



PARISH OF WOOLHAMPTON

Diocese of Portsmouth - West Berks Pastoral Area

Served by Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey

SIXTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B – 11 FEBRUARY 2018

This Sunday: *Welcome to our Mass, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer!*

First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44 - 46

Psalm Response: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31 - 11: 1.

Gospel Acclamation: May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1: 40 - 45

To follow TODAY'S READINGS please take a missal as you enter the church p.598

ASH WEDNESDAY - 14 February

Mass & Ashes : Douai Abbey 7.45am - Theale 10am - Pangbourne 7.30pm

Please pray for our sick & housebound and for JOYCE WORRAL of Mortimer who died on 27 January, whose Requiem Mass will be at St Mary's on Thursday 15 February at 11am. R.I.P. Also pray for CANON TERRY HEALY, once dean of our area, who died recently (his brother Dermot's family used to live in Theale and were active members of St Luke's). Also please pray for those recently dead and all with anniversaries at this time.

WORD OF HOPE

Return to me with all your heart, says the Lord,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning:
rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain-offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion' sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly, gather the people
sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged;
gather the children, even infants of the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord weep.

Let them say, 'Spare your people, O Lord,
why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

(Joel 2, 12-17)

"During the days of Lent let each monk offer God something extra of his own free will in the joy of the Spirit and so look forward to the feast of Easter with the longing of his heart."

(Rule of Benedict written 500AD, Chapter 49, 6 - 7)

PRAYER & STUDY GROUPS IN THE PARISH

- **Joining Up the Old Testament** - Texts & Characters of the OT, at Douai Abbey, 2.15pm, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month. Next session 20 March.
- **Christian Meditation Group – St Bernadette's, Pangbourne:** every Thursday 8-9pm in the Dorman Rooms. All welcome. Contact Mike Sarson 0118 9623332, mike@east-west.org.uk or wccm.org/. Children and Families Meditation sessions. Contact www.eastwestkidsconnect.org.uk.
- **Gospel Study Group – Douai Abbey:** every second Tues. of the month at 2.15pm in Conference Room 2 at the Abbey. To understand more about the scriptures, please come along. Contact Ron Laker on ronkalaker@gmail.com or tel. 01491 671186.
- **House Mass** - If you would like to host a Mass in your house, please invite the priests!

NOTICES

LENT REFLECTIONS

On the Bishop's book distributed at Christmas (some copies still available)

19 February Monday	Reflection 1	Rediscover Jesus - chapters 1-10 St Luke's - 7.30pm
28 February Wednesday	Reflection 2	Rediscover Jesus - chapters 11-20 St Bernadette's, Pangbourne - 7.30pm
12 March Monday	Reflection 3	Rediscover Jesus - chapters 21-30 St Luke's, Theale - 7.30pm
21 March Wednesday	Reflection 4	Rediscover Jesus - chapters 31-40 St Bernadette's, Pangbourne - 7.30pm

ALL WELCOME - whether you follow the Book or not

- **Reading Half Marathon** Please sponsor our parish team running the Reading Half Marathon on 18th of March. Funds raised will go towards the new hostel at RTU. You can sign the forms at the back of the church or sponsor directly at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/rturunningteam>.
- **CAFOD's Family fast day** Friday 23 February. Can you give up a meal or eat simple meal & put what you saved in the CAFOD fast day envelope. For every pound you donate the UK Government will match it up to total of £5 million. Please give generously and help us raise £5 million. The Fast day envelopes will be in church on 18th February. Many thanks for your support.
- **West Berkshire** Donations of toilet rolls, beef, chicken and veg stock cubes, washing up liquid and instant mash, please. The following items are requested: self-raising flour 500gm, instant mash, washing up liquid, sugar.

St Mary's

WELCOMERS needed. We are looking for a few more people to help on the rota with Welcoming at Mass. If you can help, please speak to Allan Konya or Steve Walsh, or contact the Office.

Parking - Please note:

- All able-bodied please park in the Abbey Car Park to leave parking near St Mary's free for the elderly and infirm.

Message from Fr Peter

As you may know, I shall be away from 12 February for a hip-replacement, perhaps even till Easter. Fr Benjamin will have care of the parish, supported by the Parish Council, the church committees and Doreen in the Office. Members of the Community will celebrate Sunday Masses at St Mary's, Fr Benjamin will take care of St Luke's and St Bernadette's. Please pass all requests through the Office (0118 971 5350).

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday 14 February. Please take home today the Programme of Lent Services and the Lent Course.

Thank you, and a blessed Lent to you all.

Baptism Preparation

Our parish welcomes parents presenting a child for Baptism at the next preparation which will take place on Saturday 17 February, 3.30pm at St Luke's Church, Theale. The second date to be set at the course. You will be welcome to come to these sessions even if you are still expecting your child. Baptism is entry into the church community, so our parish expects families following this course to take regular part in one of our parish Masses from now on, and also beyond their child's baptism.

Please speak to the priests or the parish office, giving address and telephone number where you may be contacted.

To prepare NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS Year B: First Sunday of Lent 18 February 2018.

First Reading: Genesis 9: 8 - 15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over

The earth and a bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 18 - 22

Gospel: Mark 1: 12 - 15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.

For excellent comment and reflection on Mass Readings see: www.tarsus.ie

Gentle Reminder!

QUIET BEFORE MASS

Let's remember ours – and others' – need of quiet before Mass so we can each find a peaceful and receptive place in our heart before listening to God's Word and sharing in Christ's sacrifice in the Eucharist.

To speak to someone, please use a low voice out of consideration for those praying.

Thank you!

SIXTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B – 11 FEBRUARY 2018

Mass Celebrants

NEXT WEEK (18 Feb. 2018)

Saturday	5.30pm Theale	Fr Peter	(Fr Benjamin)
Sunday	9am Woolhampton	Fr Benjamin	(Fr Gabriel)
	9.30am Pangbourne	Fr Peter	(Fr Benjamin)
	11am Abbey	Fr Oliver	(Fr Alban)

MASSES & SERVICES IN THE PARISH

17.30 Saturday Mass at Theale
9.00 Sunday Mass at St Mary's Woolhampton, at Pangbourne 9.30,
11.00 Sunday Mass at Douai Abbey

Weekdays: Mass at 10.00 on Wednesdays of month:
1st at Theale, 2nd at Pangbourne, 3rd at Theale, 4th at St Mary's
Daily at Douai Abbey 7.45am

All are welcome to join the daily Monastic Offices at Douai Abbey:
6.20 Matins, 12.50 Midday, 18.00 Vespers

*A monk is normally available in the Abbey Church for Confession/Listening
Weekdays 7am-7.30am & 6.30-7.00pm; Saturdays 12noon-12.30pm
- and at any time by request.*

For Confession in your own church please ask the priests at any time.

The Parish Office, Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, Reading RG7 5TQ

Tel: 0118 971 5350 email: parish@douaiabbey.org.uk

WOOLHAMPTON - St Mary's Church RG7 5TQ

PANGBOURNE – St Bernadette's Church RG8 7JL

THEALE - St Luke's Church RG7 5AS

Priests: Frs Peter Bowe & Benjamin Standish OSB

Parish Administrator: Doreen Morrissey

Office open Monday - Friday 9.00 - 1.00

If you would like Fr Peter or Fr Benjamin to call & see you at home, please do tell us.

Further notices and information on the Parish website: www.douaiparish.org.uk.

Bishop Philip invites all the faithful of the diocese to subscribe to his free weekly e-Newsletter. You can sign up to receive this direct to your inbox each week here: <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews/>