

**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*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

Sundays: Cycle C    Weekdays: Year I    23 March 2025



The Gospel this Sunday has been called the Gospel of the second chance. God is patient. The history of the Church is full of examples of barren fig trees that in time became fruitful; in other words, sinners who repented and became saints. Moses, who is at the centre of this week's First Reading, is a good example. As a young man he had killed another man. Yet God didn't write him off. True, he had a fiery temper. But there was good in him. He was that rare being – the kind of man who couldn't stand idly by when he saw an injustice or a crime happening. What such people need is someone to believe in them, someone to have patience with them. Otherwise, a lot of talent will go down the drain. We tend to be harsh on others until we need a second chance ourselves. We must extend to others the kind of patience and leniency we would like for ourselves. But the parable in the Gospel also makes it clear that there is such a thing as a last chance. If people refuse chance after chance, the day finally comes, not when God has shut them out, but when they have by deliberate choice shut

themselves out. But which of us would want to be barren when we might be fruitful? Are we willing to change?

God bless,  
*Deacon Ian*

## ***This Week***

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Norma Chapman RIP** who died recently and pray for comfort and consolation for her family too.

The funeral service for **Richard Lake RIP** will be on Tues 8<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00 am at OLOS with a reception in the hall afterwards.

Please pray for **Michael Hogg** and **Graham Smith** who are preparing for the Easter Sacraments. At the Easter Vigil this year Michael will be Baptised and Graham will be received into full Communion with the Catholic Church. Both will then be Confirmed and receive First Eucharist.

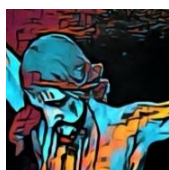
**Mass of Commitment for Confirmation** will be THIS Saturday at 6pm at OLOS.

### **Parish Walking Group**

Our first walk of the year – **Sat 29<sup>th</sup> March** will be a very easy morning walk on the last Saturday of the month. It is the Brockham and Betchworth walk which proved so popular when we did it before. Perhaps because it's only 2.5 miles! We'll meet in the car park of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Fetcham at 9.30 am and car share as usual. We look forward to seeing lots of walkers!

If you would like to join our WhatsApp group, please text Annette on 07561 305767. This is the way we keep in touch, request lifts and make any last-minute changes due to the weather.

*Annette and Kathy*



## ***Lent***

### **SERVICE TIMES DURING LENT**

#### **Wednesdays at HS**

Stations of the Cross - 11.30 am

Mass - Noon

Divine Mercy Chaplet follows Mass

## **Saturdays at OLOS**

Stations of The Cross - 5.15 pm

Vigil Mass – 6 pm

### **LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE – THIS Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Mar, 7 pm at St Michael's, Ashtead.**

As part of the Jubilee Year celebrations, Bishop Richard is visiting each Deanery to participate in their Lent Reconciliation Services. Our visit is on Tues 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm at St Michael's, Ashtead (KT21 1RS). Bishop Richard and the Priests of the deanery will be available for confessions. This will be the only Lent Reconciliation service this year, and we invite the whole Deanery to gather together to celebrate the mercy and forgiveness of God.

### **LENT TALKS.** The third talk from Father John Seddon is **THIS Wednesday (26th March) from 7.30-9.00 pm.**

(The remaining topics Fr John will cover are the Resurrection, Life after Death and Objective Truth.) Tea and Coffee will be available from 7.00 pm in St Alphege Hall. Please let us know ([chris@tailby.net](mailto:chris@tailby.net)) if you are coming so we can arrange for the correct number of handouts.

**LENT LUNCHESES.** Churches Together in Effingham are organising several Lent Lunches **to be held at St Lawrence's church hall.** The last lunch will be held on **Wed 2nd April** and is hosted by our Parish. **The lunch starts at 12.30pm.**



### **CELEBRATE'S LENT PACK FOR FAMILIES.**

CELEBRATE has just produced a new **Lent Online Family Activity pack** designed to support family faith life. It is packed full of engaging activities, ways to pray, books to savour and films that both entertain and promote conversation in faith. Get your free CELEBRATE Lent online family activity pack [here](#).

**FAMILIES' LENTEN CHALLENGE.** 'My Good Deeds - a Lenten Challenge' was attached to the parish newsletter circulation email this week.

Print it out and follow the instructions. A few hard copies are also available in church. See how many good fruits you can grow this Lent. Then bring to church and pin it onto the display board during the Holy Week. We look forward to seeing many good trees with many good fruits!

### Next Week



**Hard Cases Don't Make Good Law – Thur 3 April, 6.30 pm.** The Catholic Union is holding a [webinar](#) on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life)

Bill on Thursday 3 April. Chaired by Baroness Hollins, President of the Catholic Union, it will give members and supporters the chance to unpick the Bill guided by three experts: Dr Matthew Doré; Dr Philip Howard and Professor Julian Hughes. Please register your attendance [here](#) and the zoom link will be sent to you in due course. Read more about the event [here](#).



**A Lenten Film Night on the Divine Mercy: Sat 5<sup>th</sup> April**, after the Vigil Mass at OLOS from 7-9 pm in St Alphege Hall. More info next week.

### Forthcoming

**Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Bishop Richard is leading a special Jubilee Year pilgrimage to Walsingham this summer (Friday 6 June to Sunday 8 June). For more info or to book: [abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/ocop\\_tzuu](http://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/ocop_tzuu)

### General

#### Recent Second Collection Result



CAFOD Family Lent Fast Day - £1,460

Thank you for your generosity!

### Flame 2025



Our Confirmation Candidates with their Catechists attended this Catholic Youth Event in Wembley last Saturday, 25 in total. It was a sell out with 10800 young people, including nearly 600 from our Diocese.

### Gift Aid Envelope Donors

Boxes of Gift Aid envelopes for the new tax year commencing 6 April will be ready for collection from:

Our Lady of Sorrows Church or the Church of the Holy Spirit during the weekends of 22-23 and 29-30 March. Please contact Sue Fisher: [ga.effingham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ga.effingham@abdiocese.org.uk) or call 07414 190614 to indicate your preference.

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

Derek Barham	Janet Morgan
Marie Bliss	Jim Morgan
Christopher Browne	James Nicholls
John Donovan	Sue O'Connor
Mary Doran	Brenda Parker
Sandra Flynn	Maureen Rennison
Mary Hefford	Bernard Shaw
Maddy Hewitt	Jenny Smith
Joanna Mills	Maggie Thomas

## This Week's Services and Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil	22 Mar	6.00 pm	OLOS	Jean Rowlandson - RIP
Sunday	23 Mar	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Sunday	23 Mar	11.00 am	HS	Sharon Patefield - RIP
Monday	24 Mar	NO MASS		NO MASS
Tuesday	25 Mar	9.15 am	OLOS	Derek Nightingale - RIP
Wednesday	26 Mar	11.30 am	HS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Wednesday	26 Mar	NOON	HS	Mabel Stratton - RIP
Thursday	27 Mar	9.15 am	OLOS	John Marsh - RIP
Friday	28 Mar	NO MASS	HS	NO MASS
Saturday	29 Mar	5.15 pm	OLOS	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Saturday Vigil	29 Mar	6.00 pm	OLOS	Anna Maria Conway - RIP
Sunday	30 Mar	9.00 am	OLOS	Shanks Family
Sunday	30 Mar	11.00 am	HS	People of the Parish

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>

<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>Chaplet of the Divine Mercy</b>	<b>Wednesdays</b> in Lent at HS following Noon Mass
<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: 4<sup>th</sup> 'Laetare' Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 | Psalm 34(33): 2-3.4-5.6-7.R.9a | 2Corinthians 5:17-21 | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



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

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