

OUR LADY IMMACULATE & ST  
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Cycle A for Sundays and Solemnities Year  
1 for Weekdays

Arundel and Brighton Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878



**Weekend 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> March**

### THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

<b>Saturday 11/03 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>The Third Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Intention of Joe Hanson</b>
<b>Sunday 12/03 9am</b>	<b>Northiam</b>		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 12/03 10.45am</b>	<b>Battle</b>		<b>Fr Michael Leonard Carroll, RIP, FM</b>
<b>Monday 13/03</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>Tuesday 14/03 6pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Wednesday 15/03 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Thursday 16/03 6am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Thursday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	<b>No Intention</b>
<b>Friday 17/03 10am</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>Nancy Richardson, RIP</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation available after all Masses and upon Request**

## **Introduction to the Scripture Readings for The Fourth Sunday of Lent:**

- **First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10.13**

The spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day onwards.

- **Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

Walk in the light of the Lord and turn away from the darkness of sin.

- **Gospel: John 9:1-41**

Jesus gives the blind man new sight and the gift of faith.

### **We pray for the Sick and Housebound Members of our Community:**

**From Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael:** Margaret Thunder, Stephen Bould, Pauline Fraser, Michael Conroy, Sheila Lilley, Madeleine Salter, Gretta Johnson, Ruth Ayres, Brenda Widenka, Helen Powell, Tom Dodd, Dilys Fraser, Suzanne McAdie, Hazel & Helena Lobo, Keith Bourne.

**From St Teresa's:** Keith Bourne, Christine Mooney, June Nottage, Maureen Webster, Brian O'Connell, Eileen O'Shaughnessy, Margot Leahy, Jacquelyn Solly, Lawrence Youlten.

### **Prayer Intentions - please remember the following people in your prayers this week:**

Una Wade, Frances Cresswell, Guy Hooper, Judith Bridge, Maureen Ashing, Henry Cheung, Gerard Leahy, Mark Clemence RIP.

- If you used to receive a visit from one of our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (Special Ministers), please contact the office on 01424 773125 if you would like these visits to recommence, with a Minister or with Fr Richard direct on 07578 725914 or email [battle@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:battle@abdiocese.org.uk).
- Fr Richard is happy to receive Mass Intentions, please pop them in the new letter box outside the office, or let Maggie know on 773125, e-mail [battle@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:battle@abdiocese.org.uk), thank you.
- If you wish to follow a live Mass please follow this link from our Diocesan website <https://abdiocese.org.uk/livestream> or via <https://www.churchservices.tv/>
- **Richard Widenka RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Richard Widenka who has sadly died. Please also pray for his wife Brenda our Parish friend, and the rest of his family and friends who are mourning his loss. May he rest in peace. Richard's funeral will be held at Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael Church on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 12noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- **Heartfelt thanks to John Reid** for all his hard work within our Parish over the last 35 years, working as Choirmaster and Treasurer for our Finance Committee. He will be leaving our Parish on Monday and will be greatly missed by everyone, we wish him well for the future. We will also miss his daughter Vicky Chainey who has also been a very valued member of our music group and has played the flute beautifully during the Masses. We send our love and best wishes to the whole family for their future new lives in their new home.
- **Grateful thanks from John and Marianne Clemence** for all the cards, condolences and prayers said for them regarding the loss of their son Mark, it really has meant a lot to them.

- **Parishioner Survey:** Thank you for all the ideas that have come in so far, we are still looking for more feedback so your thoughts and ideas on what sort of activities you would like to be held in our Parish Room would be very welcome and helpful – so keep them coming! Send either by e-mail or pop the form in the post-box outside the office. Thank you!
- **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>.
- **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](https://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.
- **The Big Lent Walk for CAFOD:** Team Forge (Vicky Chainey, Ingrid Finch & John Reid) have continued their running/walking 5km every day in Lent and we are most grateful to our supporters who have helped raise about £300 (plus Gift Aid) so far. Further donations would be very welcome, and are best made via this link, ([The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development \(CAFOD\): The Big Lent Walk \(enthuse.com\)](https://www.cafod.org.uk/)) or by handing to one of us on a Sunday. Vicky, Ingrid & John
- **Battle Foodbank – Needs and Updates:** Foodbank needs this week please are Tins of Cold Meat, Fruit and Potatoes; Pot Noodles; Long Grain Rice either normal or microwave; Sweet Treats and Sponge Puddings; Toilet Rolls and any other toiletries are always welcome. Thank you so much.
- The office is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am – 12.30pm.
- Fr Richard and the Parish Pastoral Team send all parishioners their prayers and good wishes.

### News from our Diocese

#### **Diocesan run events ○ Evenings of Reflection 7-9pm with a choice of venues across the Diocese**

- Friday 17 March at The Sacred Heart, Cobham
- Friday 24 March at St Dunstan, Woking
- Saturday 11 March at 6.30pm at Arundel cathedral Centre followed by a Cathedral tour.

#### ➤ **Baptism Catechists Day Saturday 18 March**

A morning for those interested in developing the Church in the home. We will be exploring the potential that preparation for the sacrament of Baptism offers. Catechists, sponsors and parents are all welcome. 9.30am - 1.30pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. If you wish to discuss participation contact Katherine Bergin E:

[katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk) A poster is attached for printing off for display in your parish.

- **Talk for Young Adults.** Dominican Brother Thomas Mannion will be joining our Young Adults group online on Monday 20 March at 7.30pm to talk to the community about Ecclesiology: Why is Christian Fellowship so important? Please contact E: [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) to find out how to join this engaging and interactive session.
- **Liturgy of the Word with Children - Saturday 13 May 2023 9.30-1pm The St Philip Howard Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley:** Training for liturgy leaders. Book your place through the diocesan website. If you wish to discuss your engagement with this training please email E: [Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk)
- **Annual Pilgrimage Day to West Grinstead for Grandparents and all those who fulfil this role in so many different ways. Wednesday 14 June 2023 11- 3pm.** This is always a joyous day of celebration with Bishop Richard and friends from across the Diocese. Booking is now available through the diocesan website.
- **Mass for Engaged Couples – Friday 16 June 2023 7pm at Arundel Cathedral**  
Join Bishop Richard for a special Mass celebrating the momentous journey of discernment that is engagement towards the lifelong commitment made by couples preparing for marriage. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre.
- **World Youth Day:** Are you aged 18-35? If you are, we invite you to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisbon to meet with the Holy Father. 31 July -7 August 2023. 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 E: [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

To find out about and book events hosted by the Diocese please visit our website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

We have also created a news page for Formation Team Events

W: [www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/formation-team-courses-events](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/formation-team-courses-events) which we will aim to keep live and updated.

### **Externally run**

- **Gidea Park Talk on the Holy Eucharist - Wednesday 22 March at 7pm** in the church hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pope's Biblical Commission, will speak about the Eucharist. The talk, entitled 'Do this in memory of me', will examine the New Testament material, and trace the understanding of the Eucharist through the centuries, including the latest teaching of Pope Francis. This talk is in person and can also be followed live stream by going to W: [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) Flyer attached.
- **Men's Way of the Cross – 31 March 2023** starting from Christ The King church in Eastbourne and walking through the night over the cliffs to Birling Gap. Join for a prayer over the South Downs Beachy Head trail to rediscover yourself and reflect on your God given purpose on this earth. Poster attached.



- The next **Chilworth Abbey Study Day** is on Saturday 1 April led by Fr John Seddon OSB, of Bishop Barron's 'Catholicism', Episode 8, 'A Vast Company of Witnesses: the Communion of Saints. Mass 9am, Talks 10.15am-3.30pm. Bring a packed lunch and a friend if possible. See W: [chilworthbenedictines.com](http://chilworthbenedictines.com) for more details.
- **Worth Abbey** - Young Adults (18-35) Easter Triduum Retreat Thursday 6 – Sunday 9 April. You are invited to Worth Abbey to celebrate the greatest feast in the Christian calendar; the celebration of salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Accommodation at St Mary's, one of the Worth school boarding houses at £180 per person. There is also the opportunity to be part of a Cross Walk pilgrimage setting off from Brighton on Palm Sunday and arriving at Worth Abbey on Maundy Thursday. Cost £60 per person. To book online go to: [worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-programme](http://worth.co.uk/retreats/retreat-programme). For further information contact 01342 710318 or email: [retreats@worth.co.uk](mailto:retreats@worth.co.uk).

### **Vatican News**

#### **Pope Francis: Oceans are God's gift for all generations**

Panama recently hosted the 8th Our Ocean Conference under the theme “Our Ocean, Our Connection” to highlight the importance of knowledge as “the basis of our actions and policies to ensure the protection of our ocean”.

The event took place separately but at the same time as national governments held UN-sponsored, breakthrough talks in New York in which they agreed to a new “High Seas Treaty” to codify conservation efforts of ocean areas beyond national jurisdictions.

Pope Francis sent a message to participants in the Our Ocean Conference held in Panama, on 2-3 March, which was released on Monday and signed by Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin.

**Gift from the Creator for all humanity**

In his message, the Pope highlighted the importance of “humility, gratitude, and awe” as we say

“Our” ocean. *“Starting from contemplation and study, our understanding of the complex and amazing mechanisms and balances of the oceans allows us to appreciate the role they play for everyone, not just coastal communities.”*

He noted that all people depend on the oceans and are rightly considered the “common heritage” of humanity.

The oceans, he added, were given to us “as a gift from the Creator”, and we must therefore work to use them fairly and sustainably in order to pass them on to future generations. **Tied together by a common ocean**

Pope Francis urged the politicians and business leaders at the conference to embrace an “integral vision of ecology” in line with his encyclical *Laudato si'*.

He noted that the oceans face a host of threats, including pollution, acidification, and illegal fishing, as well as the nascent extractive industry on the seabed. The Pope also tied in the many migrant tragedies that occur on the high seas and the harsh treatment of seafarers. In response, he called on governments to recognize the “interconnectedness and interdependence between communities and countries” which the oceans embody.



*“We are one family, we share the same inalienable human dignity, and we inhabit a common home that we are called to care for.”* **Three directions toward hope**

The Pope went on to offer three directions to improve humanity’s relationship with the oceans. First, he said, we need to listen to the cry of the poor and of the Earth, and therefore “urgently review growth strategies based on waste and unsustainable models of consumption.”

Second, humanity needs to united “to protect and restore marine, coastal, and river ecosystems”. Finally, said Pope Francis, governments need to create effective “governance systems” to regulate and coordinate activity on the oceans.

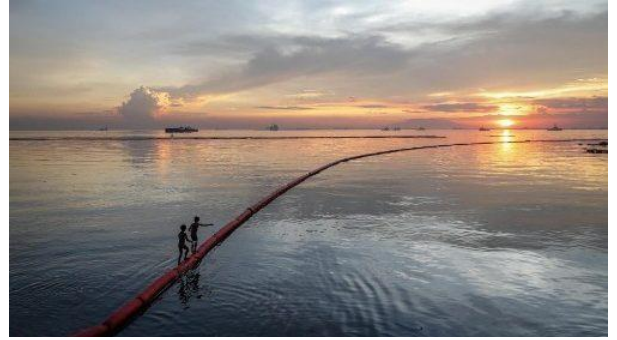
“By working in these directions,” he concluded, “there will always be hope.”

### **Nations agree to protect the world's oceans after 10 years of negotiations**

These negotiations on ‘The High Seas Treaty’ had been stalled for years over differences on funding and fishing rights.

Now, though, after all-night talks in New York, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has welcomed the finalization of a text.

The new treaty aims to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.



Covering nearly two-thirds of the ocean, the treaty marks the culmination of nearly two decades of work, and builds on the legacy of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

### **Historic achievement**

According to conservationists, the development is a victory for international efforts to counter the destructive trends facing ocean health, now and in the future.

Furthermore, it is considered vital for addressing climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. It is also important for achieving ocean-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UN Secretary General commended all parties for their ambition, flexibility and perseverance.

His spokesman said he looks forward to continuing working with all parties to secure a healthier, more resilient, and more productive ocean, benefiting current and future generations.