



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NEWSLETTER

www.holyfamilyparish.org.uk



St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's edition

Issue #35

4th Sunday of Easter

Year A

25th /26th April 2026

The fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday; Christ Jesus being the Good Shepherd and we the sheep of his pasture. It is no surprise then to find that Psalm 22(23) is the appointed responsorial psalm for the Sunday Mass. It begins with well-known words: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Jesus is the legitimate Shepherd of the flock. He does not break into the sheepfold, rather the gatekeeper opens the gate for him. The sheep hear his voice and without hesitation follow him out. Sheep, do not follow a stranger!

Jesus also says that he enters the sheepfold to lead out all the sheep. Maybe there is a connection to Exodus, and Moses leading out the people into the promised land. The images used "the Shepherd" and "the gate" seems to mix images. Nevertheless there is a continuity of ideas. John seems to be implying that Jesus is the Shepherd sent by God – like Moses – to lead out his sheep. But he is also the "gate" and the only sure way out of, or into, the sheepfold. Whoever before or after him pretends to fill this role is an impostor, a thief, disguised as the Shepherd.

Jesus has passed the gate of death to enter into glory! "To proclaim his resurrection is to recognise that he is the guide in whose footsteps we must follow in order to have life, and to have it more fully. He marches at the head of the ransomed people, leading them on the road of their paschal exodus".



1st: Acts 2:14, 36-41 God has made him both Lord and Christ.

Psalm 23 R/ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

2nd: 1 Pet 2:20-25 You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.

Acclamation Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

Gospel John 10:1-10 I am the door of the sheep.

2nd Collection: Clergy Training Fund

supports our seminarians, including the 10 men currently in formation for the priesthood, for the duration of their six or seven-year journey to ordination. These are the men who will baptize and catechize the coming generations, and care for us on our pilgrim way: our generosity today is a legacy to the Church of tomorrow. It costs around £30,000 each year to sustain a seminarian. Please support! Can you remember the names of the 2 gentlemen, who were at our Parish?




April			
Sat	25 th	10:00	Louise Wood, RIP Marie Paul, A
		18:30	Piedade Pereira & Milagrina Marques, SI
Sun	26 th	08:00	Andrew McCarthy, A
		09:15	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
		11:00	Starsal, SI Deceased clergy of the Parish
		17:00	Aquino Fernandes, A
Tue	28 th	10:00	Louise Wood, RIP
Wed	29 th	10:00	Coleman Family, FM
Thu	30 th	10:00	Robert Mendonca, SI
Fri	1 st	10:00	Mass of the Sick & Housebound
Sat	2 nd	10:00	Rodrigues Family, SI Elizabeth & Joseph Wheke, FM
		18:30	Beatrice Mathews, SI Marie O'Meara, RIP
Sun	3 rd	08:00	
		09:15	John Coleman Jr, FM
		11:00	Patrick Lennon, SI
		17:00	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family

Adoration*9-10am | **Confessions** Sat after 10am Mass / before 6.30pm Mass
A: Death Anniv; FM: Foundation Mass; RIP: Rest in Peace, SI: Special Intention

WORKS OF MERCY

The focus for our Corporal Work of Mercy this April is Fair Work and Justice to Support the Homeless. Our support to The Sue Brett Foundation and The Salvation Army is a continuous need in our local community of Maidenhead. Please remember this vital Catholic, Christian work by donating Dental goods; shampoo, soap and Cosmetic goods, underwear items and clean clothing, in good condition. so that these can be distributed to the Homeless and Needy in our community. Every donation is greatly appreciated and helps to make someones life a little easier. Thank you and may God Bless your kindness!

HAPPENING IN THE PARISH

 **HFP:** Holy Family Parish ♦ **SE:** St Elizabeth's
SJ: St Joseph ♦ **SEC:** St Edmund Campion
STM: St Thomas More

- ❖ **3 May FR LIAM'S FAREWELL** There will be ONE Mass at SEC at **10:30am** followed by the party at 12pm in SEC School. If you want to bring food, sign up by 19 Apr with SEC office: office@stedmundcampion.org.uk. If you wish to give an individual gift to Fr Liam, please take an envelope from SEC porch. We will also celebrate Fr Liam's 30th Anniversary of his Ordination!
- ❖ **8 May Maidenhead SVP Quiz** Doors open 7:30pm. Teams of (max) 8, £7/person. Prizes for the winning team + a raffle and other games to participate in. All welcome! Tickets on sale after masses at SJ and SEC or from Siobhan (SJ) 07816445416.
- ❖ **10 May St Edmund Campion Pilgrimage 11.15am** Bus leaves from outside SEC. John Lynn is organising a free bus trip to Lyford Grange. Main celebrant: Fr Kevin O'Driscoll. Stop for lunch near Abingdon (pack your own or enjoy a carvery meal) + Mass at 4.00pm. Arrive back in M'head 6.45pm. See parish notice boards. Contact John 07931-292934 /01628-636668 to join.

REGULAR EVENTS

- ❖ **3rd Sundays 3pm Filipino Mass** SJ Church
- ❖ **Mondays 10am Mother's Prayers** SJ Church
- ❖ **1st & 3rd Tuesdays 2.30 – 4.30pm Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM)** SJ St Liz Room
- ❖ **Thursdays Zoom Room: 2pm** Rosary
- ❖ www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC Centre (term time) / **6pm Legion of Mary** SJ Church.



St Mary's Catholic Pre-School Sept 2026 intake. Pop into the school for an application form or contact 01628 627013 for an appointment!

St. Mary's School warmly welcomes applicants for **Catholic Foundation Governors** from the Holy Family community - to promote our catholic ethos & obligations, challenge and question data and provide strategic leadership. Please contact Clerk@Stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk for further info and application pack.

CLASSES/ EVENTS IN SJ

See website for privately run events

- **Tuesdays: Practical Art** Join U3A untutored Art Group. Every 1st & 3rd Tues 2-4pm in SJ Hall. Contact Peter 01628 674097
- **Wednesdays: 5-6pm Taichi** in Hall.
- **Thursdays 6pm** Yoga with Una. All proceeds to SJ!

OTHER EVENTS

- **29 Apr 10.30-12.30pm Quench Pop up store** Maidenhead URC West St SL6 1RL
- **2 May 10am A Day with Mary** Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi Early, near Reading + other pilgrimages. See www.adaywithmary.org
- **9 May 9am Formation morning for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.** St Peter's Pastoral Centre, Winchester. Register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Join Westminster Cathedral Choir School in Year 4 or Year 5. Sing in a world class choir while attending one of the country's leading independent boys school. Generous scholarships, and additional means-tested bursaries available, covering up to 100% of fees. Find out more on **29 Apr 6:30pm**. Register <https://tinyurl.com/2zsf92j8> or contact Rachel at 0207798 908/ RBonnet@choirschool.com

4 or 11 June Senior Experience Days at St Joseph's College for Year 5s. Experience a taste of life at our school, featuring classroom lessons and sporting activities for the children to enjoy. Book early! <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/106472> For more info, email admissions@sjcr.org.uk

YOUTH MINISTRY GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY

For 18-25s looking for a new challenge - the Diocese of Lancaster (Keswick, Lake District) runs retreats at Castlerigg Manor and work in Churches and schools around the area. Internship scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications! Join a vibrant team doing some amazing work. director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com/join-the-team/

SACRAMENTALS All **forms** can be found here: <https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/newsletter/>

💧 **Baptism Course 7 Apr 7pm** For expecting parents and parents whose child(ren) is being baptised in M'head

♥ **Marriage:** Thinking of getting married? Enquire via our online form!

♥ **MARRIAGE SUPPORT:** If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – Retrouvaille could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

Confirmation & First Holy Communion Classes:

○ **FHC: Next session SJ:10 May 9.30am.** Please stay on for Mass, & refrain from bringing devices to class/church.

💧 **Confirmation** Next class **SJ: 25 Apr 4.45pm.** Please bring along your Mass attendance cards. Please also bring along a copy of your baptism certificate (for those not baptised in the Parish). This is very important to ensure you can be confirmed.

✠ **OCIA:** Congratulations to all fully initiated candidates!

Contacts: Office: 01628 783988 Carolyn office@stjosephsparish.co.uk Maria youth@stjosephsparish.co.uk safeguarding@stjosephsparish.co.uk **SJ: Fr Elvis 07465 675985** Eberka@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk SEC Fr Vuni 07888 627223 Tvuni@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk TWY Fr Kevin 07476 367316