

**12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

|                              |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Mass Book Page<br><b>158</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 17: 3-7<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8 | Gospel: John 4: 5-42                           |  |
| Hymns for<br>11 am Mass      | Entrance: 458<br>Communion: 627  | Gospel Acclamation: 200<br>Post-Communion: 938 | Offertory: 965 & 840<br>Recessional: 960 |



**Christ, the spring of life**

Through baptism Christ becomes within us a source of the living waters of grace. Through the Holy Spirit the love of God is poured into our hearts and our spiritual thirst is quenched. We come alive. We become in our turn the wells of God's goodness at which people will drink.

A spring of water welling up to eternal life.

**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For victims of abuse**

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

**Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sat 11<br>18:30          | <i>First Mass of Sunday</i><br>Luigi RIP  |
| Sun 12<br>09.30<br>11.00 | ✠ <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b><br>Birthday Thanksgiving for Priscilla Assemien<br>Valerie & Edmund Nicholas and Mary & Dudley<br>Wilde RIP |
| Mon 13<br>09.30          | May Tierney RIP<br>Rosary   |
| Tue 14<br>09.30          | Tom Bell RIP<br>Rosary  |
| Wed 15<br>09.30          | Colin McAleavey-Dunne RIP<br>Rosary   |
| Thu 16<br>09.30          | Birthday Intention for Philomena Anthony<br>Rosary  |
| Fri 17<br>09.30          | <i>Saint Patrick</i><br>Thomas Healy RIP<br>Exposition  |
| <b>19:00</b>             | <b>Stations of the Cross</b>  |
| Sat 18<br>09.30<br>18:30 | People of the Parish<br><i>First Mass of Sunday</i><br>Alan Mode RIP  |



**Mother's Day**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sun 19<br>09.30<br>11.00 | ✠ <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b><br>Angelo Noto RIP<br>Wellbeing for James & Amy Lee |
|--------------------------|--|

**Prayer Requests**

If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter, it will run for a month per request. Please send an email to: [regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk).

**Those who have passed recently:**

Anniversaries for March: **Benjamin Ntiamoah**  
 Recently passed: **Michael Fahey, Margaret Wheeler, Martin Herrera, Elizabeth Seymour.**  
 May they rest in peace.

**Sick and Housebound**

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend mass because they are in poor health, please let Fr Regis know and he will take Holy Communion to them.

**Lenten Service of Reconciliation**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm. Confessions will be heard in English, Spanish, Polish and French.

**Mother's Day: Sunday 19 March**

The Choir is inviting everyone to the Hall next Sunday after 11.00am mass, to celebrate Mother's Day.

**Sharing the Word**

**First Reading**

In spite of having experienced God's help in various ways, the liberated slaves remained apathetic towards Yahweh, and complained bitterly to Moses. Here they were complaining about lack of water. But despite their

ingratitude, God showed his care for his people by providing water for them in the desert. This passage prepares us for the Gospel and the living water God offers us through Jesus.

### Second Reading

Paul says, we have a reason to be people of hope. Our hope lies in what God has done for us in Christ. God has proved his unconditional love for us by the fact that Jesus died for us while we were still sinners. And the Christian life is a response to something that has already been accomplished on our behalf by a loving God.

### Gospel

Today's Gospel tells the story of Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman. As the Israelites journeyed through the desert, Moses provided them with the life-saving gift of water. Jesus the new Moses, offers us something infinitely better. He offers us living water, that is, a share in the very life of God. It is through the waters of baptism that we receive a share in the life of God. Apart from inviting us to faith, today's Gospel also reveals to us the goodness of God in the compassion Jesus showed to a poor lost woman.

### Syria-Türkiye Earthquake Appeal

A huge thank you to all those who have given so generously toward our appeal to help the people of these countries. Collectively we have raised over £1,300. This will be shared between CAFOD and Aid to the Church in Need, who both have operations helping the people of these countries.

### Easter Flowers

It is customary in this parish to make donations for the flowers and decorations for the Church at Easter in memory of the 'faithful departed'. The 09.30am Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May is dedicated to them. Please mark your envelope "Easter Flowers", and write the name (s) of those being remembered in block capitals. Please post your envelope at the parish house.

### First Holy Communion Programme 2022-23

We meet in the hall on Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Mar at 10am for, Chapter 10: Body of Christ.

### Confirmation Programme 2022-23

We meet in the parish house on Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Mar at 5pm for, Session Nine: Confirmation.

### Celebrate Parenting for Faith

A new online course for those with babies and toddlers, 5 weeks from February 23 - March 23. 8pm, 45 mins.

<https://www.celebratetrust.org/>

### Join CAFOD on the Lenten Journey 2023

CAFOD invites you to join them as we seek to make space and time to draw closer to God and our global family through reflection and prayer this Lent. Each day in their emails they will share a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of our global family, a prayer and a suggested action you might like to take as we prepare for Easter. Join us on this journey by signing up for the daily emails: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>.

### Catholic Union Survey

An inquiry has been launched by the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights into human rights at work and we need your help to respond. We would be grateful if you could spare a few moments of your time to complete our survey on religion in the workplace. [https://catholicunion.org.uk/2023/03/catholic-union-launches-religion-in-the-workplace-survey/?mc\\_cid=03976f0be3&mc\\_eid=c4a36288e2](https://catholicunion.org.uk/2023/03/catholic-union-launches-religion-in-the-workplace-survey/?mc_cid=03976f0be3&mc_eid=c4a36288e2)

### Poor Parishes

Our collection next week will be for the poor parishes, formerly, the Needs of the Diocese collection, which enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese. Gift Aiders, for those contributing towards this collection please use the envelopes at the back of the church. Please provide your gift aid number on the envelope. If you need to know your gift aid number please either email us or telephone the parish house.

Thank you.

Last Week

*Offertory:* Gift Aided: £214, Not Gift Aided: £346

*Mass Count:* Sat (60), Sun 09.30 (106), 11.00 (119)

Second Collection

*Last week:* CAFOD LENT FAST DAY £581

*This week:* NONE

*Next Week:* POOR PARISHES (GIFT AID)

Donate

*Gift Aid:* Tax payers, please sign up, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated. Email Treasurer for details.

*Card:* Card Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

*Standing Order:* Email Treasurer for details.

*Cheque:* Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

*David Simpson,* Treasurer: [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

*Steven Pearce,* Secretary: weekdays 9<sup>am</sup>-12<sup>noon</sup>

[sydenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk)

*Margaret Doherty,* Catholic Club: 07930 889632