19 February *of the 1st Week of Lent*

1000 STC Catherine Stallard RIP (P)
1200 OLR Sheila Ferris RIP
1200 STN James Windsor Heneage RIP (P)

Tuesday 20 February *of the 1st Week of Lent*

0900 STT School Mass (all welcome)
1000 SMB Ambrose Waller RIP
1200(*) STN Joanna Catharina Warden RIP
1200 STC Fr William Pierrepont RIP (P)
1800 SHS Peter & Mary Steele RIP

Wednesday 21 February *of the 1st Week of Lent*

0945(*) SDE (followed by Stations of Cross)
1000 SMB Pamela Fraser Cox GE
1100(*) OLV Sr Bernadette RIP
1200 OLR Yvonne Lisa Marina Rampton (F)
1800(*) STC Margaret Smith RIP (P)

Thursday 22 February *of the 1st Week of Lent*

1100(*) SPS Mary D (P)
1100(*) SST Margaret McCay (healing)
1200(*) STC (Latin) Yvonne Rampton RIP

Friday 23 February *of the 1st Week of Lent*

1200 STC (Stations of Cross before, at 1130)
1200(*) OLV Nancy Pagua GE
1200(*) STN
1200(*) SHS Mary Trench

Saturday 24 February *The Second Sunday of Lent Year B*

1700 OLV Frances Porter
1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 25 February *The Second Sunday of Lent Year B*

0900 SMB James Friel RIP
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
0900 STC Pro Populo
0945 STN Patrick & Dominic McGinn RIP
1100 OLR Deirdre Talbot
1100 SDE
1100 SHS Jola Coueslant (Healing)
1200 SST
1700 STN
1730 STC (Ordinariate)

(*) Eucharistic Adoration starting one hour before Mass and opportunity for Confessions followed by Holy Rosary at SHS, SPS & OLV

CHURCHES ACROSS THE ISLAND

OLR St Mary's, Ryde PO33 2RE	OLW Our Lady & St Wilfrid, Ventnor PO38 1NL
SDE St David's, East Cowes PO32 6DP	SMB St Michael's, Bembridge PO35 5RA
SHS Sacred Heart, Shanklin PO37 7AT	SPS St Patrick's, Sandown PO36 8NE
SST St Saviour's, Totland PO39 0HE	STC St Thomas of Canterbury, Cowes PO31 7TJ
STN St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH	