

Parish of Effingham and Fetcham
Our Lady of Sorrows and Church of the Holy Spirit

Parish Team:

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Live-stream on YouTube "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish":

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

A Very Warm Welcome to Parishioners and Visitors

5th Sunday of Easter

Sundays: Cycle B Weekdays: Year II 28 April 2024

'A Scary Gospel'



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Really? Surely today's Gospel 'I am the vine, you are the branches' continues the same agricultural themes as last Sunday's 'Good Shepherd'. Surely it's all warm, nurturing, pastoral loveliness. I beg to differ.

Jesus promises us that if we bear fruit we will be pruned by the Father to make us bear even more fruit. And that this pruning is achieved by His Word.

What do we think pruning looks like? A little light trim?

Unfortunately not. Take a winter trip to Denbies (other vineyards are available) to see pruned vines. The view is like a post-nuclear winter: just gnarled stumps and a few bare twigs remain. It seems a miracle that anything grows again the following spring. And this isn't the punishment of the wicked; it's what is promised to fruitful followers, to the good guys. If you wanted an easy ride then you've picked the wrong saviour!

Ask Paul (Saul) of today's first reading. His Damascus Road encounter with the Risen Jesus was the ultimate pruning. But it did indeed result in much fruit.

Prayers for us all

Fr Charles

This Week

Please pray for **Zemko Goonetillate** of our parish who is being confirmed this weekend at St Joseph's College, Weybridge.

Parish Walking Group - Sat 4 May

Our next walk will take place on Ranmore so we can either car share or meet at the start. It will be an afternoon walk starting at 2 pm.

We will meet at the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows car park (Effingham) at 1.40pm. Or at the car parking beside St Barnaby's Church Ranmore shortly before 2 pm. Please let us know if you intend to meet at the OLOS car park so we don't leave without you.

It is a fairly easy four mile walk with beautiful views along the way. Although the area is hilly the uphill on this walk are very gradual and manageable – we did the walk last Saturday and it was lovely.

If you would like to join our WhatsApp group, please text Annette on 07561 305767. This is the way we keep in touch, request lifts and make any last-minute changes due to the weather.

We look forward to welcoming you on 4 May!

Annette and Kathy

Next Week

The Ascension of the Lord – Holyday of Obligation on Thursday 9 May. Masses (as last year) will be 11 am at St Teresa's School and 8 pm at CHS. There will be no Mass at OLOS.

Coming Soon



Parish Trip to Arundel Cathedral for Feast of Corpus Christi Mass on Thur 30 May. We have now

booked the coach trip to Arundel Cathedral for the Corpus Christi Mass, leaving OLOS at 3 pm, back home around 9 pm. The timings for the celebration are as follows:

- Mass starts at 5:30pm and ends 6:30pm
- Procession leaves Cathedral for the Castle at 6:30pm
- Benediction in the Castle grounds
- Procession returns to the Cathedral for the final part of Benediction at 7:30pm
- Celebration concludes at 7:45pm

As we go to press, there's still room on the coach if you'd like to come along. Please just sign-up on the list at the back of the church. We suggest a donation of £10 per person as a contribution towards the cost of the coach hire. *Please bring the donation in cash on the day of the trip.*

General



First Holy Communion Rosaries. We have a lovely selection of First Holy Communion rosaries in the repository cupboard at OLOS and a smaller number at HS.

Do please help yourself and put any money in the wall slots.

Car Parking at OLOS

Representations are being made to our neighbouring schools as the situation has got out of hand on school days. We are taking a constructive, positive, but firm approach as we want good relations with our neighbours. So as well as asserting our rights about the car park, we're also including the possibility of us being a resource for their RE curriculum, including potential class visits to the church, and whether we could join forces in lobbying for

improvements to Lower Road which currently is an accident waiting to happen. We also want to take a community minded approach that is relaxed about responsible parents using our car park for a few moments as a safe drop-off-and-go.

If we have a funeral or other big liturgy on a school day, as a general rule the car park will now be shut until one hour beforehand. Access earlier than this will only be by arrangement.



The Life of Christ. Wintershall Estate, nr Guildford, 18-22 June, 10 am to 3.30 pm. For more details, please click the link:

<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/life-christ-2024>

Taizé Prayer is to be held at St Lawrence, Effingham on Sunday 5 May at 6 pm.



MISSIO Red Boxes. Calling all red box holders for OLOS Effingham. Please would you bring your box into the church and leave on the shelf outside the Sacristy so that the contents can be counted from now until the end of April. Thank you!

Criminal Justice Bill - Abortion Issues - Updates
Further amendments have been tabled but still no date has been set for the Report Stage and Third Reading.

In your prayer, and lobbying of our MP, the relevant amendments are:

New Clause 1 (Against), New Clause 15 (For), New Clause 34 (For)

New Clause 1 would dis-apply all criminal law to a woman procuring an abortion for her own pregnancy at any gestation up to full term. New Clause 15 would lower the legal limit for abortion from 24 to 22 weeks. New Clause 34 would give a Down Syndrome pregnancy the same protection in law as any other pregnancy. There is also a further New Clause (40) which isn't mentioned: it's about punitive measures and non-custodial sentences, matters of great sensitivity with valid arguments on both sides. To email your MP: (it only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool) <https://righttolife.org.uk/uptobirth> or for most of the parish the MP is Sir Paul Beresford MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, e-mail c/o annie.winsbury@parliament.uk



Diocesan Run Event: Mass for Engaged Couples – Fri 5 July, 7-8 pm. Join Bishop Richard for a special Mass celebrating the momentous journey of discernment that is

engagement towards the lifelong commitment made by couples preparing for marriage. Join us afterwards for a small drinks reception in the Cathedral Centre. We look forward to meeting many engaged couples from across the Diocese and sharing in their joy. Please book here [Mass for Engaged Couples \(05-Jul-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick:	
Derek Barham	Janet Morgan
Marie Bliss	Jim Morgan
Christopher Browne	James Nicholls
Amy Chapman	Maureen Rennison
John Donovan	Jean Rowlandson
Mary Doran	Bernard Shaw
Mary Hefford	Jenny Smith
Maddy Hewitt	Peter Stevenson
Tessa Knott	Maggie Thomas
Gillian Lake	Andrea Vaughan
Joanna Mills	

This Week's Services and Mass Intentions

Saturday Vigil	27 Apr	6.00 pm	OLOS	Vallis & Priestly Family
Sunday	28 Apr	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Sunday	28 Apr	11.00 am	HS	Philip Aboud & Family - Wellbeing
Monday	29 Apr	NO MASS		NO MASS
Tuesday	30 Apr	9.15 am	OLOS	Michael Boulvard – RIP
Wednesday	01 May	9.15 am	HS	Holy Souls - RIP
Thursday	02 May	9.15 am	OLOS	Laurie & Kitty Puddefoot - RIP
Friday	03 May	Noon	HS	Clive Ward - RIP
Saturday Vigil	04 May	6.00 pm	OLOS	Carol Acres - RIP
Sunday	05 May	9.00 am	OLOS	Elsie Regnault – RIP (1 st Anniversary)
Sunday	05 May	11.00 am	HS	People of the Parish

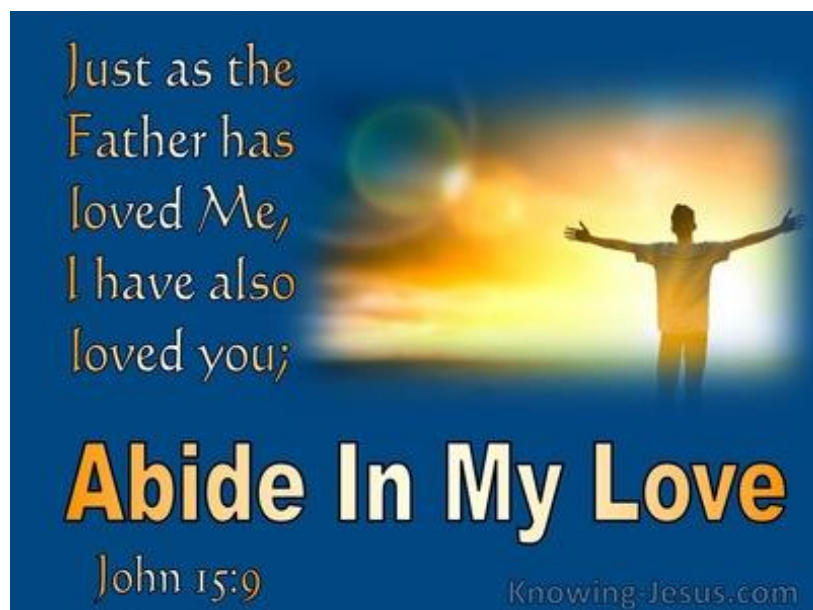
HS = Holy Spirit, Fetcham OLOS = Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

All Masses from OLOS are live-streamed on YouTube at "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish" <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

Confessions	Saturdays 5.00-5.30 pm OLOS, Effingham 1st Sunday of the month after 11.00 am Mass HS, Fetcham
Adoration	Thursdays following OLOS 9.15 am Mass to Noon, then 2-7 pm
Chaplet of the Divine Mercy	Wednesdays following HS 9.15 am Mass
Children's Liturgy	1st & 3rd Sundays of the month in term time at HS, Fetcham 11.00 am

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48 | Psalm 97:1-4. R.v2 | 1John 4:7-10 | John 15:9-17



Please get Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday

Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878