

In the entire Bible from Genesis in the Old Testament through the Gospel of John, the incident reported in John 9, the Gospel Reading on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, the restoration of sight to the blind man is the only instance of a blind person since birth being healed. No other Prophet or Apostle or Priest ever performed such a miracle.

Isaiah the Prophet had predicted "The eyes of blind will be opened" (Isaiah 35:5) in his prophecies of the Messiah. Of course, we need to understand that the "eyes of the blind will be opened" has a double meaning. Yes, the blind man can see, but he can also understand and comprehend what Jesus' saving grace means.

This time during Lent is a time for us to open our eyes as well. We need to see and to embrace the fact that Jesus is our Saviour and Redeemer. To see we need light. In the Second Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, Paul says, "Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth."

Is that not what our whole purpose in Lent is? To seek the light; to find an understanding of the Lord's place in our lives; to open our eyes; and to become Disciples of the Lord? We often make reference to the fact that we are called to be Disciples. What does that mean? According to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, it meant, "Do not keep Christ to yourselves. Share with others the joy of your faith. The world needs the witness of your faith; it surely needs God."

Taken from The Catholic Stewardship.com

PARISH SACRAMENT PROGRAMES

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Parents Session: 27th April 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Session 6: 29th April
30th April, FHC Preparation Mass

CONFIRMATION

Session 7: 31st March
7.15 - 9.00 pm, St Bede's Church

Social Session: 28th April

Session 8: 12th May

R.C.I.A.

Next Session: 6th April at 7.30 pm at Holy Ghost Church Hall in Burgess Road.

WORD OF GOD

BIBLE STUDY: 17th April at 7.30 pm,
at Our Lady of Providence Convent, Burgess Road .

ST MATTHEW PASSION

Basingstoke Choral Society, the Croydon Philharmonic Choir and Ars Eloquentiae, conducted by David Gibson, are delighted to present **St Matthew Passion**, an oratorio written by Bach in 1727. Chapters 26 and 27 of the Gospel of Matthew are set to music in what is widely regarded as one of the masterpieces of classical Sacred Music.

8th April at the Anvil, Basingstoke: Tickets: £27, £21, £16; Under 16s and f/t students £7 (includes £2 booking fee).

SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS 2017

A Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass will be held here at St. Bede's Church on Saturday 24th June at 11 am.

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or any anniversary over 60 years this year?

If you would like to come, please contact Liz Murphy in the Parish Office, Tel. No. 01256 465214 or email: anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



RED BOXES

Thank you for bringing in your boxes. They will be counted this week. Thank you also to Theresa Connor who is our Red Box Representative and to those who help count them - Bob and Margaret Carr and Joan and Cathy O'Brien.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Envelopes are now available on a table in the Cloister Area at St Bede's and in the Porch at Sacred Heart. Thank you for your continued support.

DO YOU KNOW?

When you fill in the Gift Aid Declaration Form, together with the establishing of either a Standing Order or the issue of a box of envelopes for every gift you give, the Parish gets Tax Reclaim at no extra cost to you. Gift Aid Declaration forms and Standing Order Mandates can be found in the Cloister Area.

NUNTIUS PAROCHIALIS

Serving the Churches of Holy Ghost, St. Bede and Sacred Heart



MASS TIMES and SERVICES

If you are visiting our Churches of St. Bede, Holy Ghost, or Sacred Heart, you are most welcome.

Holy Ghost Parish with St. Bede, Basingstoke

		INTENTIONS	
Sun 26th	9.00 am SB	People of the Parish	
	11.00 am SB	Antonio D'Souza RIP	
	6.30 pm SB	In Thanksgiving Medalla Family	
Mon 27th	12 noon HG	Nonie McDonnell RIP (Ann Rogers)	
Tues 28th	9.30 am SB	Mary Simmons RIP (Hughes)	
Wed 29th	9.30 am HG	Geoff Fowler RIP (Fond)	
	11.00 am SB	Requiem George Naylor RIP	
Thurs 30th	6.30 am SB	Martina Stack RIP (Bedford)	
	7.30 pm HG	Holy Souls	
Fri 31st	9.30 am HG	Mary Simmons RIP (Young)	
	10.00 am HG	Adoration for an hour	
	7.30 pm HG & SB	Stations of the Cross	
Sat 1st April	9.30 am SB	Int. Maureen Flintoff (Payne)	
Sun 2nd	9.00 am SB	Antonio Martino RIP (Martino)	
	11.00 am SB	Salvatore Agro RIP (Lina Argo)	
	6.30 pm SB	People of the Parish	

SB = St Bede Church

HG = Holy Ghost Church

Sacred Heart, Hook

Sat 25th Mar	6:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 26th Mar	10:00 am	Sr. Celestina RIP
Mon 27th Mar	10:00 am	-
Tues 28th Mar	10:00 am	-
Wed 29th Mar	10:00am	Irene Teeling & Virginia De Luc RIP
Thurs 30th Mar	10:00 am	Reginald & Mary Rutledge RIP
Fri 31st Mar	10:00 am	-
Sat 1st April	10.00 am	-
Sat 1st April	6:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 2nd April	10:00 am	Cathie Hingert RIP

Confession Held in the Church, Saturday 9.15-9.45am and 4.30-5.30pm. Also by arrangement with Fr. Peter

Fourth Sunday of Lent & Second Scrutiny

26th March 2017

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Year A
Psalter Week 4

PARISH CONTACTS:

Parish Priest:
Rev. Christopher Rutledge:
Coordinating Pastor and Dean

Assistant Priest: 01256 951134
Rev. Gerry Onyejuluwa

Retired Priest in Residence:
Rev. Peter Codd

St. Bede 01256 465214

Parish Administrator:
Mrs Liz Murphy
Office Open: Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday, 9 am - 2 pm
(Tuesday - Admin day)
Email:
stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sacred Heart 01256 577007

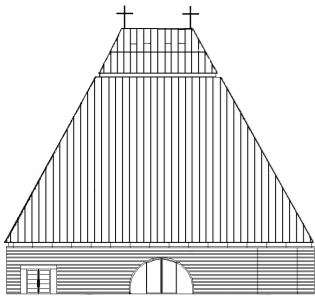
Parish Administrator:
Mrs Jan Hughes
Working at Sacred Heart Church
Tuesday, 9 am - 2 pm
Working at St Bede's Church
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday, 9 am - 2 pm
Email: hook@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Web Pages
www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk
www.sacredhearhook.co.uk

Safeguarding
Jan Hughes 07719012955
Maggie Wood 01256 577007
Mrs Angela McGrory (Diocese)
0755 4427 064 or 023 92816396

Holy Ghost Church Address
Sherborne Road,
Basingstoke,
Hants. RG21 5TD

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE
TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871



St. Bede

Popley Way
Basingstoke
RG24 9DX

01256 465214

PROPERTY AND RESOURCES MANAGER

We wish to appoint a Property and Resources Manager to ensure the effective use of all resources in the Parish including buildings, services and other facilities.

The role will be to make sure the buildings and their services meet the needs of the Parish and other users as efficiently, safely and cost effectively as possible, whilst all the time prioritising the vision of the Parish as a welcoming and mission focused Catholic community.

Full time 35 hours per week.

Flexible working is required as there will be some evening and weekend working.

Proposed start date 1 May 2017

Application forms are available on the Diocesan website.

Closing date is 12 noon on 30 March 2017

Interviews during week commencing 3 April 2017

For informal enquiries please contact the Parish Office on 01256 465214. Return Application Forms to:

Fr Christopher Rutledge, St Bede's Church.

CLEANER

We wish to appoint a Cleaner to ensure the effective cleaning of St Bede's and Holy Ghost Churches, halls, rental flats and communal areas.

Part time 12 hours per week.

Proposed start date 1 May 2017

Application forms are available on the Diocesan website.

Closing date is 12 noon on 30 March 2017

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Fr Christopher Rutledge, St Bede's Church.

DID YOU REMEMBER?

The clocks have changed. Did you remember?

TODDLER GROUP

The Toddler Group is on Tuesday, 1:30 pm until 3:15 pm.

CONFESSIONS

The Clergy will usually be available to hear Confessions every Saturday after the 9.30am Mass.

UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFT SALE

Thank you for all the donations of the unwanted gifts, and thanks for buying them as well. £304 was raised from the sale all proceeds going to CAFOD.

REPOSITORY

There are now FHC and Confirmation cards and gifts on sale.

Your Voice Matters – Mega Youth Poll

Please see the section on the opposite page.

PARISH DIARY:

Sun: Music: 9am Choir; 11am Cantorg; 6:30pm Lord's Flock

Tues: 1.30-3.15pm, Toddler Group

Thurs: Church Cleaning;

TEA AND COFFEE

26th March: Ben McDonnell, Dorothy Gibson

2nd April: Terri Sitton, Noleen Hornby

Today, after the 11 am Mass, there will be refreshments in the hall and a sale of cakes. All proceeds are for CAFOD. Thank you to Sammi and Maria for organising this.

FUNERALS

Requiem for George Naylor RIP takes place in St. Bede's Church on Wednesday 29th March. May he Rest in Peace.

THE ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST have commissioned Chris Olding to compose a hymn "God, you raise up true disciples" for the Mass at St George's Cathedral for the centenary of the birth of Blessed Oscar Romero on March 24th. The hymn can be heard by logging on to www.romerotruster.org.uk/romero-hymn.

WHAT IS THE SVP?

The work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is to seek and find those in our Parishes who are in need. To quietly visit and befriend them and offer support by word and deed. Would you like us to visit YOU? Does this often invisible way of "Loving our Neighbour as ourselves" attract YOU? We sincerely hope so, the need continues and we need new Members. Why not speak to an S.V.P. Member? Leave your name and contact number with the Parish Office, or contact Rex Barham.

EVERY THURSDAY IN LENT - 6.30 am Mass followed by breakfast at St. Bede's Church.

- 7.30pm Mass at Holy Ghost.

EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT - 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross in both Holy Ghost and St Bede's Churches.

ROSARY CRUSADE 2017

Rosary Rally - to pray for conversion and for World Peace. It is being held on Saturday 13th May 2017 at St. John's Cathedral. Mass is at 12.15pm followed by the Rosary, Procession, Hymns and Prayers. It is all followed by tea in the Cathedral Centre at 3pm.

HEAD OF CENTRE URGENTLY NEEDED!

Would you like to lead a friendly local team of Marriage Preparation Facilitators and Counsellors making a big difference to people's lives in the local area? Marriage Care are in urgent need of a **Head of Centre** to lead the team and coordinate services in and around the Reading area. If you believe in supporting relationships, have experience of managing a team and possess good communication and people skills why not contact us at: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk or visit our website: www.marriagecare.org.uk for more information.

COLLECTIONS

Sunday collection amounted to £2,871.20. Grateful thanks.



Sacred Heart

London Road
Hook
RG27 9LA

01256 577007

PARISH DIARY

Sunday 26 March 4pm Stations of the Cross

Friday 31 March 7:30pm Stations of the Cross

Friday 7 April 7am early morning Mass followed by breakfast

Sunday 9 April 2:30pm Pastoral area Lenten Reconciliations

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK IN OUR PARISH

Lord, have all those who are unable to be with us at Mass in your safekeeping we remember:

Sister Connie, Mary O'Driscoll, Edna Welton, Patrick Walsh, Helena Allen, Christopher Tyler, Margaret Sauce, Andrew Marsh and Margaret Morrison.

WEEKLY ROTA

Saturday 1st April 6pm

Reader: Glenys Murch

Eucharistic Ministers: Sister, Pat Olohan

Sunday 2nd April 10am

Readers: Michele Linehan-Hill, Heather Bone

Eucharistic Ministers: Ellen Hill, Marian Flaherty

Children's Liturgy: Michael, Rosie

Counters: Jan Hughes, Maggie Wood

Coffee: Ellen Hill, Marian Flaherty

Cleaning: George Smith

Laundry: Heather Bone

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr Peter will be available each Saturday afternoon in Church from 4:30 - 5:30pm. He is normally available in the Priest's House from 11:00am - 12:00 noon on Saturdays, if this is more convenient for any Family, please ask at the Priest's House.

CAFOD DISASTERS EMERGENCY RAFFLE

Tickets are being sold after both Masses this weekend. The draw will happen during tea and coffee after Mass on Sunday.

All money raised will go to the Disasters Emergency Committee, of which CAFOD is a member, to support the emergency responses across South Sudan, Somalia, northern Kenya and Ethiopia. One of saddest things about this truly devastating crisis is that so many of the communities affected have worked tirelessly, for so many years; only to be thwarted by repeatedly failing rains, extreme weathers, and circumstances beyond their control. Yet, their dignity and faith is truly extraordinary.

PASTORAL AREA LENTEN RECONCILIATIONS

Lenten Reconciliations for the whole Pastoral Area will be on Sunday 9th April at 2.30pm in St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke. All are welcome.

LENT 2017

During Lent we do not sing or say either the Gloria or the Alleluia, flowers do not decorate the Church and Baptisms are held over until Easter.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent

7:30 pm with the Sisters in the Convent

Every Sunday in Lent

4:00 pm in the Church, followed by Benediction.

THE JOURNEY

During Lent, Our Lady's Church in Fleet will be turning their Church inside out.

They are asking us to join them and walk 'The Journey' After morning Mass on Ash Wednesday, the Way of the Cross will be celebrated outside Our Lady's Church.

And every Wednesday evening during Lent, the Way of the Cross will be prayed by candlelight, and again, this will be held outside by following the Stations of the Cross which will be permanently displayed.

There are some leaflets in the Porch if you would like some more information.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

This Sunday is Mothering Sunday, which traditionally was a day to visit your mother- Church or Cathedral and make offerings.

Today it is an occasion to give gifts to your own Mother. We say happy Mothering Sunday to all Mothers and thank you for all your love. We especially remember all those Mothers who are no longer with us.

Your Voice Matters – Mega Youth Poll

In 2018, Pope Francis will invite Bishops and others to Rome to talk about Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. At this gathering they will discuss how the Catholic Church can accompany young people in their faith and help them to hear God's call. If you are aged between 13-29 years old, the Catholic Church in England and Wales would like to hear from you, we want to hear what life is like, your thoughts on faith and how you connect with the Catholic Church. To help you tell us we have created a Youth Poll that you can access by going to: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll> If you're not in this age group but would like to help, please encourage the young people you know to respond to this poll by giving them the link. For queries about the Youth Poll please email: synod2018@cbcew.org.uk.

COLLECTIONS

Sunday collection amounted to £552.77. Thank you for your continued contributions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr Peter is our Retired-Priest-In-Residence, please respect this and make your first point of contact as:

Jan Hughes at the Parish Office.

If urgent call 07719 012955

