



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church - Newsletter

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SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SEXAGESIMA 12TH FEBRUARY 2023 - YEAR A

But I Say To You ...

The Greek word for 'Sin' in the New Testament (*Hamartia*) originally meant 'missing the mark'. It could describe the failure of an archer to hit his target and became, in Greek drama, shorthand for the 'tragic flaw' in the hero which would lead to his downfall. It's a very different concept of sin from the one we normally use – the deliberate decision to do wrong – and it gives a very different take on the difference between virtue and vice.

The cliché of 'Catholic guilt' is largely fixated on 'mortal sins', understood as occasions when we consciously turn our back on God. But that's not my experience of how sin happens. Reducing 'morality' to just avoiding wrong-doing can never create generous-hearted people. Moreover, that approach reduces the Sacrament of Reconciliation to a slightly embarrassing and usually repetitive recitation of everything we've done wrong since the last time. It's meant to be something far richer than that: a transformative encounter when we humbly bring our struggles to Christ so that he can speak a word of compassion to our wounded hearts.

Let's go back to that concept of sin as 'missing the mark'. This says that my life is out of kilter, off beam. I shoot and the ball goes wide. I fall short, fail to achieve my objective or fulfil my purpose. It's not that what I do is deliberately evil (though I'm capable of that, too). It's just such a shame to live in a cramped, small-minded world, deprived of the beauty of the bigger picture.

All of which leads us to this Sunday's Gospel (Mt 5.17-27). Jesus' sayings all have the pattern, "You have learnt that it was said to our ancestors ... but I say this to you ..." He is not saying that there's anything wrong with "Do not kill," "Do not commit adultery," "Do not break your oath," or the rest. But do we really want to live at the level of 'keeping out of trouble'? And what sort of God will we believe in if we do? Probably a God who is equally narrow-minded, on the lookout for our faults, ready to punish our offences; a God who will 'get us later' for our wrongs.

Jesus came not to abolish the commandments but to fulfil them – and to fulfil us. His God is a God who leads us beyond anger, hatred, resentment, lust, lip-service and a focus on mere obligation; a God who gently invites us to raise our game and get back on target, to see the bigger picture and to rejoice that, by grace, we are part of the beauty of it all.

Fr. Rob

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's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

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 the CAFOD website for more information: cafod.org.uk/gapyear

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND – CONCERT Join Friends of the Holy Land for an unforgettable evening of uplifting music on **Thursday 16th February** in Westminster Cathedral at a concert featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir supported by The Priests. The London Welsh Male Voice Choir has recorded with Charlotte Church, Aled Jones and Bryn Terfel. The Priests are three Roman Catholic priests from Northern Ireland who scooped the Guinness World Record for "Fastest-selling UK debut for a classical act" with their first album. The concert starts at 7:30pm and tickets starting at £20 are available now through Eventbrite at - <http://bit.ly/3iOath2> or search LWMVC Concert at Westminster Cathedral, or by calling the office – 01926 512980. www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/westminster-concert2023.

Living Laudato Si': Your Parish and Your Planet, Zoom weekend from Boarbank Hall, 17-20 February 2023. Can healing the planet start with your parish? We are repeating our popular weekend for those who missed it the first time around. See poster in the narthex for more information.

Would you like to share your faith with your baby or toddler?

Join in an online CELEBRATE Parenting for Faith course for **5 weeks starting 8pm, 23rd February on Thursday evenings**, with bitesize sessions lasting around 45 minutes.

The goal of the course is to help parents discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God and to empower them to have their own vibrant two-way relationship with Him. Through the easily accessible and relaxed input you will receive help to introduce faith in simple steps. For more information and to register on the course see www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith

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 handstschurch.org

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

Reimagining our Place in Creation, a retreat at The House of Prayer led by Alison Moulden, 25th Feb, 10am - 4pm (£30 online & in person). We will reflect briefly on science and climate statistics; consider 'green' biblical analysis and theology and what paradigms have brought us to consume creation so carelessly; exploring sustainability for our churches and our lifestyles. [Register here.](#)

Woking Street Angels would like to invite all church ministers and members of your congregation to its annual Commissioning Service. We are blessed to have great support from many local churches, financially, with volunteers and with prayer and we have now passed our tenth anniversary. Our Service will be held at St. Paul's Church, Oriental Road, Woking on **Sunday, 26th February** commencing at 4.00pm. It should last less than an hour and will be followed by a social time with tea and cakes. We would be delighted if you could please support this by coming along. There will be a chance to find out more about our current work, meet some of the operational *Angels* and Trustees, hopefully also Emma, our new Woking Street Angels Co-ordinator and other guests. For further information please contact 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.

Worth Abbey Time Out individual self-guided retreats: 6-9 March & 15-18 May

Cost : £90 per person, per night (min 2 nights). There is no set programme other than an optional daily Lectio Divina session, the usual monastic timetable of divine office and liturgy and the opportunity for a 1:1 meeting with a member of the monastic community.

Applications are now open to this year's diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, which takes place **28 July - 3 August by air, or 27 July - 4 August by coach or jumbulance.**

To make your application please click [here.](#)

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023: 31st July -7th August 2023

Are you aged 18-35? If you are, we invite you to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisbon to meet with the Holy Father. Join millions of other young people from all over the world to celebrate our faith and make life-long friendships. The week will include a trip to Fatima as well as all the amazing festival activities, not to mention Mass with Pope Francis. To find out more about this amazing opportunity please contact lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk.

Please join us in supporting St Hugh's Parish on **#easyfundraising**, you'll raise FREE donations with your everyday shopping. It's quick and easy to sign up! Plus, once you've raised your first £5, **easyfundraising** will double it! Sign up now: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/sthughs>

To date our 19 supporters have raised £624.21 for the parish just by doing their online shopping with John Lewis, M&S, Argos, Expedia, eBay, Tesco, JustEat and many, many more, by visiting their **easyfundraising** account first! Easy peasy!

Ash Wednesday is fast approaching and **CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)** 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.](#)

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 11th February - Our Lady of Lourdes *

6.00pm Vigil Mass

People of the Parish

*SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (SEXAGESIMA) * - YEAR A 2023

9.30am Holy Mass

Intentions of Chris Brouder

*Monday 13th February - Monday in Ordinary Time, Wk 6 *

10.00am Holy Mass

Patrick Hayes RIP

*Tuesday 14th February - Ss Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop *

No Mass

*Wednesday 15th February - Wednesday in Ordinary Time, Wk 6 *

No Mass

*Thursday 16th February - Thursday in Ordinary Time, Wk 6 *

10.00am Holy Mass

Michael and Margaret Earley RIP (Parents)

*Friday 17th February - The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order *

10.00am Holy Mass

Peter Maskell RIP

*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 2023

9.30am Holy Mass

People of the Parish

Last Week's Offertory Collection: Baskets - £363.61, Contactless - £49.00

and average weekly Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total - £1,000.94. Many thanks.

Weekday Mass Times and Intentions - ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

Weekend Mass Times - visit www.st-dunstans.org

Monday	13th February	10.00am	19th Birthday of Emmanuel Wilson
Tuesday	14th February	10.00am	Francis Selvadurai RIP
Wednesday	15th February	10.00am	Benewende Y. Patrick Emerson RIP
Thursday	16th February	10.00am	Christopher Steven Butler RIP
Friday	17th February	10.00am	Julian Martin RIP

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.

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