



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

The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - 26 FEBRUARY 2023 - YEAR A

Tempting or Testing?

What's temptation look like for you? Is it about the Devil sitting on your shoulder whispering in your ear, "Go on, you know you want to!" as you look at some shiny forbidden fruit (as in the story of 'The Fall' of Adam and Eve)? That does correspond to some elements of our experience. Evil is real and the struggle to resist it is real. But we risk distorting our understanding of both virtue and vice. Focusing our conscience only on 'what we've done wrong' and seeing the good life as simply 'the avoidance of sin' raises no questions about the ways sin is embedded in the structures and assumptions of our society. Nor does it offer a vision of something better.

Jesus went into the wilderness 'to be tempted by the devil'. But what do we think that means? Did he spend the month imagining all the bad stuff he could do? It sounds a rather strange way for the Messiah to spend his time. But suppose that temptation isn't usually the 'choosing to be bad' thing? Suppose the moral life has not very much to do with 'not doing anything wrong' but is about 'doing right' and challenging injustice? Suppose it's about deciding, day by day, what values to live by and how to use our energies, our gifts and our opportunities?

Remember that "Jesus *was led by the Spirit* out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." (Mt 4.1) This testing was a grace, not a fault! His temptation wasn't to 'choose to be bad' but to choose a lesser God (an idol, in other words); it was to sell out on self, on love and, therefore, on hope. Jesus went into the wilderness to choose who he would be, what he would give his life for, what his life would proclaim. He cleared away the dross, the false paths and empty promises, in order to find true freedom. He embraced physical hunger to find out what he was really hungry for. And when he found it he called it 'Abba' (Father). He then dedicated his life to introducing others to this divine generosity – and he was killed for it.

May our living of Lent not be about avoiding wrong but about doing right. May it be a testing which is a Spirit-driven grace, clarifying our calling and showing us the face of God. May it make us more aware of how our daily choices either do good or do damage. And may we know that Christ Jesus is there with us in the empty places, in the discovery of our true hunger and in our struggle to jettison our idols.

Fr. Rob

The Retiring Collection next Sunday is for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day

Stations of the Cross will take place on Fridays at 7.30pm during Lent.

Woking Foodbank Collection weekend of 4th/5th March: All donations will be very much appreciated, on their last update they were short of: long life sponge puddings and fruit juice, instant mashed potato, cooking oil, tomato ketchup, brown sauce, tinned rice puddings, mayonnaise, pot noodles, shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, cloths, washing detergent. **Please place donations in the boxes provided in the Narthex. Donations will be collected after the 9.30am Mass. Thank you for your generosity.**

CAFOD 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](#)

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

To view the Lent Appeal Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULTqHsawCZU&t=34s>

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 for the fit 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 or call Pete Coppola on 07711 713667 (or talk to Fr. Rob, who walked the pilgrimage several times).

Protect Your Vote

Did you know that in order to vote in local elections in May you need to have photo-ID? If you don't have a passport, a driving-licence or certain other types of government-recognised photo-card you will be deprived of your vote unless you apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate at [Apply for photo ID to vote \(called a 'Voter Authority Certificate'\)](#) by April 25. If you know anyone who is likely not to have photo-ID (especially the young or the poor), please encourage them to register.

Mental Health Courses

The Diocese is pleased to be able to offer a range of courses to empower anyone involved in ministry to walk alongside those who struggle with mental health issues. As Catholics we are called to minister to the lost, and in today's society so many people struggle with their mental wellbeing, often causing them to feel lost and disconnected. There are a number of ways we can help support them, but it all starts with finding out more. We are delighted to be able to offer a range of fully accredited courses that are delivered by a practising Catholic from our Diocesan community. Please note the costs are heavily subsidised by a charitable grant payment. Please see the poster in the narthex to learn more about the range of courses available. The poster contains a QR code, which gives you access to the dates and booking links.

Lenten Message From Pope Francis

Pope Francis has written a short reflection on the story of the Transfiguration to encourage us in living this season of Lent well, reminding us that Lent is a journey to Easter which we make by walking together ('synodally' – to use the buzz-word that is central to this papacy), listening to the Lord and listening to each other, with the goal of both ourselves and our communities being transfigured.

You can read it at [Pope Francis Message for Lent 2023](#)

Fairtrade Fortnight 27 February-12 March - Our favourite foods are under threat from climate change and unfair trade. But making the simple switch to Fairtrade means more farmers better able to take on the climate crisis and protect the future of food. **Anything you can do to spread the word that choosing Fairtrade means choosing a fairer future for food will make a difference.** Whether you share content online, tell friends and family, join one of over 500 events organised by campaigners around the country or sign [your Community Declaration on Climate Justice](#), it all adds up to more people understanding the power of Fairtrade. **And of course the most important action you can take is to make that simple switch and choose Fairtrade!** Even if you already buy Fairtrade tea and coffee, could you switch to Fairtrade biscuits or pick up some [alternative Fairtrade gifts for a special occasion?](#) Or how about starting the day with some [Lidl breakfast cereal made with Fairtrade cocoa?](#) And whether you are picking up a new breakfast cereal or running a Fairtrade coffee morning, know you're part of **a global effort to build a fairer future.** A future where quality food supplies are secure. Where centuries-old exploitative and racist trade structures have finally been overturned. Where communities living with the worst effects of climate change have the tools to adapt and build sustainable futures.

Safeguarding Training: A Diocesan Safeguarding training session has been arranged at St Dunstan's Church on **Wednesday 1st March from 1-3pm**. 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>

Baptism Preparation Course

Tuesday 21 and Tuesday 28 March – 8 to 9pm at the Parish Hall

If you wish to have your child baptised and have not attended a Baptism Preparation Course before, please contact the Parish Office at knaphill@abdiocese.org.uk to register for the above course.

Please also complete a Baptism Information Request Form, which is available on the Parish Website 'Children' tab and return it to the Parish Office.

Sustainability? Survival or Shutdown is the title of the 45th 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 \(justice-and-peace.org.uk\)](#)

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.

From Wednesday 1 March, there will be a weekly **Holy Hour from 5.45pm-6.45pm**
followed by Holy Mass at 7pm.

This is a trial following requests from parishioners.

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 25 February - Saturday after Ash Wednesday

6.00pm Vigil Mass People of the Parish

***SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT* - YEAR A**

9.30am Holy Mass Mary Miles RIP

Monday 27 February - Monday of the First Week in Lent

10.00am Holy Mass For the Intentions of Philip Moore

Tuesday 28 February - Tuesday of the First Week in Lent

11.30am Requiem Mass Alice Susan Eaton RIP

Wednesday 01 March - St David

7.00pm Holy Mass (*preceded by Holy Hour*) For the Family and Friends of Peter Doneaux

Thursday 02 March - Thursday of the First Week in Lent

No Mass

Friday 03 March - Friday of the First Week in Lent

No Mass

Saturday 04 March - Saturday of the First Week in Lent

6.00pm Vigil Mass Jim Moore RIP

***SUNDAY 05 MARCH - SECOND 'TRANSFIGURATION' SUNDAY* - YEAR A**

9.30am Holy Mass Margaret Earley RIP

Last Week's Offertory Collection: Baskets - £297.63, Contactless - £66.00

and average weekly Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total - £951.96. 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

Monday	27 February	10.00am
Tuesday	28 February	10.00am
Wednesday	01 March	No Mass
Thursday	02 March	10.00am
Friday	03 March	9.30am

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