

THE SORROWFUL AND IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

ST MARY'S, RYDE & ST MICHAEL'S, BEMBRIDGE

REFLECTION

To fully understand today's Gospel story, it is important to know that in Jesus' time, there were religious and social taboos associated with leprosy and other skin diseases. Skin diseases were examined by priests, and in some cases, including leprosy, the person was considered unclean and therefore physically isolated from the community. Not only were they excommunicated, but they had to loudly identify themselves as "unclean" any time they were approached by a member of the community or village. If the skin disease was healed, the person went to the priest, celebrated a rite of purification, and was allowed to return to the community.

The beginning of Mark's account of the gospel is full of exorcisms and healing. Things like leprosy and what we call mental illness were considered Satan's work in ancient times. Jesus proclaimed an end to Satan's work and the beginning of God's reign by relieving people of the burdens of these evils.

We now live in a world that understands these things differently. While we know that illness can be exacerbated by our own behaviours, we also know that it is not usually related to sin and evil as people once thought. God's loving hand is often seen in the many ways people work for healing. Some people are dedicated health care professionals. Some people are in healing prayer ministries. Parishes gather sick people and anoint them. How and when the healing takes place is still a mystery, but when it happens we thank God for the scientific knowledge or the miracle, or both, that made it happen.

Today, 11 February, is normally the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, it is also World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Established by Pope John Paul II in 1992, this day is "a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one's suffering for the good of the Church and reminding us to see in our sick brother and sister the face of Christ."

Father Steven

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St Michael's Church: Walls Road, Bembridge PO35 5RA

Safeguarding Representative: Cecilia Rawlings 01983 613398

Emergencies Only: 07845 426081

READINGS AT MASS

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B – Lev 13:1-2.44-46; 1Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45
First Sunday of Lent Year B - Gen 9:8-15; 1Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR

We wish all our Chinese brothers and sisters 'Kung Hei Fat Choi' (Congratulations and be prosperous!) in the Year of the Dog.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

From 7-9 September 2018 there will be a National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool called *Adoremus*. Our Parish can send up to 3 representatives to take part. Initial cost £120 (not including accommodation or transport). If you would like to be involved please contact Fr Steven via email or the Parish Office by Wednesday 14 February.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

A reminder that the next session for those children enrolled in this year's course is on Saturday 24 February at 0900 sharp in St Therese Hall, Presentation House.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Tuesday St Michael's, Bembridge 0900-1000
Every Friday St Mary's, Ryde 1000-1200

PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES

Gathering to pray and reflect on the Sunday Gospels for the season of Lent, led by Father Steven, commencing Friday 16 February at St Michael's Church, Bembridge, 1500.

GUILD OF ST STEPHEN

Congratulations to Doria Vaughan, one of our altar servers, who will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen at Mass today, Sunday, at St Mary's.

VOUCHERS FOR SCHOOLS

At this time of year many grocers issue vouchers for schools. To support our parish school of St Mary's please bring your vouchers to Mass and place them in the collection baskets at the offertory.

PARISH WEBSITE

To download a copy of the Newsletter, to check Events, News and other information please visit the parish website: www.stmarysryde.org.uk.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY

Another vacancy for Foundation Governor on the governing body of the Federation of St Mary's and St Thomas of Canterbury has arisen and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by Bishop Philip, Bishop of Portsmouth to diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Anyone interested in the mission of foundation governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. Please email schools@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
www.stmarysryde.org.uk

or call 023 9289 3600 for more information.

FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

For Catholics, the month of February is especially dedicated to the Passion of Our Lord, probably because Lent usually begins in this month. Throughout the centuries, many devotions have developed to help us focus on the Passion of Christ. These help to lead us from sorrow to wonder; sorrow for our sins, wonder at the unbounded love of Christ for us.

Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish community and all those who are in need of our prayers especially:

Elizabeth Bain, Marie Bartlett, Mary Belston, Harry Carter, Joan Chapman, Rose Duddigan, Mavis Francis, Daphne Gibson, Mary Gilbert, May Gregory, Derek Hammond, Leo Harrison, Frances Hawker, Jean Lobb, Josie Mursell, Tony Obeysekere, Mary Porter, Yvonne Rampton, Olive Roch, Peggy Ryan, Stephanie Shortt, Pat Sinclair, Peter Trafford, Liz Watling and Ross Young.

For those who have died, especially Enid Eastwood RIP [Funeral Mass, Monday 26 February, 1200, St Mary's, Ryde] and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

BOOK OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

In each of our churches, near the Lady Altar, is placed a book in which we are invited to write any intentions we may have. Each week the parish will pray for the intentions recorded in these books.

THANK YOU FOR LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £573.89

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY and **GOOD FRIDAY** are days of fasting and abstinence.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1000 Friday St Michael's, Bembridge:

1800 Friday St Mary's, Ryde

WALK WITH ME - LENT 2018

Please take a copy of this reflective guide to Lent.

LENTEN ALMS

This year we are going to support two local charities, ASPIRE and OPEN ARMS. Alms will be collected during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, 29 March, or beforehand on Palm Sunday (25 March). Please take a collection box home with you today.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

During the Season of Lent we will be saying the Apostles' Creed when we make a profession of faith.

NEWSLETTER

Items for the Newsletter should be received by 1200 Tuesday

Please email: stmarysryde.newsletter@gmail.com

www.stmarysryde.org.uk

MASS TIMES

Saturday 10 February – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

1800 St Mary's Pro Pop

Sunday 11 January – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

0915 St Michael's Living and deceased members of the
Sammon and Foulkes families

1100 St Mary's Mary Baker RIP

Monday 12 February – FERIA

1200 St Mary's For the end of abortion and the healing of wounds

Tuesday 13 February – FERIA

1000 St Michael's Charlotte Elliot (P)

Wednesday 14 February – ASH WEDNESDAY

1000 St Michael's William Sibbert (P)

1200 St Mary's Pro Pop

1900 St Mary's Denny Clarke RIP

Thursday 15 February – AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1200 ST MARY'S LATIN MASS (EF) - Fred Clarke RIP

Friday 16 February – AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1200 St Mary's Holy Souls

Saturday 17 February – AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

1000 St Mary's Edmund Randolph (P)

Saturday 17 February – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

1800 St Mary's Douglas Turtle RIP

Sunday 18 February – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

0915 St Michael's Doreen Frazer RIP

1100 St Mary's Pro Pop

1700 St Mary's Sung Ordinariate Mass

OTHER MASS TIMES

Quarr Abbey Sundays and Holy Days 1000

Weekdays 0900

St Cecilia's Abbey Sundays and Holy Days 1000

Weekdays 0930

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSÈD SACRAMENT

St Michael's Tuesdays 0900-1000

St Mary's **Thursday, 15 February** 1130-1200

St Mary's Fridays 1000-1200

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

St Michael's Tuesdays 0930-1000

St Mary's Saturdays 0930-1000 and 1730-1800

www.stmarysryde.org.uk