



ST. BONIFACE



Bringing Christ to the people and people to Christ

Parish Priest
Fr. Tom Kleinschmidt, OMV

Assistant Priest
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Assistant Priest
Fr. Jufel (Alex) Baldado, OMV

February 25, 2024 –SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Bonds Loosed: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday of Lent – The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week’s First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test. The Church has always read this story as a sign of God’s love for the world in giving His only-begotten son. In today’s Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God, like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the Cross (see [Romans 8:32](#); [Genesis 22:12,16](#)). In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God’s “beloved Son”—as Isaac is described as Abraham’s beloved son. These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ’s identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions. Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see (see [Matthew 1:1](#); [John 8:56](#)). In His transfiguration, He is revealed to be the “prophet like Moses” foretold by God—raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God’s own authority (see [Deuteronomy 18:15, 19](#)). Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God’s glory in a cloud (see [Exodus 24:1, 9, 15](#)). He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah’s return (see [Sirach 48:9–10](#); [Malachi 3:1, 23–24](#)). And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins (see [Isaiah 53:3](#)). As we sing in today’s Psalm, Jesus believed in the face of His afflictions, and God loosed Him from the bonds of death (see [Psalm 116:3](#)). His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father—as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did. Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows—as His servants and faithful ones.

Lenten programme at St Boniface: we pray for a deep spiritual renewal, as we undertake this beautiful journey to prepare for the celebration of Easter. Jesus asks us to deepen our prayer life, to practise self-denial and to give special attention to works of charity.

Exploring the Book of Genesis: every Friday in Lent beginning **16 February at 6:30pm in the church hall.**

This will be followed by **Stations of the Cross** at **7:15pm** in the church.

We will then have **Eucharistic Adoration until 8:30pm**, with the **opportunity for individual confession**. (“Nothing brings peace to a soul like a confession that’s well prepared: clear, concise, contrite, and complete. If we haven’t been to confession in a while – and even if we have – we should make every effort to make the practice habitual”, Scott Hahn in *Signs of Life*). Bishop Philip Egan: “I often recommend to penitents that they avail themselves of the Sacrament of Penance every few weeks, say once a month or every two months. “Without being strictly necessary, confession of everyday faults (venial sins) is nevertheless strongly recommended by the Church. Indeed the regular confession of our venial sins helps us form our conscience, fight against evil tendencies, let ourselves be healed by Christ and progress in the life of the Spirit” (*Catechism* 1458). Regular confession helps fight the temptations we struggle with. One of the secrets of a good confession is a thorough examination of conscience. To see in a dark room, we need a light. So before setting off to meet the priest, we need to pause and ask the Holy Spirit to shine the light of Christ in our heart and mind, that we may know our sins and make a good confession. I was always taught to remember a list of things in my mind, but these days it’s often easier to make a simple note or list on a piece of paper, as this helps keep things focused without drifting away into unnecessary contexts and explanations etc.”

Another Sad Loss: it is with greatest sadness to announce that Alan Coppen, a faithful parishioner of St Boniface, has quietly passed away this morning (Friday 23 February) having had bravely fought cancer. His absence will be missed by many. May he rest in peace.

St Boniface Lenten Soup Lunches 2024. There will be a soup lunch on **Friday 23 Feb and on Friday 1 March** from 12 noon in the parish hall, and then every Friday until **22 March, at the same time**. All proceeds will go to CAFOD. Please try and support this worthy venture and meet up with fellow parishioners. (Soup-makers are urgently needed to make a vegetarian soup on a rota basis. Any help or support would be most welcome to ensure that this venture, which helps to bring the parishioners of St Boniface together on a regular basis, can continue. Please contact Catherine Keogh by emailing catherine.keogh@hotmail.co.uk Thank you.

Two Private Baptisms will take place on Sunday 25 February at 2pm in our Church respectively for **Zikorammachukwu Jason Igwe;** and for **Grace Chioma Ugwuegbu** who will be welcomed into the holy embraces of God. Please pray for them & their families.

The St Boniface Sunday 11am Choir are looking forward to preparing music for the Holy Triduum. There will be 5 practices respectively on: **Thursday 29 Feb (8–9pm); Thursday 7 March (8–9pm); Thursday 14 March (8–9pm); Thursday 21 March (8–9pm); and**

Tuesday 26 March (7:30-8:30pm). If you would like to sing or play music to help with this, please message **Mike Wood:** mikejwood2@gmail.com or speak to him after 11:00am Sunday Mass or any of the music group leaders at Church.

Right To Life! We are calling for support for an amendment to reduce our abortion laws from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Please collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment!

Come and join us for a Quiz! All are welcome! Proceeds will go to CAFOD. Where: **Church hall.** When: **Saturday 16 March.** Time: Please arrive **7.45pm for an 8pm start.** Finishing 9.30pm (approximately). Teams should be a maximum of six please. You can come as a ready-made team or be joined to a team on arrival. £1 per person entry. Raffle. Bring your own drinks and we will provide the glasses!

Event of Fanning The Flame Catholic Mission: Dignified (for ages 14 – 21) to take place on 2 March at Holy Family Catholic Church, Southampton! A day exploring the current ethical issues we encounter in our lives, armed with the knowledge that our dignity comes from Christ. It is an opportunity to discover the beautiful and positive response the Church has to the many problems society faces. For more information go to: www.fanningtheflame.co.uk There will be a £10 fee involved to help them cover all costs.

The Funeral of Philomena Moore is on Tuesday 5 March, at 11am at our Church.

St Boniface Table Tennis Group meets twice a week every week throughout the year (apart from if there are parish activities and Good Friday) on **Tuesday & Friday afternoons 2-3pm in the Hall.** For details contact the Parish Office. All are welcome.

St Boniface Knit & Natter Group meets **every Monday morning 10am-12noon, at the St MC Room.** All are welcome.

St Boniface Parish Toddlers' Group meets **every other Tuesday (school term times only) in our Church Hall.** Donations of £1 per family is welcome. Their next meeting is on **5 March 9:30am.**

The Parish Office will be closed Monday 4 – Friday 8 March, due to the parish secretary being on leave that week.

Mary's Meals: this year, why not create a positive change for the next generation and help Mary's Meals to reach more of the world's poorest children with the promise of a daily meal by sponsoring a school. This has a huge impact, not only on the children, but on their families and wider communities. Simply choose the size of school you wish to sponsor, and Mary's Meals will contact you to discuss your options and then allocate a school to you. And then it's over to you – you can choose to make your donation upfront, or in stages, or you can begin to fundraise within your community! To find out more about how you can Sponsor A School in Malawi or Zambia and pledge to cover the cost of feeding every pupil at the school for an entire year, please visit Mary's Meals [website](http://www.marysmeals.org).

Family Day of Recollection: Saturday 23 March, 10am-3:30pm. Join the Dominican sisters in the New Forest for a family day! There will be teaching for all the family, games, craft, food, Mass, and a walk. This day is aimed at families with children up to the age of 8. For more information or to book a space, email catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com. Suggested donation of £20 per family.

Diocesan Liturgy News Update: "We are pleased to announce that we will be organising two training days in 2024 - one for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and one for Readers. These will be held at **St Bede's Church and Hall in Basingstoke** as follows: the **Day for EMHC – Saturday 4 May;** and the **Day for Readers – Saturday 19 October.** Both days will run **from 9:30am to 2:30pm** and will include some light refreshments. Please enrol now if you would like to by emailing: liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. We will send further reminders with precise details nearer each date. If, you need any guidance or assistance with liturgy in your parish, please do reach out to us, and we would be happy to support you. Kind regards, Fr Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy, by contacting Mary Anne Normand, Administrator to the Vicariate for Vocation: manormand@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk".

Mass Intention Offering – Please be advised that offerings can be made by cash (in an envelope clearly marked "Mass Intention"), or by cheque payable to **CDP Oblates of the Virgin Mary;** or via a bank transfer using the details given here: Payee Name: **CDP Oblates of the Virgin Mary;** Branch Sort Code: **30-80-27;** Account Number: **36062268;** Reference: **Mass Intention.** Or simply give it to the Priest on the day of your Mass requested/attended.

NOTE: two Second Collections are respectively on Sunday 25 February which is for St Boniface's Building & Maintenance; and on next weekend 3 March is for Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund (Obligatory). Please support our buildings, and the clergymen generously. Thank you.

Diocesan Recruitments: please follow the link <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> for current vacancies throughout the Diocese. This is a permanent link which will be kept up dated with all current vacancies throughout the year.

Presbytery: St Boniface House, 413 Shirley Road,
Southampton SO15 3JD Tel: 023 8077 0277

Parish website: www.st-boniface.org.uk

Parish Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stbonifacesouthampton>

Parish Office opening hours: Mon to Fri - 9:30am to 12:30pm

Parish Secretary: Margaretta Livingstone
office@st-boniface.org.uk Tel: 023 8077 3640

Safeguarding Officer: Angela Braga
safeguarding@st-boniface.org.uk

Parish Pastoral Council: ppc@st-boniface.org.uk