

*Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*27<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Year C, The Year of Luke*  
*The plank and the splinter*



*Domenico Fetti, The Parable of the Mote and the Beam, 1619*

**Our scriptures at Mass**

A person's talk shows the kind of person he or she is. (Sirach 27:4-7)

The Resurrection of Christ takes the sting out of death for those who believe in him.  
(1 Corinthians 15:54-58)

A person's words flow from what fills his heart. (Luke 6:39-45)

**Parish Mass Book:** page 144 **Prayer of the Church:** Week 4

*St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church*

437, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 5BD, 023 9248 4323

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**Deacon** Rev. Nick O'Neill [noneill@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:noneill@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary** Ellen McCarthy [office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk)

**Parish Bank details** If you wish to make a payment to the Parish the BACS details are:  
PRCDTR Leigh Park St Michael Lloyds Bank 30 93 04, Account number: 00882004

Thank you for all your generous support for our Parish and its Mission.

**Safeguarding Ministry for our Parish**

**Debra Concannon**, [debracon13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:debracon13@yahoo.co.uk)

**Anne Iheanacho**, 07979 963477

Our Safeguarding Ministers can be contacted on the Parish number, 023 9248 4323,  
or directly, as above.

### **Our Liturgies this week**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available during the half hour before every Mass.**

*Thank you for continuing to use sensible precautions to safeguard the health of us all.*

#### **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February, Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

10 am Mass for the intentions of Ryan Lindsey (at the request of Jack Downs)

6 pm Mass for the repose of the soul of Teresa Farmer RIP (request of Kathleen)

#### **Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 27<sup>th</sup> February**

10 am Mass John Wren RIP on his anniversary (family request)

11.30 am Mass for the intentions of the Parish

(This is the final 11.30 am Mass which was introduced during the pandemic.)

#### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, Feria**

*There is no Mass here today.*

#### **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, St David**

10 am Mass for the repose of the soul of Geraint Jones RIP

*This afternoon St Thomas More School Chapel will be blessed.*

#### **Ash Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

10 am Mass Michelle Martindale RIP (Ménage family request)

10.30 am Adoration

2 pm Mass for the staff and children at St Thomas More School

#### **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, after Ash Wednesday**

*Canon Gerard attends the meeting of Council of Priests; there is no Mass here today.*

#### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, after Ash Wednesday**

10 am Mass for the repose of the soul of Paul Tookey-Dixon RIP (family request)

#### **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March, after Ash Wednesday**

10 am Mass for the repose of the soul of Anthony Whitlock RIP

First Holy Communion meeting

6 pm Michael Dixon RIP

#### **First Sunday of Lent, 6<sup>th</sup> March**

10 am Mass for the repose of the souls of Joan and Ken Smith (at the request of Martin)

**Prayers please ...** for all parishioners who are ill, housebound or in need at this time.

**Ash Wednesday** is this week. Lent is a time when we pray, do good for other people, give things up and give to others, as we prepare to celebrate the great feast of Easter. For forty days, we accompany Jesus on his journey to Calvary. We see the mercy He shows towards others, despite His suffering. God shows mercy to us. Like Jesus, we try to show mercy to others. This Lent, we are also making our journey alongside families around the world living in poverty, especially those who do not have the basic things they need, such as enough good food to eat. **Cafod Lenten Fast Day** is on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Tim Collins will speak about the appeal at our Masses on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March. At the **Cafod** link below there are resources for Lent, for prayer and for Fast Day which can be a real help to families! A Lent Calendar offers day-by-day prayers and reflections. <https://cafod.org.uk/>

**The Synodal Way** In groups large and small, and as individuals, parishioners have been offering responses to the questions asked by Pope Francis in preparation for the 2023 Synod. Some responses have been a real help in guiding our own Parish and Pastoral Area into the future. Please let us know any ideas that you have. Here is one example of real food for thought: *I found the experience of considering the questions and listening to others in our Advent group, and in the small group on the day, very inspiring, as was listening to Fr Jeremy's explanation of the synod. It made me think of priorities for myself, which included continuing to develop my faith. I would love to attend a group which considered the papal documents and encyclicals, as was mentioned in the feedback, maybe on a Pastoral Area basis, but also to continue with Parish based formation for regular churchgoers and those interested in the Catholic faith. It would be good to reintroduce links with other parishes again. Also, there was a mention of increased ecumenical involvement on the day, and also in the diocesan e-news recently; I would be interested in being a part of that. I think some of the more personal information and photos that we've had in the newsletter recently, such as of those receiving the sacraments or celebrating something special, have offered a sense of community. It would be good to continue or maybe develop that in some way.*

### **Children's Liturgy**

We look forward to Children's Liturgy resuming at 10 am Sunday Mass on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Refreshments** after 10 am Sunday Mass return on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

We hope that you can stay for the tea and the chat, especially on that first occasion. We will have a tea-party with cakes galore!



A Sunday feast can help us think on the days of our Lenten fast!

## **Lourdes Pilgrimage by Portsmouth Diocese** **18<sup>th</sup> – 22nd July 2022**



Young people are especially invited to participate in the great tradition of service in Lourdes. People of all ages travel to Lourdes to seek healing in the spring waters and spiritual renewal and wouldn't be able to participate in the pilgrimage if it wasn't for teams of volunteers pushing wheelchairs, assisting them around town. Our pilgrimage has some unique aspects! Whether you've been many times before or this is your first time, you're guaranteed an incredible experience. To get in touch, either send an email to [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or you can call us on 07780 221686. [Lourdes | Portsmouth Diocese](#)

# St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church

## Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2022

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on the Fridays in Lent at 6 pm.  
You would be most welcome to join us at any of these local churches.

### March

- 4<sup>th</sup> St Francis, Riders Lane, PO9 4QT
- 11<sup>th</sup> St Michael and All Angels, Dunsbury Way PO9 5BD
- 18<sup>th</sup> St Clare, Warren Park PO9 4JX
- 15<sup>th</sup> St Francis, Riders Lane PO9 4QT

### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> St Michael and All Angels, Dunsbury Way PO9 5BD
- 8<sup>th</sup> St Clare, Warren Park PO9 4JX

### The Face of Jesus?



Canon Gerard leads a meditation with music and images from 4 pm – 5.30 pm.  
Please book by email [gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Saturday and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March

Havant Pastoral Area Priests will celebrate Mass in each other's Parishes this weekend.

### Palm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April

- 10 am following a joint procession with St Francis Church Congregation at 9.30 am from Leigh Park Library
- 6 pm Passover meal: tickets from [office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk)

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April

- 11 am Chrism Mass at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth

### Maundy Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April

- 7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April

- 3 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

### Holy Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April

- 10 am Blessing of Easter Food

### Easter Vigil 16<sup>th</sup> April

- 8.30 pm

### Easter Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April

- 10 am Mass of the Lord's Resurrection

### Prayer for Vocations

*Loving God, you love me, and you know me better than I know myself. Give me the grace to live out your call to me in this life and to rejoice with you forever in the next. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen*

**This week's puzzle** Which word is spelled incorrectly in every single dictionary?  
**Last week's answer** What can you hear but never taste, feel, smell, or see? Your voice.

**Safeguarding** Those kind parishioners who take communion to the housebound now need to have an updated DBS check. Please contact [office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk) to arrange this.

**Easter Raffle** We would be grateful for prizes for another great raffle, please! The Christmas Draw was immensely popular and helped our Parish Funds at this challenging time. If you could offer an attractive prize, please let us know at [office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk) Tickets will be available soon.

**Vocations Seeker Group** This group is for anyone who may be considering a vocation, or at least wanting to spend some time discerning God's will for their life. We start with friendship and fellowship by sharing a meal. Then, during the evening we have some kind of relevant input, talk & discussion regard vocation – this could be from the Vocation Promotion team, or a member of a Religious Community or a current Seminarian. We spend a period of prayer in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The Seeker Group meets on the first Friday of every month from 7-9pm. All are welcome to join us at Sacred Heart Church, Fareham, PO16 ONQ:  
[vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or 01329 318869

### **Some suggested Lenten practices**



More frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance during Lent.

More frequent attendance at Mass.

Less time spent in eating, or eating less food, or getting up earlier than usual.

Sacrifice of some hours each week that would otherwise have been spent on the internet, watching television or gaming.

Walking, instead of driving, and walking upstairs instead of using a lift.

Doing without some delicacy at table, or not eating between meals.

Getting up promptly in the morning, and retiring in good time at night.

Answering letters or writing to persons who would appreciate hearing from us.

Gauging one's time in telephone conversation or conversation in general.



**Hospitality - Meeting people where they are**  
**The gift of Listening - Accompaniment**  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 on Zoom 6-8pm**

We invite you to a thought-provoking evening of ideas and inspiration on the theme of welcome from parishes across the diocese. We will also introduce skills to support more meaningful faith conversations with those we meet. Bishop Philip will open the webinar with his hope and vision for welcome in our diocese. He will join us as we hear from a number of parishes sharing what they are doing to welcome those on the margins, the digital audience, those who are isolated and those who are hard to reach recognising welcome is not limited to the Church door on a Sunday. Our focus on intentional listening and accompaniment will include the developing ministry for parents of children preparing for Holy Communion and Confirmation and parishes placing accompaniment at the centre of their mission. We hope to welcome everyone to life in Jesus Christ and the community of His Church. This event will be particularly helpful to anyone involved in the welcome ministry, those supporting adults and parents of children in sacramental programmes, small group leaders and parish leadership teams who are planning holistic welcome.

Register here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-nlzdqr>

Contact [lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for more details

*In any parishioner is able to join this meeting Canon Gerard would greatly appreciate hearing their feedback. Thank you.*



**Joyce King RIP** On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 10 am Mass is for the repose for the souls of Joyce and Norman King RIP. Joyce's ashes will be interred after mass at Warblington Cemetery. Joyce's family invite anyone to join them for the Mass, the interment or the Wake, with buffet, which will be held at Havant and Waterlooville Football Club. If you wish to attend the Wake please let Michael know on 023 9226 7108 or 07877 848769.

Who do you listen to?

Who tells you about the world?

Who helps you form your beliefs, your views and your attitudes?

Can you remember the very first thing that you heard this morning?

How did it make you feel and how did it set you up for the day ahead?

What was the first thing that you said to anybody else?

And how did you hope it would make them feel?

Pope Francis has asked us to think about who we listen to.

In amongst all of the people to whom we listen

I do hope that we listen to ourselves.

In the few days between now and Ash Wednesday it could be a promising idea,

on one day, to listen to the sorts of things that we say,

the ways in which we say them, and the purpose we have in saying them, too.

***In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.***

That's an extraordinary and wonderful line from Ecclesiasticus:

***In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.***

How about between now and Ash Wednesday you listen intently to your own voice. Spend a day noticing how frequently you say certain things.

Listen out for the moments when you encourage other people,

when you speak well in your conversation of what other people have done and said, when you give well deserved praise and do it freely and happily.

Someone once suggested that it is a sin to hold back well-deserved praise.

Every day gives us opportunities to thank people, to encourage them, to praise them, to make their day that much better and so build another tiny piece of the Kingdom.

When we listen to ourselves it's also good to pay attention to the moments when embellish the story. It can be easy to try to make ourselves look big by making other people look small. We build no-one up by knocking anyone down.

***In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind;  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.***

***The kiln tests the work of the potter;  
the test of a man is in his conversation.***

Ecclesiasticus really has got it. What we say, and how we say it, says far more about us than ever it does about anyone else.

Jesus clearly knew Ecclesiasticus very well.

He says the same thing in a different way:

*Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.*

The only picture which I have ever come across that tries to paint this idea is above. It's not an easy idea to depict. But in 1619 Domenico Fetti came closer than most to putting a plank firmly in one man's eyeline as he points to the splinter in another man's eye.

When we listen to ourselves intently this week listen out to what you most criticise and judge in other people. It will be something that worries you about yourself.

***In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.***

***The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.***

***The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,  
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.***

Jesus emphasises beautifully that our words are the fruit of our feelings:

*There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.*

All sorts of people, in any number of ways speak to us, sing to us, tell us stories, news, facts, fiction and fable. All sorts of people share with us their poetry, their prayers, their reflections, their views, their knowledge, their prejudice, and their ignorance. And we, of course, do just the same with scores of other people.

A really fruitful Lenten task could be listening to ourselves and making sure that everything that we say builds up other people and builds up God's Kingdom.

Happy listening!

**Homily notes for the Eighth Sunday of the Year, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022, GDF**

