

CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

UNCLEAN

“If you want to” he said “you can cure me”

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ! Today’s first and second readings speak to us about “Leprosy”. Those readings remind me of the Covid 19 and Pandemic. Every one of us remembers those days and how we were treated at the beginning of the pandemic. We were isolated, always wearing mask, gloves, hand gel and social distancing. We were restricted to touch others and things.



If you became a leper you were forced to leave your home and loved ones. You had to go and live in wild and lonely places. Lepers were not allowed into towns or cities. If a leper popped his head through a door, the house became unclean. No one was allowed to touch a leper. The leper had to keep at least two metres away and shout, 'Unclean'. If the wind was blowing towards you, the leper had to keep over 50 metres away. If a leper disobeyed this rule, the leper could be put to death. Being a leper was a lonely and sad life. The only people you could meet up with were other lepers.

The leper in today's Gospel was eager to touch Jesus because he had that confident and faith that Jesus could heal him. In faith, the leper said to Jesus, 'If you want, you can cure me.' Jesus had the power of life or death over this man. As ever, Jesus came to give life. Jesus touched him and said, 'I do choose. Be made clean. Touching, physical contact of Jesus was part of his healing ministry. Jesus was more concerned for the man than the law. He wanted the man to know he was touchable and lovable.

St Paul in the second reading says that, “Take me for your model, as I take Christ”. Continue saying that whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God and never do anything offensive to anyone.

My dear my friends in Christ, as we enter the season of Lent, shall we reflect “am I a leper?” Leper is not only for the physical illness but spiritual too. Am I clean or unclean? What do I need to do to heal from the leprosy? Am I confident to touch Christ from my heart? If I want to touch Jesus then do I need to go to confession and forgive, love and care of the other people?

Today is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, many people were healed by Her intercession and the place also is a very spiritual place for healing. So let us pray to Mother Mary for our healing.

Fr Nishan

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 & EastCowes • Newport & Totland • Ryde & Bembridge • SouthWight
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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READINGS FOR SUNDAYS in Year B

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Lev13: 1-2, 45-46; 1Cor10: 31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

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.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Fridays during Lent at St Mary's 1800.

LECTIO DIVINA on Mondays during Lent at St Thomas, Newport 1800

VOCATIONS "To preach the Gospel is a duty which has been laid on me!" Could God be calling you to spread his Word and his love as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318869.

EMERGENCY MASS TIMES In the event of only 3 priests being available to celebrate Sunday Mass across the Pastoral Area, due to illness or incapacitation, the following Mass plan will be enacted.

Saturday evening: Our Lady & St Wilfrid, Ventnor 1700; St Michael's, Bembridge 1700.

Sunday morning: St David's, East Cowes 0900; St Patrick's, Sandown 0900; St Thomas's, Newport 0945; Sacred Heart, Shanklin 1100; St Mary's Ryde, 1100.

Sunday afternoon: St Saviour's, Totland 1200; St Thomas's, Cowes 1700.

SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGES In light of the Emergency Mass Plan and following consultation with the Island Pastoral Council and the local community there will be a partial implementation of the plan to allow the community at Totland to have a Sunday Mass on the day and during daylight hours. To enable this to happen the Sunday morning Mass at Newport will start 15 minutes earlier. All changes will take effect from 18 February – the First Sunday of Lent.

St Thomas's, Newport **0945** & 1700; St Saviour's, Totland **1200**.

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 9 February at 5.30pm at St Thomas of Canterbury church Newport

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE The next meeting will be on Saturday, 10th February, 11am at the Sacred Heart Hall, Atherley Road, Shanklin, PO37 7AT. New members most welcome. Feel free to bring a lunch for after the meeting. Catholic women with a Catholic voice, Caring with love

CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR We wish all our Chinese brothers and sisters 'Kung Hei Fat Choi' (Congratulations and be prosperous!) in the Year of the Dragon

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 23rd February This Lent, your donations will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

CAFOD Briefing Meeting - Thank you to all who came on Saturday to the Lenten briefing meeting and heard James Pyne's story and how he was helped by CAFOD to fish more safely through your generous donations. We were a small but enthusiastic group and it was lovely to meet up with parishioners from across the Island and hear how CAFOD spends the money that is generously given through fundraising, donations or wills. Geraldine Heath

URGENT ACCOMMODATION There is a big problem on the island at the moment finding 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

ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY are days of fasting and abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed by all over the age of 14. The law of fast binds those between the ages of 18 and 59.

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

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated at St. Michael's Church Bembridge on Friday 1st March at 2pm. If anyone would like to take part please contact Anne Cooney 07876715498.

"ST PATRICK'S NIGHT" on Saturday 16th March 7pm, Holyrood Hall in Newport. We have 60 tickets to sell for the evening. 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". Please contact Barbara or Patrick if you'd like a ticket 653900 "First come first served"

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.

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

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CONFESSION TIMES

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Sandown: Thursday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130
Newport: Sunday 0915-0945 1615-1645 Totland: Saturday 1715-1745
Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800
Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration.
Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000
And by request

MASS TIMES

P: Perpetual F: Foundation

Saturday 10 February *The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW Mercy Thomas Thanksgiving for birthday
 1800 OLR Emma D'Arcy Willet RIP
 1800 SST Nell Hayes Thanksgiving for birthday

Sunday 11 February *The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB People of the Parish
 0900 SPS Robert and Beryl McConkey
 0900 STC Stephen Clare Physick RIP
 1000 STN Anne Hutton RIP
 1100 OLR James Friel RIP
 1100 SDE Milagros GE (Carmen's sister)
 1100 SHS All Parishioners Living and Dead
 1700 STN Thresiyamma Thomas RIP
 1730 STC (Ordinariate) Pro Populo

Monday 12 February *feria*

1200 OLR Noreen Atkinson RIP
 1200 STN No Mass today
 1300 STC Funeral Mass (Denis Steele RIP)

Tuesday 13 February *feria*

1000 SMB Nadine Lambert RIP
 1200(*) STN Mrs Mary Tunstall & relations (P)
 1200 STC Margaret Smith RIP (P)
 1800 SHS Sr Angela Wootton LSU

The Beginning of the Season of Lent**Wednesday 14 February** *Ash Wednesday*

All Masses with Imposition of Ashes

0945(*) SDE Lyn Ridler-Lee GE
 1000 SMB Pamela Fraser Cox GE
 1000 SST
 1100(*) OLW Conversion of Sinners
 1200 OLR John Smyth RIP
 1200 STN
 1800(*) STC
 1800 SHS All Parishioners for a fruitful Lent
 1830 STN

Thursday 15 February *after Ash Wednesday*

1100 SPS Steele Family
 1100(*) SST
 1200(*) STC (Latin) Apostolate of FSSP

Friday 16 February *after Ash Wednesday*

1200(*) STC Fr William Pierrepoint RIP (P)
 1200(*) OLR Aprilday Asuncion
 1200(*) STN Lilian May Kearney RIP (P)
 1200(*) SHS Sr Martin (Maura Walsh) RIP

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

1700 OLW 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 (with Children's Liturgy)
 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)

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

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	