



The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis of Assisi, Nailsea & Saint Joseph, Portishead



Sunday 19th March 2023
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday

Today's Readings



St Francis of Assisi Church

Ash Hayes Road
Nailsea BS48 2LP
01275 851530

St Joseph's Church

West Hill
Portishead BS20 6LN
01275 842912

Parish Priest:	Father Richard Elson	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01275 851530
Deacons:	Rev Didier Delaplace Rev Ivan Reynolds	didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com ivan.reynolds@cliftondiocese.com	07895 885315 01275 858639
Children, Youth and Families Worker:	Anne-Marie McIntosh	cyfm.stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com	07548 423438
Parish Administrator:	Elaine Shiel	stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com	
Office Hours:	Nailsea Portishead	Mon & Thurs Tues & Fri	9.30am – 1pm 10.30am – 1pm
			01275 851530 01275 842912
Parish website:	www.josephfrancis.org		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 18 th Mar	6pm	St Joseph	Fourth Sunday of Lent	<i>Thanksgiving Our Lady Mother Mary</i>
Sun 19 th Mar	9am	St Joseph		<i>Benefactors of Parish Development 2006-7</i>
	11am	St Francis		<i>Margaret Dunne (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St Francis		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Mon 20 th Mar	9am	St Francis	Solemnity of Saint Joseph	<i>Marian Mullany (RIP) (Ann)</i>
	7pm	St Joseph		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Tues 21 st Mar	10am	St Joseph	Weekday of Lent	<i>Special Intention</i>
Wed 22 nd Mar	7pm	St Francis	Weekday of Lent	<i>Special Intention</i>
Thurs 23 rd Mar	9.15am	St Francis	Weekday of Lent	<i>John Newton (RIP)</i>
Fri 24 th Mar	12noon	St Joseph	Weekday of Lent	<i>James Coleman (RIP) (Ann)</i>
Sat 25 th Mar	10am	St Joseph	Solemnity of the Annunciation	<i>Margaret Dunne (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St Joseph	Fifth Sunday of Lent	<i>Thanksgiving Infant Jesus</i>

Confessions

Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St Joseph
Sun	5.30-5.50pm	St Francis
Wed	6.30-6.50pm	St Francis

Stations of the Cross

Sun	5.00pm	St Francis
Fri	11.15am	St Joseph

Adoration

Tues	2pm-3pm	St Francis
Wed	12noon - 11pm	St Joseph

THE WORD THIS WEEK

When we get to Easter, there are two symbols of the resurrection that we use in Church: fire and light (the Easter Candle) and water (the Font). Last week we reflected on water, and this week there are passages all about light – true light, that defeats the blindness of sin. Again, this would have been offered to those preparing for Baptism, but speaks to all of us who have been baptised, inviting us to be renewed in the light of Christ at Easter. Remember that one of the oldest titles of the newly baptised was “neophyte”, which means “newly enlightened”. There is a subtle link between the readings on this Sunday: in the first reading, David is anointed, and the Spirit of the Lord seizes on him. This anointing lights him along the right path - ‘no evil would I fear’ as the Psalm says. Then Paul tells us more about this light: it is Christ shining on us, calling us to live as children of light. All this is summed up in the Gospel, the marvellous story of the healing (by being ‘anointed’ with spittle) of the man born blind. Jesus is the light of the world.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday 3rd April

9am Mass (St Francis)

7.30pm Stations of the Cross (St Francis)

Tuesday 4th April

10am Mass (St Joseph)

Wednesday 5th April

11am Chrism Mass (Cathedral)

7pm Mass (St Francis)

Thursday 6th April – Maundy Thursday

9am Morning Prayer (St Francis & St Joseph)

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (St Francis)

11pm Night Prayer (St Francis)

Friday 7th April – Good Friday

9am Morning Prayer (St Francis & St Joseph)

11am Stations of the Cross (St Francis)

3pm Celebration of the Passion (St Francis)

5pm Celebration of the Passion (St Joseph)

Saturday 8th April – Holy Saturday

9am Morning Prayer (St Francis & St Joseph)

8.30pm Easter Vigil (St Francis)

Sunday 9th April – Easter Sunday

9am Mass (St Joseph)

11am Mass (St Francis)

No Evening Mass

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will take place at the Cathedral on Wednesday 5th April at 11am. This is a great Diocesan occasion where we can all gather together with the Bishop for the Blessing of the Holy Oils, and when the priests and deacons of the diocese renew their commitments. Parishioners are very welcome to attend this Mass.

TRANSPORT FOR THE EASTER TRIDUUM

If you would like a lift, or are able to provide a lift, from Portishead to St Francis' for the Mass of the Lord's Supper or the Easter Vigil, please contact Deacon Didier so that he can coordinate these lifts. These celebrations are combined celebrations for our two parishes and it would be lovely to see as many people as possible from our parishes joining together for the Easter Triduum, which is the summit of the Church's Liturgical Year.

THE LENT GOSPELS AT ST FRANCIS

A reminder that during Lent there is an opportunity for a deeper personal discovery of the following Sunday's Gospel **each Wednesday after the evening Mass at St Francis, Nailsea**. Next Wednesday 22nd March : The Raising of Lazarus (John 11, 1-45). Everyone from both our parishes is welcome!

CONFESSIONS IN LENT

This beautiful season of grace and of prayer offers us the opportunity to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be extra opportunities for confessions next week and confessions can also be arranged by contacting Fr Richard. It may be that you haven't been to confession for some time; it may be that you have gotten out of the habit; you may have even forgotten what to do and what to say. Just come! There are little cards by the confessionals to help you along and the priest is always there to help you. Come to encounter the tender, merciful love of the Lord in confession... come and meet him and know the immensity of his love for you.

LENTEN LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION

Bishop Declan is inviting you to join him for a Liturgy of Reconciliation on Thursday 30 March at Corpus Christi, Weston-Super-Mare.

LENT MENUS

At St Joseph's Portishead every Friday in Lent a menu is proposed as follows:

Entrée: 11.15am: *Stations of the Cross*

Main Course: 12 noon: *Mass*

Cheese: 12.45pm - 1.30pm: *Fellowship over a simple collation of soup, bread and cheese* (donations to CAFOD)

Dessert: 1.30pm - 2.30pm: *Prayerful discovery of next Sunday's Gospel (Friday 24th March : The Raising of Lazarus)*

Come for the whole 4 course meal, or just for part of it, as suits you best. Everyone from both our parishes is welcome!

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

If you (or a member of your family) are going into hospital please let me know so that I can visit you beforehand, and if appropriate, provide the Sacrament of the Sick. If you go into hospital and need to see a priest in an emergency, please let the hospital staff know so that they can contact an on-call priest. If it is not an emergency, please do let me know if you would like me to visit.

Fr Richard

CELEBRATING SAINT JOSEPH

Come and join us for festive drinks and nibbles in St Joseph's Hall on Saturday 18th March at 7pm, after 6pm Mass, and celebrate our patronal feast a couple of days early.

BAPTISM

Tobias Wilfred Griffiths is to be baptised at St Francis Church on Saturday 25th March. Please keep Tobias and his family in your prayers as we welcome him into God's family.

RIP

John Newton has passed away this week. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family and friends at this sad time. Funeral details to follow.

LENT ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

St Francis Nailsea

Saturday 18th March 11.30am

Mini Lent Pilgrimage around St Francis Church. Bring and share lunch in the hall at 12.00 noon followed by the Lent / Easter Craft Session.

UCM – ST JOSEPH'S

Our next meeting takes place on Monday 20 March at 2pm in the church hall. Visitors and new members welcome. There will be usual Bring & Buy table.

PORTISHEAD FOODBANK

This week they are asking for long life fruit juice and instant coffee. As usual you can place your donation in the trolley in St Joseph's church lobby. Thank you for your generosity.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED APPEAL 25th & 26th MARCH

Steve Riedlinger, Community Outreach, for Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will be visiting on 25th and 26th March. ACN support the suffering and persecuted church around the world with over 5000 projects in more than 140 countries each year. Steve will be talking about the projects, passing on news from ACN's project partners and sharing how we can help in prayer and giving.

<https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/syria-emergency-appeal/>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross in St Francis Church at **11.00am on Good Friday, 7th April**, Led by families from both parishes. All are welcome. Followed by hot cross buns and refreshments in the hall.

BRIDGE COMMUNITY (formerly Faith & Light) – ST JOSEPH'S

Our next meeting will be on **Sunday 19th March from 2.30pm-4pm** at St Joseph's church hall. All adults with additional needs, their family, carers and friends are welcome to join us for this time of Christian fellowship. Dates of following meetings: 16th April, 21st May, 18th June. Please contact Deacon Didier for further information.

DBS CHECKS – ST JOSEPH'S

Please could everyone who needs or has a DBS certificate contact me. We need to check everyone's DBS status, even if you are on the Update service. You can contact me on 07815474703 or email me at PSR.portishead.cliftondiocese.com. Kathleen Lumby

ST FRANCIS CHURCH - GIGANTIC LENT CLEAN 2023

St. Francis Church on Saturday 25th March from 8.30am until 11.30am. **YOUR CHURCH** needs **YOU**, to keep it looking at its best !

One of the ways that you can do this is to come along for no more than hour, (if that is all the time that you can spare,) to help out at our annual Lent clean. If you can bring along a bucket, cleaning materials etc it would be helpful but not essential. **REMEMBER** there is no point in complaining that the church is dirty, if you are not prepared to do anything to help! If you can assist on the day please let me know? Mary Collins 07749 823563

WOMEN CONNECT

Following on from the success of our first meeting women from both parishes will meet up again to pray, talk and share on **Thursday 23rd March at 7.00pm**. If you didn't make the first meeting don't worry these are stand-alone sessions. All welcome. This time in St Francis Church Hall. (We agreed to alternate the venue.) Refreshments will be available. If you would like to come along but don't like driving at night, please let me know and we can arrange lifts. Thank you. Anne-Marie

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SOMERSET AGM

You are warmly invited to the AGM of Churches Together in Somerset on Tuesday 28 March 2023 at 7:30pm, by Zoom.

Our main item (at approx 8pm) will be a briefing by Mr Dave Mann, Communications and External Affairs Director of CHARIS, on the needs of, and challenges facing, refugees and asylum seekers across our County, followed by questions and discussion.

The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84302494123?pwd=ZzVUdnVTa2ZjanlTSUFvKzdFTUIFdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 0249 4123
Passcode: 719614

HOMES FOR UKRAINE MATCHING SERVICE

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and in your heart to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <http://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.



Free Budgeting and Debt Help Course

Monday 27th March, 7.15pm at Methodist Church, High Street, Portishead

To book: email anntarr@capuk.org or ring Ann on 07568 354 880

budget. save. spend.

