



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

95 Victoria Road, Knaphill, Woking GU21 2AA Tel: 01483 472404

Parish Priest Rev. Fr Gerard Hatton

Rev. Dcn Robert Wellbelove 07749 365274

gerard.hatton80@gmail.com

Parish Office: knaphill@abdiocese.org.uk

www.sthughoflincoln.com

Newsletter : sthughnewsletter@gmail.com

Twitter@StHughKnaphill

Hall Bookings : Helen Naughton-01483 475922

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First Sunday of Lent - 1st March 2020

Who likes talking about money? Yet we do and it does concern us. Living where we live is financially difficult and I see that here in Knaphill. Surrey people work very hard, spending money on the commute and just keeping life in measure, before any other exciting things like trips to Florida or new fancy stuff. Even as a priest it's a struggle. Money is that tainted thing as Jesus says, but it is also a part of life. It is hard to ask for money when money is short. Our call is to worship God, know Him and build a community. We are growing here and it is exciting as we become vibrant witnesses, however, that takes time, effort and money. As members of the Parish we feel the desire to respond to God's love for us and in that call we devote a significant proportion of our time, talent and resources to His service and it is also necessary to make a financial commitment.

For this we need to make a serious, substantial and sustained commitment to the work of the Church. Is the Catholic faith an "add-on" to our lives or is it at the heart of our lives? Does our level of Giving represent a substantial part of our income or is it just the loose change in our pocket? God deserves the best in our worship and there are Projects like a paid musical director so that we can form a Children's Choir, as parents have been asking for this. We also need the roof sorting, before we sort out the interior of the Church. Over the last 15 years not much work was done and the recent Quinquennial Report is hard to digest with the amount of work now required. Also, the Diocese takes a levy which is hard hitting, but they do a great job in supporting our Parish. I also believe that the Communion children and their families and Confirmation young adults and their families should not pay for their evangelisation and preparation for the Sacraments.

We as a Parish are very generous in helping others. Our weekly Parish income is good but is a bit up-and-down, stability is needed. I know people have commitments and may go to Mass in other Parishes at times, and some sadly don't go every week, this results in a reduced Income for our Parish, unless a Standing Order is in place.

Our obligation is to go to Mass every week, it's our joy and our time to worship God and be with our neighbour. If we lack joy and don't know Christ then Mass is dull. Giving regularly will also help in this way, which reflects a commitment in supporting God's work in this Parish. If we give a bit more money this would help and it could be as much as the cost of a pint of beer which is £3.95 or the price of "Hello" magazine which is £4.09. This would make a big difference. Obviously if you can't give much, it really doesn't matter look at the widow in the temple. It's giving with love.

Methods of regular, planned giving make a difference. Once we have decided on how much we are going to give, then each of us needs to decide how we are going to give it.

There are three main ways in which you can give on a regular basis:

1. Standing Order – is the easiest, safest and most efficient way for you to give to the Parish also Gift Aid can be claimed.
2. Envelopes – place your contributions in these each week. Gift Aid can be claimed.
3. Cash in the Plate – often can be irregular and Volunteers have to count it.

Setting up a Standing Order removes the need to count, store and bank cash. It also makes the Gift Aid claim process straightforward and helps the Finance Committee to plan. In addition, it eliminates your hunt for cash on a Sunday morning for the collection or envelope! Whilst we are in a good place financially, we need to ensure that our Giving reflects inflation and stability of the Parish. *Why do the words of ABBA come to my mind 'Money, money, money must be funny in a rich man's world'* Thank you for your Generosity for the benefit of this Parish and the glory of God. St Joseph and St Thomas Moore, pray for usFr Gerard.

Great tips for fasting during Lent

St Escriva was fond of saying "the happiness of heaven is reserved for those who learn to be happy on earth". When we fast, we live largely on fluids. In doing so we are given the cleansing, perfect touch of God. In our separation from the consumable bounties of this world we are given insights into living in the the New World which comes to us through faith. Our eyes are opened to a new experience of freedom; the true freedom that comes to us through knowing Jesus Christ. The emptiness we feel is a sign of the longing which He alone can fill. If your If you're sick or pregnant you can't fast but you can find other ways to abstain from things.

Holy Fathers prayer intention for March. For our Brothers and Sister in China. We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

LENTEN COURSE

This year for Lent, we would like to do it in the way that Jesus always did. Even though he had many followers and chose 12 to be his disciples, he had three friends he spent extra time with; Peter, James and John. We can lose the sense of friendship in the Parish life and I would also ask all of us to try and find the opportunity to join this Lenten Course, and not just leave it to the few faces we see at everything. Let us invest time this Lent for each other to discover more of Christ, so that we can be evermore Faithful, Available, Contagious, and open to the will and love of God. We will have six sessions, with one **after Easter**.

The Course is called 'Discovery' and its purpose is to present the Kerygma of our Faith:

1. God is love and created us for a relationship with him.
2. That relationship has been broken through sin.
3. Jesus exclusively restores that relationship through his death and resurrection.

We are all personally invited to accept a gift of salvation. We realise that it's time to make this faith our own. **The Course will take place in the Presbytery on Thursdays mornings from 10.30-11.30am and Thursday evenings from 8.30pm - 9.30pm in the Parish Hall starting on Thursday 5th March.** Please join us and bring a friend.

Friends of St Hugh Quiz Night in the hall on Saturday 21 March 7.30pm for 8.00pm start and teams of 8 would be very welcome, although we can make up a team for you. Tickets are £12 to include supper or £7 without. BYO drinks, but a corkage donation would be appreciated. For tickets, please email friendsofsthughspota@gmail.com.

Madeleine Furnell RIP

It is with sadness that we have to tell you that Madeleine died on Saturday 22nd February. Her family were with her and they have been very touched by the kind words and acts of kindness shown by the parish. Our thoughts and prayers are with Roger and the family at this difficult time. Madeleine's funeral will take place at St Hugh's on Wednesday 11th March at 11.15am; she will be accompanied by the family only for committal at Woking Crematorium at 1.00pm. The family have requested that black should not be worn and no flowers. There will be a collection in aid of a cancer charity.
**'Eternal rest, grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace. Amen.'**

World Day of Prayer on Friday 6th March at 11.00am. It is St Hugh's turn to host this Ecumenical Service, this year prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe. Donations of cakes would be very welcome. Please deliver to the hall from 10.45am. All very welcome to attend, especially if you have not attended one of these services before.

Dates for your Diary

Thu	05	Mar	Lenten Course - 1 st Session : 10.30am - 11.30am in the Presbytery and also 8.30pm - 9.30pm in the Parish Hall
Fri	13	Mar	SJB PTA Quiz Night in aid of SJB - 7.00pm - 10.30pm in the School
Sat	21	Mar	Friends of St Hugh Quiz Night - 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
Sun	29	Mar	The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary - The process starts on 25th March with a Solemn Mass for Annunciation of the Lord at 7.30pm
Sat	27	Jun	Summer Fayre - An Early Reminder

Parish Census: It is important that, as a Parish we have an up-to-date record of all our Parishioners in our Parish Computer Database. Please complete the Parish Census Form and return it to the Parish Office on or before **22nd March**. Many thanks.

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day on Friday 6th March is the 60th anniversary of the first Family Fast Day led by our founding mothers and, as it has been for sixty years, is an opportunity to reach out and support highly-skilled local experts around the world who help the poorest members of our global family. Please collect your Family Fast Day envelope this week and give whatever you can to help experts like Sister Consilia - a nun and trained pharmacist who treats people in rural Zimbabwe - continue their vital work.
Please return your envelope next weekend.

'Superstar' – Ecumenical Lenten Discussion Groups: Why not join us with other Christians from the Churches in Knaphill (C4K) group. The 5 sessions are: 'Who is Jesus?', 'Miracles', 'The Psalms', 'The Church' and 'Cross Purposes', which will be held at the Vyne Community Centre on the Mondays starting on **2nd March at 7.30pm**. See poster at the back of the Church for details. Speak to **Maureen Thomas (01483 766601)**. Please indicate your interest by adding your name to the sign-up sheets. All are welcome.

Woking Foodbank Collection **this weekend**: Supplies are running low and all donations of non-perishable foodstuff, toiletries and nappies (size 4&5) will be very much appreciated.

Sunday 1st March - First Sunday of Lent - Readings

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Psalm: 50

Psalm Response: **Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19 Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

First Sunday of Lent - 1st March 2020 - Cycle A

Sat	29	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Douglas & Mark Robbins RIP
Sun	01	9.30am	Morning Mass	Deceased members of the Punchard Family
		11.30am	Morning Mass	People of the Parish
Mon	02	12noon	No Mass	****
Tue	03	12noon	Tuesday of the 1st Wk in Lent	Andy Higgins RIP
Thu	05	8.50am	Mass at School	Madeleine Furnell RIP
Thu	05	7.30pm	Extraordinary Form Latin Mass	John Flood RIP
Fri	06	7.00pm	1st Wk Lent (with Stations of cross)	Marie Luise Rauch Intentions
Sat	07	11.15am	Saturday of the 1st Wk in Lent	Madeleine Furnell RIP

Second 'Transfiguration' Sunday of Lent - 8th March 2020 - Cycle A

Sat	07	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Jim Moore RIP
Sun	08	9.30am	Morning Mass	People of the Parish
		11.30am	Morning Mass	Rosaria & Carmella Coppola RIP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: one hour before 12noon Mass on Weekdays and half an hour before 11.15am Mass on Saturday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.30am - 11.00am and 5.30pm - 5.50pm on Saturdays.

Vespers and Benediction: Sundays at 5.00pm

Mass Intentions available for the Month of March

Offertory Collection for last week: £1,096.36 of which £588.33 was Gift Aided. Many Thanks.



Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary for England

O blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our most gentle Queen and Mother, look down in mercy upon England thy "Dowry" and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in thee. By thee it was that Jesus our Saviour and our hope was given unto the world; and He has given thee to us that we might hope still more. Plead for us thy children, whom thou didst receive and accept at the foot of the Cross, O sorrowful Mother. Intercede for our separated brethren, that with us in the one true fold they may be united to the supreme Shepherd, the Vicar of thy Son. Pray for us all, dear Mother, that by faith fruitful in good works we may all deserve to see and praise God, together with thee, in our heavenly home. Amen.