

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

Parish Team:
Fr Charles Howell and Deacon Ian Wells

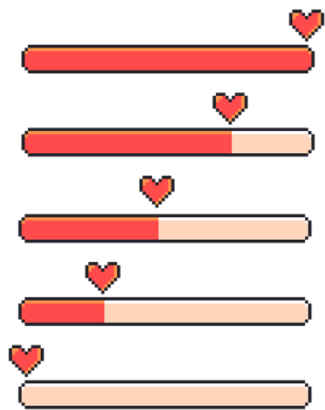
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Live-stream on YouTube "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish":
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

A Very Warm Welcome to Parishioners and Visitors

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays: Cycle A Weekdays: Year II 15 February 2026



Kindness is almost as important to a sick person as medicine. In this last year, we have witnessed supreme acts of love, kindness and physical healing from our human race that previously we may have not thought possible. One of the most common is how people have been treated and cured by our Doctors and Nurses at enormous risk to themselves even sadly to making the ultimate sacrifice. It's truly amazing what people can do for others. People can rekindle hope, bring back the zest for living, inspire plans for the future, restore self-respect and pride. They can even mirror the infinite charity of God. The message from this weekend's Gospel is that Jesus touched with his healing power even the untouchable. In those days, Leprosy was the ultimate uncleanness. It made the victim an outcast not only socially, but in the religious sphere.

This is how Jesus accepted the leper and how he accepts each and every one of us. No exceptions. This weekend, let each of us reflect how often in life Jesus has touched us. He touched us with his love in Baptism when he saved us from isolation and gave us the Christian community to live in. He touched us each time he came to us in the Eucharist to speak to us and give us his body. He touches us often with his healing forgiveness, with his consolation in moments of distress, with his strength when we are timid, with his wisdom when we are confused. But do we let him touch us? And do we touch one another with healing care?

God bless
Deacon Ian

This Week



Please pray for Tony Farino who died recently and keep his family in your prayers too. **The Requiem Mass for Tony Farino** will be THIS *Thursday 19 February* at OLOS at Noon followed by a

reception at Effingham Golf Club. The family hope you will be able to join them for both the Requiem and reception to celebrate Tony's life. No flowers please but donations, should you wish, would be very welcome to CAFOD.

Adoration this Week

There will be no Adoration on Thurs 19 February because of the Requiem Mass.

Lent

Sacred Silence in the Liturgy of the Word

This Lent, I would like to introduce to the parish the praiseworthy practice of having short pauses in the Liturgy of the Word, to allow space for the Word to breathe and enter our hearts. We are already familiar with (and expect) a silence after Communion. We shall do likewise for the Word of God. The Psalm is a response to the First Reading so should follow the reading immediately, but afterwards there should be a pause for reflection before moving on to another text. The sequence runs thus: 1st R, Psalm, *pause*, 2nd R, *pause*, Gospel Acclamation, Gospel, *pause*. If necessary, the reader should take a step back from the ambo (lectern) and bow their head slightly to hold the moment. It's simple, but it transforms the reception of the Word. It'll take a while to get used to, but Lent is about extending ourselves and trying something new.

Fr Charles

Service Times During Lent



After Ash Wednesday, 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 from this weekend.

*Mass times and imposition of Ashes on **Ash Wednesday** will be 9.15 am at OLOS and 8 pm at CHS.*

Lent Lunch

We will be hosting the Churches Together Lent lunch of soup and bread this week on Ash Wednesday 12.30-2 pm in St Alphege Hall.

****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

After the Ash Wednesday Mass, would a few able-bodied parishioners give 10 or so minutes of their time to help Teresa put out tables and chairs in the hall. Thank you.

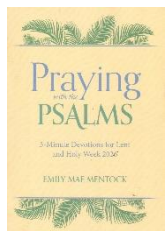
Lent Reconciliation Service

On Friday 27th 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

The Life of Jesus in Art - Churches Together are hosting five evenings at St Alphege Hall on Mondays through Lent, **running from 23rd Feb 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.

Each daily devotion includes:

one or two seasonal psalm verses to focus your heart; a prompt to pause and rest in silence with the Lord; a simple spiritual exercise to carry into your day; and a return to the psalm verse to end your prayer.

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>.

General

Recent Second Collection Result

Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund..... £890.98

Thank you for your generosity.

LeatherHEAD START

The charity LeatherHead Start, whose work the parish regularly supports, are looking for a new

Treasurer following the retirement of the previous one. If you think you could fulfil this

role for them, please contact

Chair@leatherheadstart.org

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 27th February, 6:30pm (approx. 2 hours per session) in St Michael's Catholic Church Hall.

No question is off limits. No judgement. Just honest exploration.

Interested?

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alpha-youth-at-st-michaels-tickets-1980904089456?aff=oddtcreator>

Cake Sale Result - a fantastic £750 was collected for the Mtandika Trade School from last weekend's cake and jam sale, not including some very generous donations. Many thanks to all those who made cakes and of course to all who bought them.

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	14 Feb	6.00 pm	OLOS	Liz Green - RIP
Sunday	15 Feb	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Sunday	15 Feb	11.00 am	HS	Anna Maria Conway - RIP
Monday	16 Feb	NO MASS		NO MASS
Tuesday	17 Feb	9.15 am	OLOS	Anna Copelin - RIP
ASH WEDNESDAY				
Wednesday	18 Feb	9.15 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
		8 pm	HS	People of the Parish
Thursday	19 Feb	NOON**	OLOS	Requiem Mass for Tony Farino
Friday	20 Feb	NO MASS		NO MASS
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 th Birthday

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>

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

Next Week: 1st Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Psalm 51(50):3-4, 5-6b. 12-13. 14, 17.R.cf.3a | Romans 5:12-19 | Matthew 4:1-11



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

Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878