



## St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church - Newsletter

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

**Canon Robert Esdaile, Parish Priest** rob.esdaile@abdiocese.org.uk

**Rev. Fr Nicholas Harden** nicholas.harden@abdiocese.org.uk

**Rev. Dcn Robert Wellbelove** 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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### SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (QUINQUAGESIMA) 19 FEBRUARY 2023 - YEAR A

#### Turning The Other Cheek

As we reach the first anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, no saying of Jesus could be more challenging or, perhaps, seem more foolish than what we hear in this Sunday's Gospel (Mt 5.38-48): "Offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him." How does that help to deal with a dictator like Putin? Did Jesus just say: "Be a doormat"?

An American biblical commentator called Walter Wink suggests a radical re-reading of this text, seeing it as mandating active resistance, rather than supine passivity. Assuming that the aggressor is right-handed, a slap to the right cheek will be back-handed, striking you as he might a slave. According to Wink, offering the left cheek, as well as demonstrating considerable courage, requires the aggressor to hit you with the palm of his hand – as an equal. Again, in a culture in which men habitually wore only two items of clothing (and adult nudity was taboo), taking off your tunic in court would shame the person who brought you there, showing how badly he wronged you. Thirdly, if a Roman soldier ordered you to carry his kit for a mile, insisting on carrying on further again demonstrates that you are not a slave. Whether or not this reading of the text fully convinces you (and whether it would have worked in practice, given the random violence inflicted by those in power in the ancient world), it is clear that Jesus is not telling his disciples to be doormats.

Looking at the hundreds of thousands of dead on both sides of the war in Ukraine, the millions driven from their homes and the billions of dollars' worth of destruction, it is obvious that violence cannot resolve anything – even if we can see no alternative. Violence prolongs the agony and kicks the can of peace down the road. Pope John Paul called it "the road to nowhere". As we continue to try to support our Ukrainian brothers and sisters – and especially those who have recently arrived in our own community – we also hear Jesus' extraordinarily difficult teaching: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." The only "perfection" we can hope for in this imperfect time is to break the cycle of violence in our own hearts, as Jesus did on the cross, by refusing to repay hatred in kind. "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." (Lk 23:34)

Fr. Rob

## The Retiring Collection THIS weekend is for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund

Friday 3 March: CAFOD Lent Fast Day

### Ash Wednesday : 22 February 2023

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and is the start of our 40 day journey towards the Lord's Passion and Resurrection

#### Ash Wednesday

[CAFOD - Catholic international development charity](#) would like to invite you to join us 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 our emails we 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 our daily Lent emails. [Sign up now](#)

#### Pray for Ukraine: Friday 24th February 10:00am - 9:00pm

An opportunity to gather to pray for peace with justice at Holy Trinity Church, Knaphill.

**24th February 2023** marks the first anniversary of the illegal and brutal full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the forces of the Russian Federation. Please join us as we open our church for all to pray for those affected by this catastrophe. A prayer path will focus our minds on the different people caught up in the war and also reflect our belief in a God who is still working to establish a kingdom of peace and justice.

The day will conclude with an hour of worship, praise and prayer from 8pm.

All welcome [hstandstschurch.org](http://hstandstschurch.org)

#### CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike.

For more details visit [CAFOD: Turkey & Syria](#)

#### Walking To Lindisfarne for Easter

This year Pilgrims will once again take part in Northern Cross, the Annual Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Holy Island (Lindisfarne) during Holy Week. After several years disruption due to Covid, two groups will start walking on **Saturday, April 1 from Carlisle and Lanark**. Both routes are approximately 120 miles long and use a mix of minor roads and cross-country paths. It is an ideal way to prepare for Easter (April 9th) and participants share worship and live as a small community throughout the week, taking turns in carrying a cross to portray Jesus' way to Calvary, before celebrating Easter with the local community on Lindisfarne. Participants stay in church halls and village halls along the way and either self-cater or receive hospitality from the communities visited. The cost is £200 and covers all food and accommodation for the Pilgrimage. For more information visit [NorthernCross.co.uk](http://NorthernCross.co.uk) or call Pete Coppola on 07711 713667 (or talk to Fr. Rob, who walked the pilgrimage several times).

#### A Gap Year Opportunity with CAFOD

Are you 18-30, or do you know someone who is?

Do you want to develop a wide range of skills including leadership while learning about global justice and inspiring others to use their faith in action? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, believes in equipping and inspiring young adults to contribute to a more just and peaceful world.

**Step into the Gap** is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage.

Visit [Step into the Gap - Volunteer for your gap year | CAFOD](#)

### **Syro-Malabar Rite**

Fr Jose has a roving ministry across West Surrey serving his (mainly South Indian) community. Mass will be celebrated by Fr Jose here at St Hugh's on **Sunday 19th February at 2.30pm**. It is planned that he celebrate a Sunday Eucharist according to the Syro-Malabar Rite on the third Sunday of each month here at St Hugh's at 2.30pm. We welcome them to our parish.

**Stations of the Cross:** During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 7.30pm, starting **Friday 24 February**.

**Diocesan Youth Work Training Course:** Taking place on **25 February & 25 March 2023**. You will learn how to effectively engage with teenagers to help them know the love of God. For Confirmation Catechists, Youth Group Leaders or anyone interested in setting up a youth group. For more information contact [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Woking Street Angels** would like to invite all church ministers and members of your congregation to its annual Commissioning Service. Our Service will be held at St. Paul's Church, Oriental Road, Woking on **Sunday, 26th February** commencing at 4.00pm. For further information please contact [wokingstreetangels@gmail.com](mailto:wokingstreetangels@gmail.com)

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING:** A Diocesan Safeguarding training session has been arranged at St Dunstan's Church on **Wednesday 1st March from 1.00-3.00pm**. This course is designed to update the skills of current volunteers within the church, and to make sure that all new, post pandemic, volunteers have the relevant training. The course is open to all but is essential for those working with children. Please contact the parish office at St Dunstan's if you would like to attend or require further details.

**World Day of Prayer** - Friday 3 March at 10.45am. This year we are hosting the ecumenical service prepared by the christian women of Taiwan who welcome you to join them in prayer for peace and justice. The theme is "I have heard about your faith". If you would like to participate either as a Reader, Welcomer or with refreshments after the service, please contact Anne via the Parish Office. All Welcome.

**The CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Course:** The course will be running at Knaphill Baptist Church on Fridays 17, 24 and 31 March between 12.30pm-2.30pm. For details on the course, see <https://capuk.org/get-help/cap-money-course>

**Sustainability? Survival or Shutdown** is the title of the 45<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the National Justice & Peace Network from **July 21-23, 2023 at Swanwick**, Derbyshire, exploring the ways in which issues of climate change, peace, politics and economics. It is an important annual gathering of Catholics committed to seeking God's Kingdom through lives of justice. For details and booking form see [Conference | NATIONAL JUSTICE & PEACE NETWORK \(justice-and-peace.org.uk\)](https://justice-and-peace.org.uk)

**Marriage** - Please note, if you are planning to get married in the Catholic Church either in the UK or abroad, contact should be made with the local parish priest at least twelve months before the intended wedding date so that all appropriate paperwork and preparation can be completed in time.

**The Faith Companion** parishioner magazine is returning to print from our March/April 2023 edition! To order go to [www.thefaithcompanion.co.uk](http://www.thefaithcompanion.co.uk) or call 01403 754808. Book £5.95, E-Book £4.95, print subscription £34.50, E-subscription £27.99. Also available E-subscription for free or for a donation. 10% discount available on 10 plus print subscriptions. We survived the pandemic when other publications didn't so please support The Faith Companion to keep this valuable resource for the Church.

**Jackpot Club** - Anna Stracey and Maria Carey are the winners of £49/£24.50 respectively in the January draw. If you would like to join the Club (subs £12 per annum for one number and you can have multiple numbers), support the parish and have a chance of winning a cash prize, please contact the Parish Office.

## Mass Times and Intentions - St HUGH OF LINCOLN CHURCH

Sunday Masses will be livestreamed via the Parish YouTube channel.

Confessions on Saturdays - 5.15pm to 5.45pm

### \*Saturday 18th February - Our Lady on Saturday\*

6.00pm Vigil Mass Frances White RIP

### \*SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Quinquagesima)\* - YEAR A

9.30am Holy Mass People of the Parish

### \*Monday 20th February - Monday in Ordinary Time, Wk 7\*

No Mass

### \*Tuesday 21st February - St Robert Southwell, Priest, Martyr\*

10.00am Holy Mass Doug Carr RIP

### \*Wednesday 22nd February - ASH WEDNESDAY, Day of Fasting and Abstinence\*

7.30pm Holy Mass and Distribution of Ashes Renée and Frances Gahegan RIP

### \*Thursday 23rd February - Thursday after Ash Wednesday\*

No Mass

### \*Friday 24th February - Friday after Ash Wednesday\*

10.00am Holy Mass Intentions of Sadie McHugh

### \*Saturday 25th February - Saturday after Ash Wednesday\*

6.00pm Vigil Mass People of the Parish

### \*SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT\* - YEAR A

9.30am Holy Mass Mary Miles RIP

**Last Week's Offertory Collection:** Baskets - £396.44, Contactless - £84.00 and average weekly Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total - £1,068.77. Many thanks.

**Weekly Parish Newsletter:** To have the parish newsletter delivered to your email address each week, please click the following link [Parish Newsletter](#) or email the parish office.

## Weekday Mass Times and Intentions - ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

Weekend Mass Times - visit [www.st-dunstans.org](http://www.st-dunstans.org)

Monday	20th February	10.00am
Tuesday	21st February	10.00am
Wednesday	22nd February	10.00am
		7.30pm
Thursday	23rd February	10.00am
Friday	24th February	10.00am

### ***Prayer for those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria***

God of mercy, we pray for the people of Turkey and Syria following the recent earthquakes. We mourn the death and destruction, and pray for those who have died and those who grieve.

***Lord, bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope.***

We hold in our hearts those who are injured, and those who have lost loved ones, livelihoods, and homes.

***Lord, bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope.***

Sustain and guide all responding to this disaster.

Grant those affected courage and resilience, as they rebuild their lives and communities.

***Lord, bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope.***

Inspire us to unite in solidarity, acting swiftly and generously, so that help may reach all who need it.

***Lord, bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope. Amen***