

PARISH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE, WESTBOURNE

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth: registered charity 246871
visit us at catholicwestbourne.org

Sunday, March 15th
3rd Sunday of Lent
Response to the Psalm
(94)

Andrew Moore



O that to-day you would lis-ten to his voice! Har - den not your hearts.

CORONAVIRUS

At this stage in the spread of the virus it is essential that we all take notice of health guidance.

As previously announced:

- Sign of peace - do not shake hands but offer a gentle bow.
- The Chalice will not be administered at Communion.
- The host is to be received on the hand - not on the tongue.
- Additionally, the Holy Water stoup has been emptied, the hymn books have been removed and the offertory collection will be taken at the end of mass. Other measures may be announced as necessary.

Please note that the obligation to attend Sunday mass does not apply if in any way you feel unwell or may be particularly vulnerable to infection.

We remember in our prayers those who have been directly affected, remembering especially those who have died. (see page 2)

TIMES OF CONFESSIONS

Our Lady Immaculate	Fridays 11.30am - 12.00pm
Bournemouth Oratory	Wednesdays 11.00am - 12.00pm First Weds of each month 7.30- 8.30pm Saturdays 11.00am - 12.00pm/4 - 5pm Also 20 mins before each Mass
Corpus Christi	Saturdays 10.30-11.30am/5.30-5.50pm
Annunciation	Tuesdays before 7.00pm Mass Thursdays before 9.30am Mass Saturdays before/after 10.00am Mass
St Edmund Campion	Fridays 7.00pm/Sundays after 9.00am Mass
Ss Joseph & Walburga	Saturdays 4.30pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE AREA

The Annunciation
Sunday 9am (Polish) 11am & 6.30pm
Charminster Road. BH8 9RW
01202 513369

St Edmund Campion
Sunday 9am
481 Castle Lane West BH8 9TN
01202 513369

Bournemouth Oratory
Saturday Vigil 5pm; Sunday 8am,
10.30am, 12.30pm (Polish) & 4pm
1 Albert Road. BH1 1BZ
01202 411140

Corpus Christi
Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 9.30am,
& 5pm
17/18 St. James Sq. BH5 2BX
01202 425286

St. Joseph and St. Walburga
Saturday Vigil 5.30pm, Sunday 10.30am
2a Archway Road. BH14 9AZ
01202 746539

Our Lady of Fatima
Sunday 8.30am
35 Brixey Road. BH12 3PB
01202 746539

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Prayer of the Church: 3rd Week of Lent. Psalter Week 3

Cycle of Prayer: All Penitents

Sunday	THIRD SUNDAY OF	9.00am	People of the Parish
March 15th	LENT	11.00am	Denis Owen RIP
Mon 16th	of the 3rd Week of Lent	<i>No Service</i>	
Tues 17th	St Patrick	11.00am	No Special Intention
Weds 18th	of the 3rd Week of Lent	11.00am	Holy Souls
Thurs 19th	St Joseph	11.00am	Rivero-Ibañez Family RIP
Fri 20th	of the 3rd Week of Lent	11.00am	No Special Intention <i>Adoration follows Mass</i>
Sat 21st	of the 3rd Week of Lent	<i>No Service</i>	
Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OF	9.00am	People of the Parish
March 22nd	LENT	11.00am	Julian Chapman RIP

Fr Andrew writes: It may also be sensible to make preparations in the event of the need for extended self-isolation or the possibility that the church may be closed. At times of crisis we naturally turn to the Lord, often by visiting the church, attending mass and receiving the sacraments and enjoying social contact. That these familiar and comforting spiritual measures may not be available or seriously curtailed will add to the challenge facing us all. None of us ever prays alone: our prayer, even said in isolation, is always joined with the prayer of the church throughout the world and, indeed, united with Christ's own prayer. Bishop Philip has helpfully provided some apposite prayers (see below). Those with internet access can find a wealth of material to stay in spiritual contact, such as live streaming of masses (e.g. from the Cathedral: www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk). The app available from www.universalis.com is especially to be recommended.

Our own parish website: www.catholicwestbourne.org and the parish office 01202 760640 will carry information regarding any announcements that may become necessary.

General Prayers for Health

Lord Jesus, you came that we might have life in all its fullness.

In this time of sickness and the fear of sickness, give me the health of mind – that I might seek out wise guidance and act upon it;
the health of body – that will enable me to serve you and those around me;
the health of spirit – that my soul rests in the secure knowledge that there is nothing that can separate me from the Father's love.
Give me the grace to share your peace – that peace the world cannot give.

Prayer for those in Authority

Loving God, in Christ Jesus, the servant of all, you call us to the service of others.
Grant to those who govern the community the skill to recognise its urgent needs and the strength to pursue the common good.
Endow us all with patience and courage, that we may care for the suffering, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and sustain the needy.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Affected Countries

Lord God, you created our world and its peoples. Today, we hold before you the people of (name of country) affected by the coronavirus.
In your goodness, give courage and healing to those who are sick;
and sustain the doctors and nurses who work to care for them.
Give wisdom to those in authority, that in all their decisions, the dignity and well-being of citizens affected by this virus, may be of paramount concern.

Prayer for those Affected

Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community.

Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, our refuge and our shield, even when we walk in the shadow of death you are there at our side.
Be with your people in this time of danger: bring strength to the afflicted and protection to those untouched by disease.
Give us love and courage, that we may trust in your power to save and reach out to all who need our care.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Spiritual Communion (cf. St Alphonsus Liguori)

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER CORNER



All the sick and housebound of our parish, including:

Patricia Kowalewska, Win Sheridan, Patricia Plumb, Kathleen Wood, Peter Henry and Philip Rockford.

PARISH CALENDAR

Stations of the Cross - 11.30 every Tuesday during Lent

Weds 18th March, 11.30 - SVP Monthly Meeting

Bridge Club has been suspended until further notice.

Welcome to all our visitors today

Dedicated bays for wheelchair and buggy users at the front and back.

Please remember: mobile phones off.

Just moved in? Please give us your details.

If you need any assistance, please ask one of our welcome team, who will be happy to help

SVP Society meets Weds, once a month 11:30am in the hall.

Rosary in church Wednesdays 10.15am

Benediction and Confessions: Fridays 11:30am

Tea and Coffee Downstairs after both Sunday Masses.

Church Cleaning First Tuesday of the month at 12 noon

Safeguarding Officer Matthew French mail@matthewfrench.net

Parish Administrator Suzanne Quinn

Office hours : Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30-11.30am.

All enquiries Tel 01202 760640 Email oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: catholicwestbourne.org

Address: Our Lady Immaculate Seamoor Road, Bournemouth, BH4 9AE

Parish Priest Fr Andrew Moore

Gift Aid Pay income tax? We can reclaim 25% of your offering today from the Government at no cost to you. Please use one of our special envelopes or ask for a form.

We are part of Bournemouth Pastoral Area

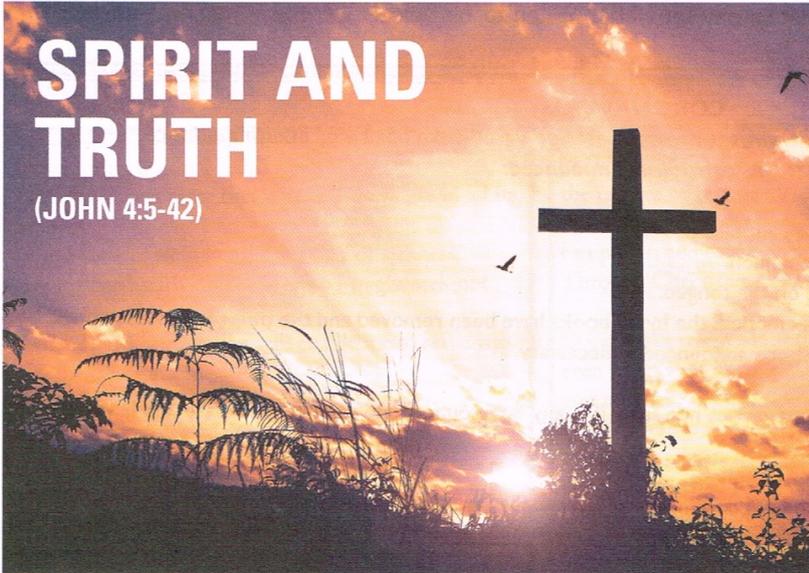
Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year A • Psalter Week 3

SPIRIT AND TRUTH

(JOHN 4:5-42)



The characters who appear with Jesus in the Fourth Gospel represent different kinds of persons and different reactions to Jesus.

In today's extract from the Gospel according to John, we meet the familiar figure of the Samaritan woman at the well. She is, first and foremost, a woman. She belongs to a group of people, the Samaritans, whom the Jewish people regarded as not being members of the people of Israel, no matter what their claims about their origins: their rival sanctuary to Jerusalem had been destroyed by the warrior Jewish high priest roughly 150 years earlier. We find traces of the hostility of the Samaritans towards Jewish pilgrims from Galilee in the Gospel accounts.

Yet here, Jesus takes the initiative in speaking to this woman, much to her surprise. As they talk, her understanding of who Jesus might be develops: she refers to him as a Jew, then as a prophet, and ends up wondering if he might be the Messiah/Christ. Although she does not come to believe in Jesus herself, her wondering about him to the townspeople leads them to believe in Jesus. She is thus the catalyst for their putting their faith in Jesus, not on her word, as hearsay is not enough, but because they have experienced him for themselves. ■

DO

Make the Sign of the Cross with holy water. Consider using the rest of Lent to decide whether or not you really want to renew your baptismal promises.



LEARN

The Jews held that the Samaritans were settlers imposed by the Assyrian conquerors in place of the Israelite population of the northern kingdom after the defeat in 722 BC.

The Samaritans claimed that they were true Israelites left behind after the deportation.

The Samaritans built a rival temple on Mount Gerizim: this was destroyed by the high priest, John Hyrcanus, in 129 BC.

REFLECT

Today, and on the next two Sundays, we hear a long reading from the Fourth Gospel. These extracts are given for us to reflect upon as we approach Easter, when new members will be added to our community as disciples of Jesus.

For John the evangelist, faith is not something we possess, but something we do. It is also a decision. Many "cradle Catholics" are somewhat envious of converts: they feel that they would like to have had the chance really to decide for themselves, rather than having been baptised as infants and brought up in the faith without having to make their own mind up and say for themselves, "Yes, Lord, I believe." Somehow, renewing their baptismal promises is not quite the same. One of the reasons people leave the Church is because they never truly believed to begin with: the mere fact of being baptised does not confer faith. Baptism is (ideally) the external sign that we have made our own decision. We may have difficulties with certain aspects of our faith, but the essential point is that we have a real, personal relationship with Jesus, which must develop as we ourselves grow, otherwise it will wither and die. These three Gospel extracts illustrate for us how a person's faith develops through questioning.

The woman tries to engage Jesus on details in the differences between their two traditions, but Jesus brushes these aside. Worship in spirit and truth, that is, worshipping God with one's whole life, is what true, authentic faith means: questions of place and ritual are secondary. Quarrels about liturgy and the like can be a useful distraction from the deeper questions of faith. ■

SAY

**Lord, I believe:
help my unbelief!**

(Mark 9:24)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When I prove my holiness among you,
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;
and I will pour clean water upon you
and cleanse you from all your impurities,
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our
lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our
conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. "Why did you bring us out of Egypt?" they said. "Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?" Moses appealed to the Lord. "How am I to deal with this people?" he said. "A little more and they will stone me!" The Lord said to Moses, "Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink." This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, "Is the Lord with us, or not?"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 94

Response:

**O that today you would listen to his voice:
"Harden not your hearts."**

- 1 Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
- 2 Come in: let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
- 3 O that today you would listen to his voice!
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work." (R.)

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we
are judged righteous and at peace with God,

since it is by faith and through Jesus that we
have entered this state of grace in which we
can boast about looking forward to God's
glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the
love of God has been poured into our hearts
by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.
We were still helpless when at his appointed
moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not
easy to die even for a good man – though
of course for someone really worthy, a man
might be prepared to die – but what proves
that God loves us is that Christ died for us
while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of
God!**

**Lord, you are really the saviour of the world;
give me the living water, so that I may never
get thirsty.**

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of
God!**

GOSPEL

John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

(a longer version may be read: John 4:5-42)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?" – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

"If you only knew what God is offering
and who it is that is saying to you:
Give me a drink,
you would have been the one to ask,
and he would have given you living water."

"You have no bucket, sir," she answered "and
the well is deep: how could you get this living
water? Are you a greater man than our father
Jacob who gave us this well and drank from
it himself with his sons and his cattle?" Jesus
replied:

"Whoever drinks this water
will get thirsty again;
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall
give
will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up
to eternal life."

"Sir," said the woman "give me some of
that water, so that I may never get thirsty
and never have to come here again to draw
water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers
worshipped on this mountain, while you say
that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to
worship." Jesus said:

"Believe me, woman, the hour is coming
when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we do know;
for salvation comes from the Jews.

But the hour will come – in fact it is here
already –

when true worshippers will worship the

Father in spirit and truth:

that is the kind of worshipper

the Father wants.

God is spirit,

and those who worship

must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah
– that is, Christ – is coming; and when he
comes he will tell us everything." "I who am
speaking to you," said Jesus, "I am he."

Many Samaritans of that town had believed
in him on the strength of the woman's
testimony when she said, "He told me all I
have even done," so, when the Samaritans
came up to him, they begged him to stay with
them. He stayed for two days, and when he
spoke to them many more came to believe;
and they said to the woman, "Now we no
longer believe because of what you told us; we
have heard him ourselves and we know that
he really is the saviour of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(all bow during the next two lines)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial
offerings,
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our
own sins,
may take care to forgive our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in
mystery
may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.