

Parish of Effingham and Fetcham
Our Lady of Sorrows and Church of the Holy Spirit

Parish Team:
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Live-stream on YouTube "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish":

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

A Very Warm Welcome to Parishioners and Visitors

2nd 'Low' Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Sundays: Cycle B Weekdays: Year II 7 April 2024



Today, the Second Sunday of Easter, is the Octave Day of Easter. And while it brings the Easter Octave to a close, our celebration of Eastertide still has six more weeks to run until the great solemnity of Pentecost.

The action in today's Gospel reading begins on Easter Sunday ("In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week...") and ends on this octave day ("Eight days later...Thomas was with them"). Note the historic way of counting days was to include the starting day in the total, so 'eight days later' means 'one week later'. In a similar way, Jesus is said to be in the tomb 'for three

days' even though the interval from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning is much less than 48 hours!

Thomas gets a negative press and is dubbed 'Doubting Thomas'. But I like his asking for empirical evidence. As a church we have been at times a bit freaky about doubts and questions, sometimes even punishing them or confessing them as sins. But we cannot grow in our faith without working through our doubts and questions in an honest and non-judgemental way. And the desire to 'see for ourselves' is a good and true part of our ultimate hope that we shall 'see him as he really is'. To quote Charles Wesley: 'with what rapture gaze we on those glorious scars'.

Prayers for us all

Fr Charles

This Week

A big thank-you to many people for all the work that goes on throughout the year to make the parish work. Particular thanks to those who, in ways both big and small, contributed to making our Holy Week liturgies happen, and happen so well. Attendance was good, which is so encouraging for the future.

On a more personal note, thank-you for your most generous Easter Offering, and for your prayers and support over these past two months. I am hugely grateful, and it is good to be here.

I am taking some time away this week, although some of this time will be taken fulfilling some non-parochial duties. I will take a proper break in the 4th week of April (21st – 27th).

With prayers

Fr Charles

The Divine Mercy Sunday - 7 April



As we conclude the Easter Octave we celebrate and give thanks to God for His mercy that was bestowed on us through the death and Resurrection of Jesus. In the year 2000 Pope St John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter to be the Feast of the Divine Mercy of God. It includes a plenary indulgence for those who go to Reconciliation and the Eucharist on that day. The Holy Hour will begin at 3 pm at HS on Sunday 7 April and will include Adoration, Confessions, praying the Chaplet and Benediction. Refreshments will follow in the Annex. You are warmly invited to come along.

This Week's Masses

Monday 8th April, there will be a 9.15 am Mass at OLOS to celebrate The Annunciation of the Lord.

Tues 9th to Fri 12th April – No Masses in the parish.

Change to Adoration. As there is no Mass this coming **Thur 11 April**, Adoration will start at 11.00 am.

Lower Road Closure

Starting on Friday 5th April for up to one week – Lower Road will be closed to traffic between OLOS and the entrance to Church Street. Car access to the church will be from the opposite direction (past the Howard school).

Next Week



Talk on the work of PACT (the Prison Advice and Care Trust) - Monday 15th April at 7.30 pm in St Alphege Hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available from 7.00pm.

PACT is a pioneering national charity that supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families. They provide caring and life changing services at every stage of the criminal justice process: in court, in prison, on release, and in the community. If you are not already familiar with its work, have a look at the website: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Requiem Mass. On **Friday 19 April at 11.00 am** there is a Requiem Mass for Clifford Wright at OLOS. Please pray for the repose of his soul and keep his family in your prayers too. It will be the only Mass in the parish that day.

General



A Request from the Collection Counters. It would be a great help to the collection counters if you did not put foreign or outdated UK coins and notes in the collection. The post office does not take them and it causes problems if they are found when the counters pay in. Thank you.

News about Maddy Hewitt

Michael, her son, has let us know that Maddy has moved back into the local area. She has also made a good recovery since her fall last summer and would welcome visits from her old friends in the parish. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to visit so we can let you have the details.



Taizé Prayer - at St Lawrence's Effingham Sunday 7 April at 6.00 pm.

You are warmly invited to this reflective, quiet, contemplative service of Bible readings, prayer and praise in the style of the Taizé Community.



ADORE spiritual mini-retreat - 27 April "I Will Pour Out My Spirit on All." Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest

speaker **Kristina Cooper**. Please register for the 9.30-1.00 Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREAPR2024 or attend in person 9.30-3.30 at St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke. More information at www.altonrenewal.com



Mental Health Awareness Seminar – A choice of two dates - Saturday 13 April in Crawley or Saturday 15 June in Burgess Hill. Cost £30 (subsidised by Diocese)

Do you work in public Ministry in your Parish? Do you work or support people in your day to day lives? The number of people experiencing the challenge and suffering of poor mental health is a growing reality in the UK.

The course is led by a Member of the Mental Health First Aid England team and is suited to those involved in pastoral activities, leading events and those who work and support youngsters. The aim of this seminar is to help you to understand the impacts and realities of mental health on the individual. To help you identify the early signs and symptoms and to signpost the individual effectively. Places can be booked through the attached links [Mental Health Awareness Seminar \(13-Apr-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) or [Mental Health Awareness Seminar \(15-Jun-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

If you wish to discuss your engagement with this course before booking, please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Advisor E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick:

Derek Barham	Janet Morgan
Marie Bliss	Jim Morgan
Christopher Browne	Jacqui Mott
Amy Chapman	Maureen Rennison
John Donovan	Jean Rowlandson
Mary Doran	Bernard Shaw
Mary Hefford	Jenny Smith
Maddy Hewitt	Peter Stevenson
Tessa Knott	Maggie Thomas
Gillian Lake	Andrea Vaughan
Joanna Mills	Clive Ward

This Week's Services and Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil	06 Apr	6.00 pm	OLOS	Margaret Mary Biles - RIP
Sunday	07 Apr	9.00 am	OLOS	Deceased Members of the de Freitas Family
Sunday	07 Apr	11.00 am	HS	People of the Parish
Monday	08 Apr	9.15 am	OLOS	Celebrant's Intention
Tuesday	09 Apr	NO MASS	OLOS	NO MASS
Wednesday	10 Apr	NO MASS	HS	NO MASS
Thursday	11 Apr	NO MASS	OLOS	NO MASS
Friday	12 Apr	NO MASS	HS	NO MASS
Saturday Vigil	13 Apr	6.00 pm	OLOS	Marcelle Copus - RIP
Sunday	14 Apr	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Sunday	14 Apr	11.00 am	HS	Terry Aboud - RIP

HS = Holy Spirit, Fetcham

OLOS = Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

All Masses from OLOS are live-streamed on YouTube at "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish" <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

Confessions

Saturdays 5.00-5.30 pm OLOS, Effingham

1st Sunday of the month after 11.00 am Mass HS, Fetcham

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

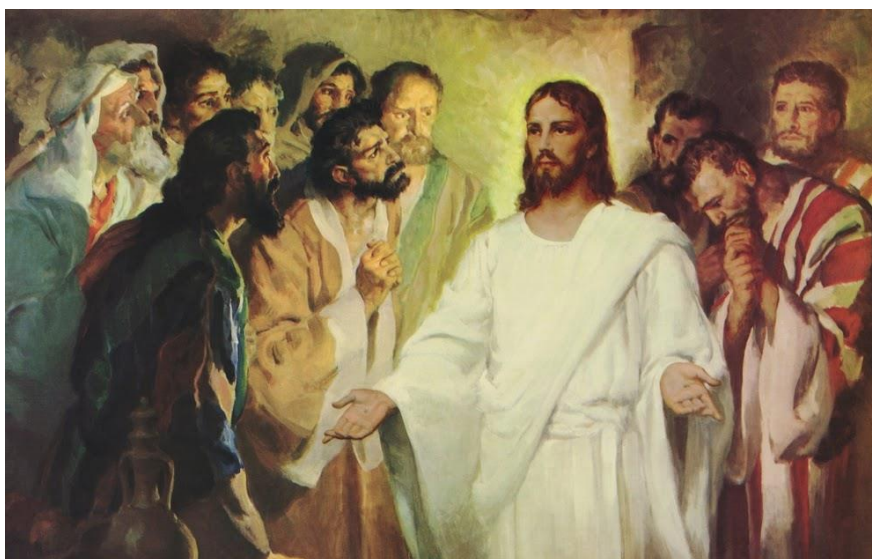
Thursdays following OLOS 9.15 am Mass to Noon, then 2-7 pm

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Wednesdays following HS 9.15 am Mass

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15. 17-19 | Psalm 4:2. 4.7.9. R.v7 | 1John 2:1-5 | Luke 24:35-48



Please get Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday

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