

Sunday 28th January
Fourth Sunday of the year.

St Joseph's Catholic Church

2 Falkland Grove, Dorking RH4 3DL

01306 882433

Website: www.sjcc.org.uk

Facebook: [@dorkingcatholics](https://www.facebook.com/dorkingcatholics)

Parish Priest: Fr Ian Vane

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Parish Office: Penny Dubois

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Office: Open Monday, Friday 9am to 2pm, Tuesday and Thursday 9am to 1pm

We remember in prayer those who have recently died especially Diane Gillot, the sick especially Hilda Turnham, the housebound and isolated and those who care for them.

Welcome to Saint Joseph's Church, Dorking
Toilets are available in the parish hall or there is an outside toilet next to the hoses. Books to help children follow Mass and other books for children are in the entrance porch of the church.

Our church is open all day, everyday, until sunset.
If you have a gluten intolerance and you wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak to Fr Ian before Mass.

Friday 2nd February: we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) Forty days after Christmas, and marks the conclusion of the Christmas Cycle and anticipates the light that will vanquish all darkness at the Easter Vigil. **Mass is at 12 noon** followed by lunch in the hall, all welcome. If you have domestic devotional candles, please bring them to be blessed.

Saturday 3rd February: St Blaise. The Blessing of Throats will take place at the 9.30am Mass on Saturday.

ADULT FORMATION & R.C.I.A.:- Having 'got my feet under the table' I should hope to begin a programme at the end of January. If you would like to know more about our Catholic faith, with a view to becoming a Catholic, or you are already a Catholic, but want to know more, please drop Fr. Ian a line or phone him 01306 882433; the reason for this request, is to find out numbers and decide on the venue. Many thanks.

Little Red Boxes: Missio. Many thanks to all those parishioners who have a 'red box' in their house. The total donated in 2023 was £1285.77. If you would like to have a collection box please contact Louis McCulloch (louis.mcculloch1@gmail.com). More people to collect the boxes would also be welcome.

200 Club renewal letters now available from Michael Fitz Gibbon. The 200 club is a fund raising initiative which has been running in the parish for over 40 years! and last year raised £1829.00. Each month 3 numbers are drawn and prizes range from £15 to £300. Currently there are 19 numbers available, please contact Michael (twentysteps@btinternet.com) or the parish office for more information.

Lourdes 2024: Unique gift opportunity! Would you like to give friend or family a contribution towards joining the Diocesan 50th anniversary pilgrimage to Lourdes next summer? Gift cards to the value of your choosing and valid for 3 years can now be purchased from the pilgrimage Office. To find out more please contact the Lourdes Office; E: lourdes@abdiocese.org.uk or T: 01293 651147. Applications for next year's pilgrimage open on our website in the New Year.

From February Mass on Thursday will be at 9.30am. The first date for the new Mass time will be February 1st.

Saturday 27th January Our Lady on Saturday.	9.30am Mass 10-11am Adoration/ confessions 5.15pm Confessions 6pm Mass	Celebrants Ints Rahul Kuriokose and family Ints
Sunday 28th January Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time.	8am Mass 10am Mass	People of the Parish Andizej Matla RIP
Monday 29th Jan Feria	9.30am Mass	Jose Maria Cases RIP
Tuesday 30th Jan Feria	9.30am Mass	Anne & John Chalcraft RIP
Wednesday 31st Jan St John Bosco	NO MASS	
Thursday 1st February Feria	9.30am Mass	Eugenes Healing
Friday 2nd February Presentation of the	12 noon Mass	Joy Keen RIP
Saturday 3rd February St Blaise	9.30am Mass 10-11am Adoration/ confessions 5.15pm Confessions 6pm Mass	Celebrants Ints Sheila Burton RIP
Sunday 28th January Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time.	8am Mass 10am Mass	People of the Parish Peggy Walsh RIP



First Holy Communion Programme: parents should have looked at Chapter 3 with their children this last week; the children will review it with the catechists this coming week. For parents whichever session you have elected to attend whether Tuesday 5.45 pm or Friday 3.30pm (please note that on Friday it is anticipated that parents will arrive between 3.30 and 3.45, give their child/children a snack and a drink and the session will formally start at 3.45) please keep to the day you initially elected. Thank you.

THE SEASON OF LENT:- Begins in two weeks on Wednesday on 14th February, so we should be thinking and praying about what we are going to do during this penitential season both for our own conversion of mind and heart, to conform ourselves more readily to the person of Christ Jesus, but also for the conversion of the world. Perhaps rather than giving things up we should take things on! Maybe coming to weekday Mass, praying the Stations of the Cross or praying the Rosary or a decade of the Rosary as a family. Perhaps we could take on some Scriptural or spiritual reading, looking at the readings for Sunday Mass or reading about the life of a saint, perhaps after whom, we are named! We might like to commit to spiritual exercises and pray for a particular individual, that they may return to the practice of their faith.

Should we be giving things up for Lent, we should not make our abstinence someone else's penance! This means that if giving something up is going to make us miserable and unbearable for others, then we should do something else. If we are giving things up, the money that we don't spend should be given to charity, making our efforts an even more pleasing offering to the Lord. If our abstinence doesn't involve consumables, but time, e.g. computer games, TV soap operas etc then we could use that time to be with God in prayer or to carry out a corporeal work of mercy for our neighbour.

Remember, Lenten self denial is not about losing weight or improving our lung or liver function, but it is about uniting ourselves with the Passion of our Lord and making an effort to conform ourselves more fully to His person ('He must increase, I must decrease' the words of St. John the Baptist) in so doing, we draw both ourselves and the world closer to Christ, that His Kingdom may come.

During Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with the opportunity for silent adoration for an hour after weekday Mass, except for Saturday, when there will be the usual devotions.

Stations of the Cross (the ones given to us by St. Ignatius of Loyola) will be **each on Friday at 7.30 pm.**

Ash Wednesday 14th February although not a Holy Day of Obligation, we are encouraged to come to Mass and mark the start of Lent. **Mass and distribution of Ashes at 9.30am and 7.30pm**

From 'An Introduction to the Devout Life' by St. Francis de Sales:-

'At the creation God commanded the plants to bear fruit each according to its kind and He likewise commands Christians, the living branches of the vine, to bear fruit by practising devotion according to their state in life.

The practise of devotion must differ for the gentleman and the artisan, the servant and the prince, for the widow, young girl or wife. Further, it must be adapted to their particular strength, circumstances and duty.

Is the solitary life of a Carthusian suited to a bishop? should those who are married practise the poverty of a Capuchin? If the workman spends as much time in church as a religious, if religious were exposed to the same pastoral calls as a bishop such devotion would be ridiculous and cause intolerable disorder.

Yet this foolish mistake is often made. True devotion never causes harm, but rather perfects everything we do; a devotion which conflicts with anyone's state of life is undoubtedly false. devotion goes further, not only is it unharmed to any state of life, it adores and beautifies it..... it is erroneous to hold that life in the army, the workshop, the court or the home is incompatible with devotion. Purely contemplative monastic or religious devotion can not be practiced in these callings; there are many other suitable for those that live in the world which are capable of leading them to perfection. Wherever we find ourselves we not only may, but should, seek perfection '

Invited Lent 2024: A series of five films will be available for use in small groups or by individuals. They will be released on the following dates: Monday 19th & 26th February and 4th, 11th & 18th March. The films will be available on the Diocesan website www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited and the YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@AandBcommunications.

Downloadable resources for participants will be available from the 16th February. For those who are unable to attend in person there will be **'Diocesan Wide Zoom Conversations'** these will take place on Thursday 22nd & 29th February and 7th, 14th, & 21st March from 7.00-8.30pm. For more information about the zoom conversation please email formation@abdiocese.org.uk to find out more.

CAFOD: Big Lent Walk 2024: a challenge where we asking you to walk 200 miles over the 40 days of Lent and get sponsored to raise money to help people fighting extreme poverty globally. You can walk alone, with friends or your school-friends. Would you like to join a parish group or perhaps make an individual commitment to walk. 200 miles is perfectly do-able in 40 days, basically it is 5 miles per day which for many is 10,000 steps. Have a look at [The Big Lent Walk 2024 \(cafod.org.uk\)](https://www.cafod.org.uk)

Alternatively you might spend an hour before the Blessed Sacrament after weekday Mass when there will be exposition throughout Lent.