

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) PASSIONTIDE FORTNIGHT BEGINS**

Parish Priest: Fr. Con Boyle: 01689 842644

Parish Sister: Sr. Sheila Barrett DMJ

Good Shepherd Primary Academy: 01689 841771 Head Teacher: Mrs. Jane Day

**Reflection:** From this Sunday, we enter **Passiontide fortnight**. For decades and far longer, this Sunday was Passion Sunday which was then followed by Palm Sunday, which in its turn was followed by Easter Sunday.

For Passiontide, **we cover crosses & statues in church** – the purpose being to help us to spiritually focus more inwardly & away from merely their outward appearance.

On Wednesday, **25<sup>th</sup> March**, we celebrate the Solemnity of **the Annunciation of the Lord**.

That day foretells the greatest event that could ever occur in history – **the Incarnation** – God becoming fully human in the Person of His Only Begotten Son, to make possible humankind's Salvation & Redemption.

We see that Christmas Day (December 25<sup>th</sup>) is exactly 9 months on from March 25<sup>th</sup>.

For the Son of God, fully Divine, having to become fully human, at one and the same time, was a challenge beyond words.

This realisation surely goes a long way to understanding the composition of Jesus' 30 or so years on earth.

It was God the Father's Will that only the final 3 years of those would comprise Jesus' public ministry. The remaining years form the quiet or silent years of Jesus, at home with Mary and Joseph in Nazareth.

Let us take these quiet or silent years for Jesus into Passiontide.

May the purple coverings help us to focus more inwardly on the announcement of our Saviour's birth, leading to our great promise and prospect of eternal life.

**Saturday 21st March 2026 Feria**

**10am Mass** – For Tiron Anthonipillai (21<sup>st</sup> birthday today)

**Confessions 10.30 – 11am & 5.45pm- 6.15pm**

**6.30pm Mass** – People of the parish

**SUNDAY MARCH 22nd 2026**

**5th SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) START OF PASSIONTIDE**

**7:30am Adoration**

**8.30am Mass** – For an end to the war in the Sudan

**11am Mass** – For Marietta's health presently

**Monday 23rd March 2026 Feria**

**8.30am Adoration**

**9.15am Mass** Grandparents George & Mary RIP (Matharton)

**Tuesday 24th March 2026 Feria**

**8.30am Adoration**

**9.15am Mass** – Alexander Holmes RIP (6<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 The Annunciation of the Lord**

**8.30am Adoration**

**9.15 Mass** – Sean Hickey RIP

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Feria**

**8am Adoration**

**9.15am Mass** – Peace at the last for Vilma Harding

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Feria**

**8.30am Adoration**

**9.15am Mass** – For Abel Geevarghese (17<sup>th</sup> birthday today)

**8pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Saturday 28th March 2026 Feria**

**10.00am Mass** – For Veronica Ajisafe (14<sup>th</sup> birthday today)

**Confessions: 10.30-11.00am & 5.45-6.15pm**

**6.30pm Mass** – Fab Leroy Asadu RIP (6<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**SUNDAY MARCH 29th 2026**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**7:30am Adoration**

**8.30am Mass** – Sean Brady RIP (19<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

**11am Mass** – For God's blessings, guidance & protection of the family members of Stanley & Hana Peterside

## **Good Shepherd Catholic Primary and Nursery School**

If you are a parent with “a newborn”, or a child aged 1-3 years, please do “register” your Catholic child for our Catholic Primary School. Mrs. Jane Day, our headteacher, writes as follows, inviting you to visit the school:

**“Good Shepherd is a very friendly & inclusive school, and we welcome families to come and visit. At our school ‘every day is an open day’ – so please come along for a tour of our lovely school and ask any questions you may have. Feel free to call in advance (01689-841771) or just turn up. We are rated “Good” by both Ofsted and the Catholic Schools Inspectorate”.**

*Home/Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School*

New Addington Foodbank: thank you for all your contributions. CURRENTLY THE FOODBANK NEEDS: household cleaning products; nappies size 4 & higher; baby wipes; long-life milk; sugar; coffee; squash/fruit juice; savoury biscuits/crackers; rice; cooking oil; meat pies.

2020 Diamond Fund: this actually dates from March 2015. 2017 was our 60<sup>th</sup> Year - the Diamond Anniversary as a parish. 2020 marked 60 years of our church being built, before its unveiling in 1962. Details of the 2020 Diamond Fund bank account avail from Fr. Con, for anyone wishing to transfer. Thanks to all contributors.

Gift Aid Scheme: Parishioners, not yet members, are encouraged to join. You paid tax on your weekly giving to the parish. It can come back to the parish from HMR & C at no cost to you.

Please pray for those with health issues: Peter Brown, Cyril Ojiemen, Curtis Pointu, Francesco Bruno, Jim Venis, Thomas Gunn, Issy Okwuobi, Divina Ddungu, Michael Onuh, Jason Brewer, Ruddyn Mathiasine, Sebastian Akogun, Vera Arthur, Susan Smith, Izeubokun Ichide, John Kabangue, Roseline Bardo, Winston Daniel, Teresa Saunders, Joyce Dean, Dorothy & Maria Vassallo, Fred Wye, Trudi Ollivierre, Philomena deSouza, Shirley Pointu, Ann Gavigan, Cyril Green, Patricia Tougher, Kathy & Terry Jobson, Kathleen Sage, Mary Davies, Anjali & Doug Fanthome, Margaret Furey, Bryan & Maria Smith, Edith Mack, Eileen Evans, Tilly Whitmore, Celia Hulbert, Maura Malinoff, Amelia & Georgina Holmes, Ken & Maria Rowland, Anita Gregory, Victoria Kana, Jamie Prince, Pat Vaughan, E. Hanks, Pat Enver, Julie Jones, Tyrone Phillips, Saoirse Hennessey, M. Slattery.

### COLLECTIONS

March 14th/15th: Attendance: **178** Collection: **£372.10** Gift-Aided: **£278.50** Loose: **£93.60**

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: **£121.16 (PAX CHRISTI)**

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CUSTOMARY WEEKLY GENEROSITY**

**WEBSITE: [good-shepherd-newaddington.org](http://good-shepherd-newaddington.org)**

**MEMO: LAST THING, ON SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH, CLOCKS, WATCHES etc. NEED TO GO FORWARD BY ONE HOUR, TO MARK THE ARRIVAL OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME.**