



The Catholic Parish of Bognor Regis and Slindon

28th April 2024 - Fifth Sunday of Easter- Year B

The Parish Team

Fr Chris Bergin - chris.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

Fr Tomasz Mezyk (Polish Mission) - 07771 413345

Parish Secretary: Caroline Battersby - bognor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Abigail Leggatt (for building matters) - admin.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Liz Bedford - 07456 420108 / sg1.bognor@abdiocese.org.uk

Please Note new email for Liz Bedford Parish Safeguarding Rep

The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1LP Tel: (01243) 823619

Email: bognor@abdiocese.org.uk Website: www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk

Our Churches

Our Lady of Sorrows, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 1JX

St Anthony of Viareggio, Gossamer Lane, Bognor Regis, PO21 3DD

St Richard of Chichester, Top Road, Slindon, BN18 0RG

Catholic Schools

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Headteacher: Mr Peter Edgington BA (Hons) NPQH

Glamis Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1DJ

Tel: (01243) 822287 Email: office@stmarysbognor.co.uk

St Philip Howard Catholic School Headteacher: Mr Tim Hulse

Elm Grove South, Barnham, West Sussex PO22 0EN

Tel: (01243) 552055 Email: office@sphcs.co.uk

Believer or Disciple?

As Easter people in this Easter season, we are constantly seeking to discern what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. As I get older, I realise that this is not something we can understand once and for all, at one point in our lives; as my life and circumstances change, the search for the implications of my vocation as a disciple needs to deepen and expand, it's not a homework task I have completed once and for all!

The word disciple just means a follower or pupil of a teacher or leader; in that sense I suppose it is possible to be a disciple of almost anyone, some current guru or popular cult figure. Our readings this Sunday remind us that to be a disciple of Jesus, "following" or "learning" are not enough on their own, action and witness must result: the first letter of John points out it must be "something real and active"; the Gospel reading, also from St John, gives us the powerful image of the vine and the branches; to bear fruit as a disciple I must remain linked firmly to the vine, to Jesus himself who gives me life; cut off from him I can do nothing, and my discipleship bears no fruit and is meaningless.

The New Testament gives us plenty of examples of people, whose lives having been touched by Jesus, gave "real and active" witness to their faith. Think of the Samaritan woman, (in John's Gospel Ch 4) , whose conversation with Jesus at the well started as jokey and self-defensive but finished up changing her life to the extent that she became the first real evangelist. Think of the poor widow, offering her small coins to God in the temple and giving us all an example of faith and trust; remember Joanna and Susanna and others who showed their love for Jesus by offering him and his followers hospitality "out of their resources". (Luke Ch. 8 v3). You will think of many other examples, people who didn't simply "learn" or "follow" but took action because of their belief.

In his book "Start to Follow", writer Greg Laurie points out: "Every disciple is a believer but not every believer is a disciple. Anything short of discipleship, however, is settling for less than God really desires for us." Which will I be, believer or disciple?

Pauline Webber Parish Leadership Team

Saturday 27th April		
St Richard's	9.30am	Gabrielle & Zenon RIP Anniversary
OLOS	6pm	Wellbeing of Chantelle Neal
Sunday 28th		
Fifth Sunday of Easter		
OLOS	9am	Sally Petronijevich RIP
OLOS	11am	People of the Parish
Monday 29th		
St Catherine of Siena		
OLOS	10am	Tony Davies RIP
Tuesday 30th		
OLOS	10am	Requiem: John Hennessy RIP
Wednesday 1st May		
OLOS	10am	Barbara Crespi RIP
Thursday 2nd		
St Athanasius		
OLOS	10am	No Mass
Friday 3rd		
St Philip and St James		
OLOS	10am	Requiem: Beryl Rounds RIP
OLOS	5.30 - 6.30pm	Holy Hour
Saturday 4th		
The English Martyrs		
St Richard's	9.30am	Cole Family RIP
OLOS	6pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 5th		
Sixth Sunday of Easter		
OLOS	9am	A.G. & Yvonne Cooper RIP Anniversary
OLOS	11am	Cliff Liu RIP Anniversary

The Word Who is Life – Holy Hour In presenting his pastoral plan to the Diocese, Bishop Richard has particularly asked us to pray for the Diocese during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There will be a Holy Hour on the first Friday of each month, including the Rosary and Benediction.

Masses in Polish

Saturday 6pm St Anthony's
Sunday 9am St Anthony's 4pm Our Lady of Sorrows

Rosary - Lady Chapel Our Lady of Sorrows
 Wednesdays after 10am Mass
Adoration and Rosary - St Richard's
 Wednesdays 2.30pm to 3.30pm
Adoration - St Anthony's
 Thursdays 11.30am to 12.30am
Adoration - Our Lady of Sorrows
 Fridays after 10am Mass

Requiem in Aeternum



Your prayers are asked for all those who have died recently.

We also remember all whose anniversaries occur about this time:
Benedict Willcocks, John Thomas, Pat Cooke, Ron Brooks, Allan Greenwood, Christopher Jothi, Barbara Crespi

Prayers For The Sick

Your prayers are asked for:
Ian Findley, Claire Amaladoss, Esme Shimell, Rebecca Barratt, Caroline & Martin Swanson, Deidre Sobey, Nuala Lesbinel, Theresa Neill, Val Warner, Julian L, Christine Davey, Lucia Elson, Paula Rathke, Steve Goss, Ann Bevan, Teresa Willcocks, Mary Tyler, Mo Moore, Julia Fagan, Margaret Doncaster, Alan Rossiter, John Cooper
At the end of each month, this list of friends and parishioners who are sick will be brought to the altar with the prayer intentions on the Prayer Board at OLS. The new month will begin a new list.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 5.15pm Our Lady of Sorrows or by appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact Fr Chris
 Tel 01243 823619



Weddings this Week

St Richard's, Slindon
Saturday 4th May, 12 noon
Ciaran McGreal & Megan Bricknell



Baptisms this week

Our Lady of Sorrows
Sunday 28th April, 2pm
Aliyah Rose & Rueben Robert Jones

Celebrating baptism is a joy for families, and for the parish family, and we're delighted to welcome families looking to celebrate this wonderful gift of God. To register for the next preparation course, please contact Angela on 07760 224302.

Second Collection this weekend

SURVIVE-MIVA

A Month of Prayer for Vocations - Good Shepherd Sunday to Pentecost

The journey from Eastertide, to Ascension and Pentecost calls us to mission. This year, in the light of the new Pastoral Plan, the whole Diocese is invited to come together for four weeks of prayer to the Holy Spirit to grant us a missionary spirit, through the raising up of new vocations to all walks of life in the Church.

Leaflets with suggested prayer itineraries and prayer cards for vocations are available in the churches. During the 5th Week of Easter read about the Spirit of truth (John 14:15-21) and pray for all young people to have the gift of discernment in a changing world.

Cake Sale - Sunday 5th May St Mary's FSA will be holding a cake sale in the Parish Centre after both Sunday Masses. Funds raised will go towards work on the Spirituality Garden and in providing Year 6 SATS Exam Breakfasts. Any cake donations would be very welcome.

Missio Red Boxes

Thank you to all who donate to Missio this way, in 2023 this raised £1,117.80 in the parish. Your support of Missionary Priests working in rural communities enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community.

If you would like to donate this way boxes can be collected from the Parish Centre or shop. Alternatively donations can be made on Missio's website missio.org.uk. **The next banking of Missio boxes will be towards the end of May, boxes can be dropped off at the Parish Centre or shop and exchanged for new ones.**

The Circus is Coming to St Mary's! Summer Fundraising Event

Happy's Circus are coming back to Mary's on Wednesday 5th June 3pm - 7pm. The (animal free!) show features a number of exciting acts including acrobats, aerialists, specialty acts, magic and audience participation with loads of fun and lots more! There will be stalls, fun activities and refreshments available on the school field from 3pm, circus doors open at 4.30pm. Popcorn, candy floss and circus goodies will be on sale inside the Big Top.

Tickets cost £10 and are available on the school website: www.st-marys-bognor.co.uk/shop/ Funds from this event will help to buy books and music equipment as well as much needed resources. All are welcome to come along and support this event.

Cake and Plant Sale Saturday 11th May, St Richard's - 10am to 11am

In support of Pro Life causes, everyone is very welcome. Please contact Maria on 01903 413606 for collection of donations.

L'Arche Ukulele Band

Everyone is warmly invited to St Richard's, Slindon, **Friday 17th May, 6pm**. When, by popular request L'Arche Ukulele Bank return to entertain us with songs popular on both sides of the Atlantic. A joyful and fun evening is guaranteed. If you are able, please bring a plate of food or some drink to share in our buffet supper.

Quiet Day at Storrington Priory RH20 4LN, Thursday 16th May 10am - 4pm

Led by The Chemin Neuf Community. Speaker: The Rev Paul Seaman, Rector of Pulborough. With a talk, guided prayer and simple lunch. Enquiries or Registration: storrington@chemin-nuef.org



To celebrate the birthday of the Church, you and your family are invited to an open-air Mass in St Mary's school field, followed by a bring and share picnic and fun fair on **Sunday 19th May at 11am**.

Please do come along with family and friends, this is a brilliant opportunity to share your faith at a lively and fun church event. Mass will begin at 11am, and from 12-noon onwards we'll share lunch, and the inflatable assault course will be open. **Don't forget to bring a dish to share!**

Welcome to the Parish If you are new to the parish or visiting on holiday please introduce yourself to one of the Welcomers in the church at the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. They will be happy to help with introductions and any queries you may have. Parish registration forms are also available in the church or on the website.

Fr Chris writes...

I've had confirmation from Guy's Hospital that my next procedure will be on **Tuesday 7th May**, 11am. So prayers please. And I'll take the rest of the week to recuperate and hope to be back on Mon 13th May.

And **Wednesday 17th July**, is the 25th Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. We'll celebrate with Mass in Our Lady of Sorrows, 7pm, followed by a reception in St Mary's School – please put the date in your diary and join me in thanking God for the gift of my vocation.

CAFOD Sudan Crisis Appeal - Special Collection next weekend

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis - extreme hunger. CAFOD's Caritas and Church networks are there when many aid agencies aren't. The Church in Sudan is already responding and asking us to help them do more. Your donation will help support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it.

Donations can be made in the baskets and contactless machines. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please visit CAFOD's website cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal or Text CAFODSUDAN TO 70450 to donate £10

Not long now to the CAFOD Plant Sale

June 2nd after both 9am and 11am Masses. There is still time to sow seeds and divide plants. Each plant sold will help someone, somewhere and will bring Love and Hope.

Children's Liturgy helpers urgently needed

Do you have young children who come out to Children's Liturgy on Sundays? Or would you just be free to help lead Children's Liturgy every five or six weeks? The Children's Liturgy team are urgently in need of more adults to help lead Children's Liturgy on Sundays during 11am Mass. Are you able to share Bible stories with children? Prepare simple activities linked with the Gospel? Pray? Sharing the Gospel with young children in a way that is meaningful and fun for them is such an important part in helping children to explore their faith. We are blessed with huge numbers of children but really need more catechists. Whether you currently have young children or not, the Children's Liturgy team would love you to join us. Full training and support will be given. Please speak to Kathryn Cole or Dan McNamara, or contact us through the parish office.



Do you want to find out more about Christian belief in the context of our challenging lives and troubled times? Are you curious about what and why Christians believe what they do? Then maybe the Alpha course is for you.

Come and join our course at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis PO21 1LP (at the back of the church) on the next session will be on **Wednesday 1st May at 7pm** for a simple meal, interesting film and a chance, in a convivial environment, to ask searching questions about faith.

Everyone is welcome, whatever your experience of church. The evening is completely free of charge and there is no pressure to sign up for more. Simply come and see!

To book on the course, or for more details, e-mail Liz at alphabognor@gmail.com, phone the office or simply turn up!

Alpha - Can you help? Having a shared meal is an important part of our Alpha course and we are blessed to have some wonderful cooks to prepare these meals but more help is also needed. If you feel you can help either with a main course or dessert please contact Jackie Humphreys on 07468 444074.

Gift Aid Envelopes 2024 - 2025 For the new tax year are now available for collection from the Parish Centre or Parish shop after Sunday Masses. If you would like to donate this way please contact Caroline in the parish office.