

<b>PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS &amp; ST JOSEPH</b> <b>Parish Church:</b> St Joseph's, The Square, Folly Lane, Wool BH20 6DU <b>Mass Centres:</b> <b>St Edward King &amp; Martyr:</b> Shatters Hill, Wareham – BH20 4QP <b>St Mary's Chapel:</b> Lulworth Castle Park, East Lulworth – BH20 5QS <b>Primary School:</b> St Mary & St Joseph's, Folly Lane, Wool BH20 6DS Tel: 01929 462565 <a href="http://www.stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk">www.stmaryjosephswool.dorset.sch.uk</a> <b>Safeguarding:</b> Anthony Nott: 07541 303 941	<b>PARISH OF SWANAGE</b> <b>Parish Church:</b> The Holy Spirit & St Edward, 1 Victoria Avenue, Swanage BH19 1AH <b>Swanage Hall Booking:</b> 01929 427047 <b>Primary School:</b> St Mary's, Northbrook Rd, Swanage BH19 1QA Tel: 01929 424909 <a href="http://www.stmarysswanage.dorset.sch.uk">www.stmarysswanage.dorset.sch.uk</a> <b>Besom Project:</b> 07519977732 <b>Safeguarding:</b> Mary Foster: 0774 800 6056
<b>Parish Priest:</b> Canon Timothy Lewis, The Presbytery 1, Victoria Avenue, Swanage BH19 1AH Tel: 01929 422491 or 07581068555. <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:timothy.lewis@prcdtr.org.uk">timothy.lewis@prcdtr.org.uk</a> . <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://purbeckcatholic.co.uk">https://purbeckcatholic.co.uk</a> Part of Plymouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity No 213227	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B					
Saturday	9TH MARCH	6.00 PM	WAREHAM	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YR B	John Morrison – thanksgiving intention
Sunday	10TH	9.00 AM 11.00 AM	SWANAGE WOOL	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YR B</b> <b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b>	Ken Lander RIP
Tuesday	12TH	NO MASS AT SWANAGE THIS MORNING			
Wednesday	13TH	10.00 AM	WOOL		
Thursday	14TH	10.00 AM	WAREHAM		
Friday	15TH	9.00AM	SWANAGE		Peter, Lily and Terry Connolly RIP
Saturday	16TH	6.00 PM	LULWORTH	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YR B	Wilfrid Weld RIP
Sunday	17TH	9.00 AM 11.00 AM	SWANAGE WOOL	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YR B</b>	
<b>CONFESSIONS: SWANAGE:</b> Friday 9.30 am - <b>WOOL:</b> Next Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> at 4pm, Holy Hour with confessions <b>WAREHAM:</b> Thursday 10.30 am – <b>LULWORTH/WAREHAM:</b> before Saturday Vigil Mass or by appointment.					

**IN OUR PRAYERS** - Please keep in your prayers our sick and housebound and all those who have asked for our prayers especially Rita Hart, Maureen Lyons, Laura McGuire, Jackie Riley and Greta Marshallsay.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** at Wareham Saturday 6th April 9am - 12pm. Morning prayer of the church just after 9am and the rest of the time for silent prayer before our Lord.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** at Swanage: Fridays in Lent after 9:00 am Mass or 9:45 am if there is no Mass. All Welcome  
**WAREHAM STATIONS** of the CROSS: at St Edward's Fridays of Lent at 6pm

**ST EDWARD'S WAREHAM ROSARY GROUP** Thursday evenings 7:30pm at St Edward's, more info contact Vikki Smith 07855166883 [vikki.smith97@gmail.com](mailto:vikki.smith97@gmail.com) for more info or for prayer intentions.

**WOOL COFFEE/ SOCIAL** Wednesday 10.30 at Wool.

**RED BOX RESEARCH** – the “Red Box” has been around for over 100 years. Whether you still have one at home, or remember having one growing up, we would love to hear from you as we plan for our future. Would you be happy to speak with us? If so. Please complete a short form to show your interest and to find out more at: [mission.org.uk/research](http://mission.org.uk/research) or scan the QR code. If you cannot access the form online, you can call 02078219755. Thank you.

#### THE WORD THIS WEEKEND

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

First Reading *2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23* The fall of Judah signals the beginning of the period of the Babylonian captivity. Looking back on the history of his people, the writer concludes that the nation that abandons its God

cannot hope to escape his judgement and punishment. But because God is full of forgiveness and mercy, the nation will be saved after its punishment.

Responsorial Psalm - *Psalm 137:1-2,3,4-5,6* - A lament from exile for the loss of Jerusalem

Second Reading *Ephesians 2:4-10* Like the people of Israel, we too were in exile because of our sins, but God has brought us to life through Christ. We must have faith in God's love which brought about our salvation in Christ. In grace we have been saved, so that we may do the work of the Lord.

Gospel Reading *John 3:14-21* Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

March 13th is the Anniversary of the election of the Holy Father:

For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, may he lead the Church in service and truth.

For all bishops, may they teach with authority, govern with humility and pray for the good of all.

At his audience on 6th March Pope Francis spoke on pride:

... The proud man is one who thinks he is much more than he really is; one who frets about being recognized as greater than others, always wants to see his own merits recognized, and despises others, deeming them inferior to himself.

... Writers on spirituality are especially attentive in describing the consequences of pride in everyday life, to illustrate how it ruins human relationships, ... how this evil poisons that feeling of fraternity that should instead unite men.

... the proud man is haughty, he has a "stiff neck," ... that does not bend. He is a man easily led to scornful judgment: with no reason, he passes irrevocable judgments on others, who seem to him hopelessly inept and incapable. ... Jesus in the Gospels assigned us very few moral precepts, but on one of them he was uncompromising: never judge.

... There is little one can do with a person suffering from pride. It is impossible to talk to them, much less correct them, because ultimately they are no longer present to themselves. One just has to be patient with them, because one day their edifice will collapse.

Salvation comes through humility, the true remedy for every act of pride. ... the apostle James, to his community wounded by infighting originating in pride, writes, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble"

So, dear brothers and sisters, let us take advantage of this Lent to fight against our pride.

**"Give Prayer a Go":** during Lent the Archdiocese of Southwark is releasing a short (usually less than a minute) prayer video a day. For a few moments of stillness see: <https://www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseOfSouthwark/videos/>

For some insights on prayer see: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/faith/prayer/>

During Lent we pray for Penitents and Wanderers:

For the courage to face up to sin and turn to Christ.

For all who are searching, may they find their homes in the church.

**PLYMOUTH DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER** - HERE is the link to this week's Lenten Offering:

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-EDAC5E04E68FD8C92540EF23F30FEDED>