

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

Parish Team:

**Fr Charles Howell and Deacon Ian Wells**

Priest's House, Lower Road, Effingham, Leatherhead, KT24 5JP

Telephone: 01372 458263

Email: [effingham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:effingham@abdiocese.org.uk)

Website: [www.effinghamandfetcham.org.uk](http://www.effinghamandfetcham.org.uk)

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

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

*A Very Warm Welcome to Parishioners and Visitors*

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Sundays: Cycle A    Weekdays: Year II    22 February 2026



We have now started our journey through Lent. Jesus gives us a roadmap to follow through Lent to the glory of the Resurrection. The first thing that needs to be said about the temptations of Jesus that we hear this Sunday is that they were very real. This was no play-acting. But the question arises: Can a good person be tempted like the rest of us? The truth is: the good person who resists temptation knows more about its power than those who submit to temptation at the first opportunity. When we take a serious look at ourselves, we realise that there are things that

keep us from being the persons and the Christians we wish we were. We feel that we are not free to be our true selves. At the beginning of his mission Jesus looked at himself and saw the temptations that would keep him from carrying out his mission. Lent is for us the time to look into ourselves and to see what keeps us from being free to serve and love God and people the way we should. Let us go with Jesus into the desert, look into the depths of ourselves, and with Jesus reject what imprisons us, what keeps us lukewarm and indifferent, so that like him and with him we can serve.

God bless

*Deacon Ian*

## ***This Week***

Please pray for **Canon Jonathan Martin**, the Chancellor of our Diocese, who has been elected and appointed as the Diocesan Administrator. He will look after the day-to-day running of the Diocese until a new bishop arrives.

### **Changes to Mass and Adoration this Week**

On **Thursday 26 Feb** there will be a Mass at Cranmore School at 9 am. Parishioners are welcome but please sign in at reception first. It will be the only Mass in the parish that day. Adoration will start at 11 am.

### **Rite of Election**

At the 11 am Mass this Sunday we will formally welcome Jayne, David and Tamsyn as candidates for election into the Catholic Church this Easter. We ask you to pray for them and their families as they take this journey.



**Sunday Refreshments in the Hall at OLOS.** Thank you to all who came and made our first monthly Coffee and Cake session, following 9 am Mass at

OLOS, such a success! We are now buying better equipment with higher capacity, so that you won't have to wait so long for your drinks! **Our next meeting will be on Sunday 1 March.**

*In the meantime, could all the lovely **people who have offered to help, please come to a brief meeting in the hall on Sunday 22 February after 9 am Mass**, to exchange email addresses, phone numbers and ideas, so that we can make up a rota for both helping and cake baking. If you are unable to attend, please send your details to the parish office.*



**Men's Group.** The next meeting of our Parish Men's Group will be **THIS Wed 25 Feb**, starting at 8 pm in St Alphege

Hall. The theme for the evening's discussion will be the link between the Old and New Testaments - "Do not think I have come to

remove the law and the Prophets. I have not come to remove but to fulfil them" Matt 5:17. There is no need to book just come along and join us all. If possible, please bring a bible.

## ***Next Week***



**Special Collection next weekend: CAFOD Lent Fast Day.** There will be a

short talk about this appeal at all Masses this weekend. Please use a special envelope ONLY if you would like to Gift Aid your donation (available to take away from the back of church this weekend). To donate online or for more info, please click the link: [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

**Tai e Prayer at St Lawrence's – Sun 1 March at 6 pm.** A reflective, quiet, contemplative service of Bible readings, prayer and praise.

### **World Day of Prayer 2026 – Fri 6 March**



This wonderful, annual, ecumenical prayer event led by women throughout the world will be hosted

locally this year at:

St Mary's Church, Fetcham 10.30 am

Eastwick Road Church, Bookham 7.30 pm

*Refreshments* will be available after each service.

## ***Lent***

### **Sacred Silence in the Liturgy of the Word**

This Lent we are introducing Sacred Silence within the Liturgy of the Word. There will be a few pauses for reflection between the readings. Please simply follow the cues given by the reader and Fr Charles. This valuable practice will soon become second nature in our parish.

### **Service Times During Lent**

During Lent, the weekday Wednesday Mass at CHS will move to 12 noon, preceded by Stations of The Cross at 11.30 am. Immediately following Mass there will be the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Stations of The Cross at OLOS will precede the 6 pm Saturday Mass starting at 5.15pm.

As usual, we are seeking volunteers to lead the Stations and Divine Mercy. Sign-up sheets will be at the back of the church again this weekend.

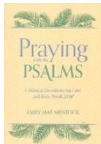
### Lent Reconciliation Service

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March we will be hosting a joint service with Cobham starting at 7.30 pm. There will be a number of priests available to hear your Confession.

### The Life of Jesus in Art

Churches Together are hosting five evenings at St Alphege Hall on Mondays through Lent, **running from THIS MONDAY to 23rd March**. The talks will look at the Spiritual and Historical significance of the various events in Jesus' life, from his Baptism to his Resurrection, as recorded through great Christian paintings. Questions will be welcomed throughout. **The evenings will start at 7 pm with refreshments.**

### Praying with the Psalms: Lent and Holy Week



Whether you're beginning a daily prayer habit or seeking to deepen your Lenten journey, this devotional offers a beautiful and practical way to encounter God in the sacred poetry of the psalms—and to be transformed by his Word. Just £3 per copy, please put your money in the slot marked books or newspapers.

The new **CELEBRATE Family Activity Pack for Lent** is now available to download

from <https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks>. There are engaging ways to count down the days in Lent, reflective prayer and discussion, craft, games, books and movies

to help families draw close to God. CELEBRATE has also created a **Lent game 'Journey to Easter Joy'** - which encourages children to focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in fun and interactive ways this Lent. Available to download

at <https://www.celebratetrust.org/celebrate-prayer-resources>

**Leatherhead Parish will be running a Lent group** from Thursday 26 Feb, 7.30-9 pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The group will be following the "[Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation](https://ascensionpress.com/collections/the-bible-timeline-the-story-of-salvation-2025)". For more info, please click on the link: <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/the-bible-timeline-the-story-of-salvation-2025>.

### What's Happening in the Deanery this Lent?

For a deanery-wide calendar of activities for Lent, please see the deanery website: [www.epsomdeanery.com/lent2026](http://www.epsomdeanery.com/lent2026)

## General

### Alpha Youth



Got questions about life, faith, and what it all means?

Alpha Youth is coming to St Michael's in Ashted, offering a chance for young people in school Years 7–9 to explore big questions in a relaxed, friendly space – with food, videos, and real conversations. Ten sessions starting Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 6:30pm (approx. 2 hours per session) in St Michael's Catholic Church Hall. No question is off limits. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alpha-youth-at-st-michaels-tickets-1980904089456?aff=oddttdtcreator>

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

Derek Barham	Ann McEntire
Marie Bliss	Janet Morgan
Christopher Browne	Jim Morgan
John Donovan	Brenda Parker
Mary Doran	Maureen Rennison
Pat Hammond	Bernard Shaw
Mary Hefford	Jenny Smith
Maddy Hewitt	Peter Stevenson
Valeria Kucharsky	Maggie Thomas
Joanna Mills	Ian Williamson

## This Week's Services and Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil	21 Feb	6.00 pm	OLOS	Mary Lukas - RIP
Sunday	22 Feb	9.00 am	OLOS	Alan & Anne Bryant - RIP
Sunday	22 Feb	11.00 am	HS	John Canning – 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Monday	23 Feb	NO MASS		NO MASS
Tuesday	24 Feb	9.15 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25 Feb</b>	<b>Noon**</b>	HS	Hilda & Frederick Sheehy - RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>26 Feb</b>	<b>9.00 am**</b>	<b>Cranmore Sch**</b>	<b>Cranmore School's Intention</b>
Friday	27 Feb	NO MASS		NO MASS
Saturday Vigil	28 Feb	6.00 pm	OLOS	Pierre Regnault - RIP
Sunday	01 Mar	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Sunday	01 Mar	11.00 am	HS	Newell Family. Hazel & Zoe - RIP

HS = Holy Spirit, Fetcham      OLOS = Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

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

<b>Confessions</b>	<b>Saturdays</b> 5.00-5.30 pm OLOS, Effingham <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month</b> after 11.00 am Mass HS, Fetcham
<b>Adoration</b>	<b>Thursdays</b> following OLOS 9.15 am Mass to Noon, then 2-6 pm
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month</b> in term time at HS, Fetcham 11.00 am

### Next Week: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

#### Special Collection next week: CAFOD Lent Fast Day (Special envelopes for Gift Aid)

Genesis 12:1-4a | Psalm 33(32):4-5. 18-19. 20, 22. R.22 | 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 | Matthew 17:1-9



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

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