



Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi



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Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: Father Anthony Ikhenoba

Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke



24th February 2008

Third Sunday of Lent

• Offertory collection

17th February:

Envelopes/cash £587.18

Standing Orders £530.00

Total: £1117.18

• Second collection for

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

raised **£1222.71**

Thank you for your very kind donations

• Second collection NEXT Sunday 2nd March for the **Clergy Assistance Fund**

Re-commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers

will take place at all Masses on **Sunday 9th March**.

If you missed the re-commissioning at the end of last year and have not yet been contacted, then please ring Mel Noronha on 0118 9698595 to confirm your attendance

1st Holy Communion - next parents' session (on Reconciliation) is on Tuesday 26th February at 8pm, Carl Barton Room

Women's World Day of Prayer is Friday 7th March (an interdenominational event). We will be hosting a service in our church at 2pm on this day - all are most welcome!

! **CONFESSIONS** during Lent will be available on **Friday evenings from 7pm** (before Stations of the Cross), in the confessional

Common thirst

People at the time of Jesus would wonder, "What is he doing with a woman, more so a Samaritan woman?" Samaritans were the sworn enemies of the Jews. The Jews and the Samaritans, who lived in Israel between Galilee and Judea, had been divided for centuries. They had no dealings with one another, avoiding all social contact, even trade and inter-marriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for a fight to break out. This was still the case when the Samaritan woman encountered Jesus. The subject of their discussion was a request of a drink of water which was a strange request coming from Jesus especially. Water is essential: the Israelites thirst for a drink of water in the desert and God provided for their need in spite of their lack of trust in God. This is why the bible uses the symbol of water frequently and refers to Jesus as the "Living Water". The living water was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never thirst; the water that I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The Samaritan woman was thirsty for the living God and needed an encounter to quench this thirst. Her meeting with Jesus paid off because she asked for the living water that will last forever. The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." The lesson is simple: we all have a common thirst for this water that gives eternal life. Jesus gives to all regardless of our differences, sin and lack of faith. More importantly he is always there for us, no matter what our situation may be.

Father Anthony

We warmly welcome back **Father Terry Burke** as he celebrates 2 Masses for us - **11am TODAY, Sunday 24th February, and 9am next Sunday 2nd March**

This month's Parish Prayer Evening will take place in Church on Tuesday 26th February. Our theme will once again be 'Rooted in Prayer, Growing in Grace' with a title for the evening 'Is that you, God?' - an opportunity to explore what God is saying to you through scripture and share what God has been doing for us. The evening will also set out our plans for Life in the Spirit seminars leading up to Pentecost, and give an update on the progress of Home Groups. **7.45** for 8pm until 9.30 pm. **All welcome**

Understanding CAFOD: If you've ever wondered how CAFOD is funded, how it spends its funds or how it works overseas - please come along to 'Understanding CAFOD' on **Saturday 1st March** (NEXT WEEKEND) to be held here in our own Parish Hall (the **Carl Barton Room**). The day will run from 10.30am - 3.30pm and lunch will be included. Sessions cover CAFOD's origins, its vision, mission & values, its international work, fundraising, and campaigning. So if you'd like to find out more, please do come. You will be made very welcome indeed and it's a great chance to meet lots of friendly people and get to know what's going on in this diocese! **Please book your place in advance** (to help us with catering) by ringing Laura at CAFOD Portsmouth on 01252 329385 or by e-mailing portsmouth@cafod.org.uk - thank you in advance



Our Lady of Peace Flower Guild is looking for ladies who would like to help us with arranging church flowers on a regular basis. You would not work alone and previous experience is not necessary. There will be a meeting here at **2pm** on Friday 7th March in the Carl Barton Room (small hall). If you are interested & would like to come along you would be most welcome, or for more details please call Ann Haggerty on 0118 966 5232



! **Marriage Preparation 2008 - reminder!** Our parish Marriage Preparation sessions have started - the remaining two sessions are on Wednesday 27th February, 8pm-9.30pm & Wednesday 5th March, 8pm-9.30pm

★ **REMINDER: Stations of the Cross** will take place here at our church at **7.30pm on Fridays & 4pm on Sundays** during Lent. All are welcome to these opportunities to pray together and follow Christ's journey. Please remember - **Friday Masses** will be at **8pm** on 29th February and 7th March, *i.e. NO morning Mass on these dates!*

So Masses will be after Stations of the Cross on these days. If you would like to help with presentation of any sessions, please contact Melly Noronha on 0118 9698595. Thank you

ROSARY before Mass: as of Tuesday 4th March the Rosary will be prayed before morning Masses, commencing at **9.15am** approx. The parish petitions which are on the altar will be remembered. As there are 4 Mass days each week we will offer Joyful Mysteries on Tuesdays, Glorious Mysteries on Wednesdays, Mysteries of Light on Thursdays & Sorrowful Mysteries on Fridays, thereby including all the Mysteries



MASS TIMES: 24th FEBRUARY - 2nd MARCH 2008



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTION	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 24 th February	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Third Sunday of Lent	Rita Young RIP (Ann-Marie Paterson's mother) Christine Kinsella RIP (rec. dec.) Mary Battersby (anniv.)	<u>Celebrant:</u> Fr. Terry Burke 4pm: Stations of the Cross (Church)
Monday 25 th	NO MASS			
Tues. 26 th February	9.45am		Eugene M ^c Ateer RIP (<u>Celebrant:</u> Fr. Delaney)	7.45pm: Parish Prayer Evening (Church) 8pm: 1 st HC Parents' session (CB Room)
Wed. 27 th February	9.45am		Maggie M ^c Bride RIP (rec. dec.)	8pm: Choir practice for 11am Mass 8pm: Marriage Preparation session 2 (D.B. Room)
Thurs. 28 th February	9.45am	St. Oswald		6.30pm: Fr. Anthony at Bl. Hugh F'don school - Mass with Bishop Crispian
Friday 29 th February	8.00pm		Eugene M ^c Ateer RIP (rec. dec.)	7.30pm: Stations of the Cross (Church)
Sunday 2 nd March	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Nan Laffey RIP (Found'tn. Mass) Intentions of Mrs. Joan Mooney Deceased members of parish	<u>Celebrant:</u> Fr. Terry Burke 4pm: Stations of the Cross (Church)

***** NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY today - HALF TERM! Back next Sunday, 2nd March *****

***** CUBS Mondays 6.45pm / BEAVERS Thursdays 5.45pm / SCOUTS Fridays 8pm, each week *****

Please keep in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Tadeusz Wielogorski (2006), Marie Fahey (1995), and Nan Laffey (1997).

Our neighbours at the parish of **Christ the King** are looking to appoint a **new Parish Secretary** to start as soon as possible. Please phone Christ the King on 0118 931 4469 to find out further details

Job vacancy: CTEER secretary - the current secretary to Churches Together in Earley & East Reading (Sue Sheppy) will soon leave the post after a great 5-year stint, so the post will be vacant from the summer. Please **see white sheet in Advent Room** for a job description and details of how to apply

From the Cubs: "At the Parish Panto the Cubs sold sweets & soft drinks. They decided to donate the money raised to Fr. Ephraim and his Aids Orphans in South Africa, a cause that Fr. Terry talked to the Cubs about and that the Cubs pledged to support. We raised **£99.03** - this will be passed to Fr. Terry to transfer to Fr. Ephraim. This is our first contribution of 2008; we hope to be able to make similar contributions each term." **Well done & thank you all!**

Learn more about Dominic Barberi! It would be good for more of us to know about Dominic Barberi, and why we are lucky to have him as one of our parish patrons! The small books are available in Advent Room for you to buy - only **£1.95 per copy**. Please leave money in basket

Road closures - Reading Half Marathon takes place next Sunday 2nd March. See yellow sheets, Advent Room

PARISH BAPTISMS! Our next quarterly Parish Baptism Preparation Sessions will be held on **Tuesday 11th March & Tuesday 18th March**, each at **7.30pm** in the **D.B. Room**. If you wish to celebrate a baptism and have not yet completed a baptism form (available in Advent Room), please do so ASAP & return it to the Parish Office! Thanks in advance

Hospital Chaplaincy volunteer visitors: Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust is seeking new volunteers to train as chaplaincy visitors. A new course starts in September, so for more details & an information pack please ring 0118 322 7105 or see posters in Advent Room. Closing date: 21st April

Woodley Jumbulance Group has booked to go to **Lourdes** from September 27th - October 4th 2008, travel by Jumbulance & staying in a 4* hotel. We have vacancies for unable, for volunteer nurses and helpers, preferably male. Anyone who is interested or who would like more information please ring **John Gill:** 0118 969 4769, or **Marie O'Gorman:** 0118 969 1927

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School is having a Mission, 10th - 14th March. A dynamic team of young people from the Sion Community will be presenting the Gospel and creating space for people to reflect & respond. Parishioners are invited to 'The Time is Now!' - exploring the Gospel through music & dance, at school hall on Thursday 13th March at 7.30pm. It will be a **great chance to refresh your faith and to invite others to come and hear the Good News in a relaxed atmosphere**. Refreshments provided

★ ★ **Looking forward to Easter...** ★ ★

- **Walk of Witness:** Good Friday, 21st March; meet at Forbury Gardens at **9.45am**. Wear red and bring the same crosses as last year!

- **CTEER Easter Service:** start Easter Sunday the perfect way - praying in a garden. Starts in Forbury Gardens at **8am** and will be led by Tynedale Baptist church

Parish Office is OPEN Tues. - Fri., 9am - 2pm