



## St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church - Newsletter

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

### FOURTH 'LÆTARE' SUNDAY OF LENT - 19 MARCH 2023 - YEAR A

#### Becoming Light

This Sunday we hear one of the key Gospel images for understanding what it means to come to faith in Jesus Christ: it is like being cured of a blindness! The story (Jn 9:1-41) operates on three different levels. It recalls a specific incident during Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem. It encourages members of the evangelist's own community in a time of persecution. More than half-a-century after the original event, they now face being "expelled from the synagogue". Like the blind man's parents, they must decide whether or not to witness to the fact that it is Jesus who has given them new sight. Finally, John offers a challenge to all later readers: "What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?"

How would we answer that question? How would we summarise his message and his relevance to our day and age? Would we be any more courageous than the parents of the blind man in the story? And what is it that we can now "see" because of our faith in Jesus Christ and which we would not otherwise grasp?

While we are blessed with the richness of two thousand years of Christian Tradition to help us voice our faith, we also need to find our own words and actions to express the "something understood" that is given in a faith-filled encounter with Jesus. The light Christ brings needs to be seen in our own lives and struggles: in the way we speak to each other at home; in our engagement with world events such as the war in Ukraine or the global environmental crisis; in how we do domestic political debate and ensure the health of our own society.

Coming to faith is not simply about having a "light-bulb moment" when we see one more thing in our crowded Universe ("And, by the way, God exists"). Faith is about seeing everything and everyone differently – seeing the Cosmos as Creation and fellow creatures as our brothers and sisters, made in the image and likeness of God. The Letter to the Ephesians expresses well (in Eph 5:8-14) the difference believing in the Gospel needs to make to our behaviour: "the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth ... anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light." And then Paul delivers his punchline: "Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Let's do that. Let's make our community where others also can find (and become) Gospel light.

Fr. Rob

## To All Our Mums

**Thank you!** Mothering Sunday was a Medieval festival when people visited their 'Mother Church' – either the place of their baptism or the local cathedral – on the Fourth ('Laetare') Sunday of Lent. It's secularised and commercialised revival as Mother's Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate the role of all the mothers and grandmothers in our community and to remember in prayer those who have gone to the Lord. We give thanks for the children you have borne and the love that you share in your families. May God bless you this day and always.

## Communion Under Both Kinds

Our bishops propose the reintroduction of sharing the chalice, beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, by which time they estimate that the current 'Covid season' will have passed its peak. We know more now about how Covid-19 is transmitted (more by aerosol than by touch), which has some relevance to the question. But we'd be interested to know your thoughts about the sharing of 'the common cup'. On the one hand, receiving the Precious Blood expresses more perfectly the action of Jesus at the Last Supper and symbolises more fully our sharing in communion (though it has always been Catholic teaching that we receive Christ 'whole and entire' when we receive communion under only one kind). On the other hand, this may be a source of anxiety for some and of real risk for those whose health is compromised. Clearly, receiving from the chalice would be voluntary, not compulsory, and anyone with a cold or any other relevant health issue should abstain. But how would you respond if offered the chance to receive under both kinds? By the way, lest this seem the obvious answer to the question, 'intinction' (dipping the host in the chalice) is not allowed by our bishops.

**Cafod's Live Simply:** Back in January we were invited to watch 'The Letter' at St Dunstan's; a moving and inspiring film that explained Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudate Si' and his vision for a world that strives to counteract climate change and respects creation. Climate change can seem an insurmountable issue that is beyond our ability to change but the film shows how ordinary individuals can have a huge impact. In the film Pope Francis says 'It's like a choir. We have to sing together.' As a parish, we hope to 'sing' together to show that we can strive to work to live: a more simple lifestyle, in solidarity with people in poverty and more sustainably with creation. You can watch the film at [www.theletterfilm.org](http://www.theletterfilm.org). We hope to apply for a *Live Simply* Award as a way of making our parish more aware of the environmental impact of our activities and of our capacity to be good stewards of God's Creation. If you would like to be involved in the form of a facilitated workshop to take the first step in our parish audit and planning for *Live Simply*, come along to a meeting **at St Dunstan's on Tuesday 28 March at 7.30pm**. In the first instance, please register your interest to attend with the Parish Office [knaphill@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:knaphill@abdiocese.org.uk) and we will send you further details. *The Cafod Live Simply Team*

## SJOG Homes for Ukraine is an [Official Provider of Govt scheme](#)

It is a matching, training and support pathway for guests from Ukraine and hosts in the UK willing to provide much-needed support. SJOG will be holding a webinar for UK residents interested in hosting a Ukrainian guest or family under the Homes for Ukraine scheme on **Wednesday, March 29, at 7pm**. You can find more details about the event here: [Information Session 2 - Happy Together | Facebook](#)

**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.

## Jackpot Club

The winners of the February Draw are Marie Evans and Sebastian Creasey, who have won £48.50/£24.00 respectively. Congratulations to you both!

**The funeral of a long standing and much loved parishioner, Gareth Barnbrook RIP**, will take place at St Dunstan's on Wednesday 22 March at 1.00pm. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**Maundy Thursday Washing of Feet** - Both males and females, young and not so young, are invited to have their feet washed. If you would like to participate, please indicate on the sign up sheet.

**Maundy Thursday Watching at the Altar of Repose** - There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

### **Good Friday "Walk of Witness"**

All are welcome to join us on our annual Good Friday silent Walk of Witness, which this year will start from St Hugh's at 9.45am and finish at Holy Trinity with scripture reading stops at the High St Memorial Garden, Knaphill Methodist Church and Knaphill Baptist Church. At Holy Trinity we will hold an Ecumenical Service starting at 10.30am. Join us for the whole walk or at any of the reading stations.

**Catholic Union launches religion in the workplace survey:** Catholic Union has launched a major new survey on people's experiences and attitudes towards faith in the workplace. The survey was set up in response to a new inquiry into human rights at work from the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights. Part of that inquiry is considering freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and freedom of expression in the workplace. It includes questions on whether our law strikes the right balance between employee rights to freedom of religion or belief and the rights of employers. The Catholic Union will use the responses to the survey as the basis for its written evidence to the Committee's inquiry. The call for evidence **closes on 24 March 2023**. The Catholic Union is encouraging those with a particular interest or expertise to submit evidence directly to the Committee, which is made up of a cross-party group of MPs and peers. The Committee is expected to report and make recommendations to the UK Government later this year. The inquiry comes as the Government considers giving Ministers the power to remove or amend retained EU law, including in respect of workers' rights. The Catholic Union survey on religion in the workplace: <https://forms.gle/VhkVDhdRJeRBFMxD8>. Joint Committee on Human Right inquiry: <https://committees.parliament.uk/work/7310/human-rights-at-work/>. Catholic Union: [www.catholicunion.org.uk](http://www.catholicunion.org.uk).

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

**World Youth Day** is an international event for young Catholics (aged 18-35) from all over the World and a group from the Diocese of A & B will be travelling to Lisbon this summer. If there are any parishioners who would be interested in joining the group, contact [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

**The Franciscan Centre, Ladywell** - Set in the heart of beautiful Surrey, we offer retreats, quiet days, spiritual direction and programmes, both residential and non-residential. 'Come away and rest for a while' (Mark 6.31). For more information visit [www.franciscancentre.org.uk](http://www.franciscancentre.org.uk).

**Jumbulance Accessible Holiday.** There are up to 20 spaces available for a five day holiday to Church Barns, Norfolk, Monday 1st May – Friday 5th May offering daily planned trips and disabled friendly accommodation. £570 per person, although financial support might be available. For more information please email [sussexjumbulance@gmail.com](mailto:sussexjumbulance@gmail.com) or phone 07889 761 987.

**Gardening at church** - Volunteers are required to help Anne & I tidy up the front garden on **Saturday 1 April 9am-12pm**. Please bring your own garden tools. We will also be preparing the planter at the front of the church for the Easter celebrations. We are also looking for donations of plants and a list will be in the Narthex if you would like to contribute. Caroline Peaston

The Retiring Collection for Easter flowers will be on 26 March.

**During Lent**, there will be a weekly **Holy Hour on Wednesdays from 5.45pm-6.45pm** followed by **Holy Mass at 7pm**. This is a trial following requests from parishioners.

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

### 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 18 March - Commemoration of St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor\***

6.00pm Vigil Mass Denis & Helen Naughton-Emerald Wedding Anniv.

**\*SUNDAY 19 MARCH - FOURTH 'LÆTARE' SUNDAY OF LENT\* - YEAR A**

9.30am Holy Mass People of the Parish

**\*Monday 20 March - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary\***

10.00am Holy Mass Intentions for Olive Summerville

**\*Tuesday 21 March - Tuesday of the Fourth Week in Lent\***

No Mass

**\*Wednesday 22 March - Wednesday of the Fourth Week in Lent\***

7.00pm Holy Mass (preceded by Holy Hour) Alice Connors RIP

**\*Thursday 23 March - Thursday of the Fourth Week in Lent\***

9.00am School Mass For the Holy Souls

**\*Friday 24 March - Friday of the Fourth Week in Lent \***

No Mass

**\*Saturday 25 March - The Annunciation of the Lord\***

6.00pm Vigil Mass Suzie & Geoff Lintell RIP

**\*SUNDAY 26 MARCH - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT\* - YEAR A**

9.30am Holy Mass People of the Parish

**Last Week's Offertory Collection:** Baskets - £305.78, Contactless - £73.00 and average weekly Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total - £967.11. Many thanks.

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

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

Monday	20 March	10.00am	Sean Flaherty RIP
Tuesday	21 March	10.00am	Rev Joseph Livesay
Wednesday	22 March	01.00pm	Requiem Mass Gareth Barnbrook RIP
Thursday	23 March	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday	24 March	10.00am	Patrick Craig Waller RIP

**CAFOD  
LENT  
PRAYER  
2023**

Plant in us, Lord,  
seeds of solidarity,  
so that, rejoicing in your gifts,  
we may cherish your presence  
in each other and all creation.

Root us, Lord,  
in compassion and justice.  
Pour your Spirit down like gentle rain,  
softening our hearts,  
washing away division and selfishness

Cultivate in us, Lord,  
attentiveness to your call.  
Give us hope to dream of a better world  
and strength to play our part  
to make it a reality.

Grow in us, Lord,  
your ways of peace and courage,  
so that in this time of Lent,  
we may bear witness to your love,  
revealed to us in Jesus. Amen