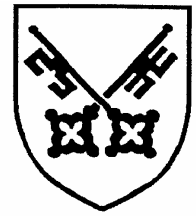


# St Peter's Church Magazine



February 2024 issue ❖ 75p (£7 subscription for one year)  
St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot ❖ [www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk)  
Follow us on Twitter @StPetersDidcot

## Lent 2024

On Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, we start the service with the following words: "At first this season of Lent was observed by those who were preparing for Baptism at Easter and by those who were to be restored to the Church's fellowship from which they had been separated through sin."

The early Church was as bad as the modern Church at internal arguments that seem to have nothing to do with the people in the pews. But in those early years, Christianity was an underground movement, persecuted by the authorities, and what you believed could lead to your death.

One big debate the early Church had was whether Christians who had denied Christ should be accepted back into the Church. These were people who had been charged with the crime of Christianity by the authorities and, out of fear, said that they weren't Christian and so survived. During the periods where Christianity wasn't persecuted so much, those people would ask to return to a worshipping community. Those communities had questions about whether they would be welcomed back immediately or should they have to be re-baptised to wash them of this sin? After much debate, it was decided that returning, repentant Christians should go through the same period of prayer, fasting and study of the scriptures

that new Christians people being baptised at Easter went through.

With these 40 days of examining the conscience, prayer, fasting and study began the spiritual practice that we now call the Season of Lent – giving up whatever habits get in the way of our relationship with God, or taking up something that will draw us closer in love with our Heavenly Father.

St Peter's regularly provides tools to help you through your Lenten journey. We have various study groups for different interests and at different times of day. This year, we have Come and See, which will run in church in the evenings, and the ecumenical study group, which meets during the day. There will also be a study group looking in detail at C.S. Lewis' book *The Screwtape Letters* and connecting its theology to the Bible and to Lewis's other works. Please see the notices for the dates, times and locations for each study group.

Those who choose to start or end Lent with an 'examination of conscience' are invited to make their confession – this is a long-standing Church of England practice known as the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It involves preparing for confession by thinking about your patterns of behaviour that you think damage your relationships with family,

*(Continued on page 2)*

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## Lent 2024

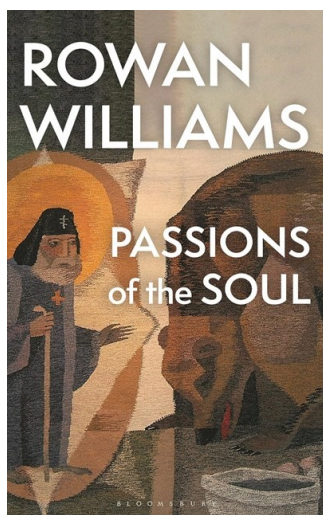
(Continued from page 1)

friends and God. During the Sacrament, you discuss those behaviours with the Vicar and what you might do to heal any damaged relationships. The Vicar then pronounces God's forgiveness for repentant sinners, which includes herself, that has been promised to us in the Bible. This is completely confidential and you can book an appointment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at any time of year, but it is particularly recommended during Lent.

Whatever you have decided to do for yourself this Lent, whether it's joining a Lent group, studying one of the books on offer, or something else, I pray that you may have a holy Lent and come to the celebration of Easter refreshed and renewed.

*Revd. Hannah*

## Lent Books for 2024



*Passions of the Soul*, by Rowan Williams, Publ Bloomsbury, £9.59 (Church House Bookshop)

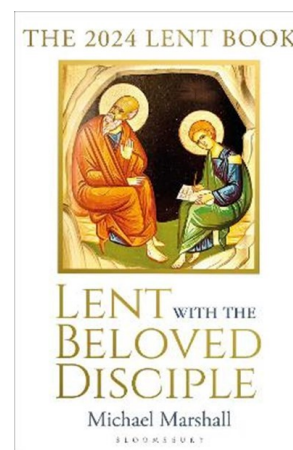
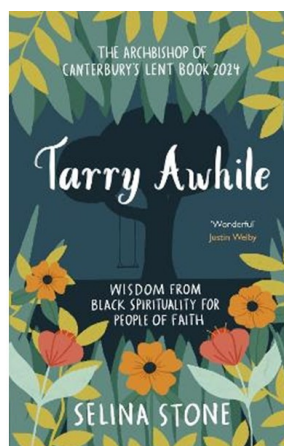
Rowan Williams' book, published in time for Lent.

“Rowan Williams has been engaged for many years in research on the Eastern Christian tradition. In this book shows ways in which the great classics of Eastern Christian spiritual writing can help us to understand and cope with the turbulence of the 21st century. The Eastern monastic tradition teaches us what it means to let our eyes be opened not only to God but to the material world. Before we can enter into the contemplation of the divine, we need self-knowledge, and a capacity to relate to the rest of the world without selfish illusions. And in this process, we come to grasp how those human reactions work that can trap us in negative, delusory and destructive patterns of behaviour. Only in this way can we understand the kind of people we need to become.”

*Tarry Awhile*, by Selina Stone, Publ SPCK, £9.59 (Church House Bookshop)

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2024

“Tarrying is a Black Christian spiritual practice in which believers actively wait to experience the manifestation of God's presence. It answers yes to the question Jesus once asked his disciples: will you tarry here and watch with me? Whether in the vibrancy of music and singing, or in the hushed silence of the congregation, people of all ages anticipate an encounter with God that will transform what they know, feel and experience day to day. This book makes the wisdom of Black spiritualities and faith available for all people. It focuses on seven themes: darkness as a place of encounter with the divine; the unity of all things; movement, belonging and migration; the Spirit as one who moves in unexpected ways; quiet contemplation as essential to spiritual growth; healing in community; and weeping that turns to joy.”



*Lent with the Beloved Disciple*, by Bishop Michael Marshall, Publ Bloomsbury, £8.79 (Church House Bookshop)

Bloomsbury's Lent Book 2024

“As the only disciple to have stayed close to Jesus at every stage from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion at Calvary, this eagle-eyed eyewitness [St John] intentionally records certain subtle details and signs which, when perceived with the eyes of faith, indicate a deeper and far lasting significance. Michael Marshall explores what these signs are and how, with prayerful reflection, they draw us ever more deeply into the personal, eternal and cosmic significance and awareness of all that Christ accomplished by his death and resurrection – the Paschal Mystery. Ideal for both individual use and for small group study, *Lent with the Beloved Disciple* takes us into the heart of that Paschal Mystery, by which all things in heaven and earth are ultimately fulfilled in the risen and ascended Christ, who is ‘all in all’.”

## Quiz 'n' Chips

## Dates for 2023-2024 Season

### November charity raffle



It was just over 12 months since I last visited and it was great to see how the TRAIN premises in the Market Square have evolved in that time and is now a really wonderful space for sessions that TRAIN do.

*Hugh*

### Regular Giving



**2024**  
**20<sup>th</sup> January,**  
**24<sup>th</sup> February,**  
**20<sup>th</sup> April,**  
**18<sup>th</sup> May,**  
**15<sup>th</sup> June**

Contact [quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk](mailto:quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk), or  
Hugh on 01235 811465.

### October charity raffle



I met Andrew Baker at the Cornerstone during November to hand over the cheque where he was busy planning for the Didcot Festive Market and various Play2Give events. He thanks everybody for their generous contributions at the October Quiz.

*Hugh*

If you think of St Peter's as being your church and that we are your community, please consider switching to regular giving by Standing Order. This helps us to plan for our bills and maintenance.

If you would like to know more about our major costs, or how to give regularly to St Peter's, please talk to our Treasurer, Mrs Sue Scane.

*Thank you  
Revd. Hannah*

## Prayer Intentions: February 2024

<p><b>1st: Brigid (St Bride)</b> Readings: Psalm 99, 110; Genesis 21: 1-21; Matthew 27:57-end.</p> <p>Born in Ireland in the 5th Century Brigid founded a centre of learning and several monasteries. Kilbride is named after her.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Loyd Road; Elder Close. The work of the Mothers' Union worldwide.</p>	<p><b>2nd:</b> Readings: Psalm 142, 144; Genesis 22: 1-19; Matthew 28:1-15.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cockcroft Road; Mowbray Road. Our Director of Music and the choir.</p>	<p><b>3rd: Anskar</b> Readings: Psalm 147; Genesis 23; Matthew 28:16-end.</p> <p>9th Century Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen. He was responsible for renewing Christianity in N. Europe.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Barnes Road, Barnes Close. Those who read the Scriptures in Church.</p>	<p><b>4th: 2 before Lent</b> Readings: Psalm 29, 67; Deuteronomy 8:1-10; Luke 8:22-35.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Edwin Road. Our Sides-people and Welcomers.</p>
<p><b>5th:</b> Readings: Psalm 1, 2, 3; Genesis 29:31-30:24; 2 Timothy 4:1-8.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Green Road; Green Close. Toddlers and their carers, those who normally attend Little Fishes.</p>	<p><b>6th: Martyrs of Japan</b> Readings: Psalm 5, 6; Genesis 31: 1-24; 2 Timothy 4: 9-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Royal Berkshire Close; Beech Lane. Northbourne School, its staff and pupils.</p>	<p><b>7th:</b> Readings: Psalm 119:1-32; Genesis 31:25-32:2; Titus 1.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Queensway; Hardings Strings. Wednesday Church and those with learning disabilities and their carers.</p>	<p><b>8th:</b> Readings: Psalm 14,15,16; Genesis 32: 3-30; Titus 2.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. Those who are housebound and those who care for them.</p>
<p><b>9th:</b> Readings: Psalm 17, 19; Genesis 33: 1-17; Titus 3.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Warner Crescent; Morse Road. St Peter's Outreach to the community.</p>	<p><b>10th: Scholastica</b> Readings: Psalm 20, 21, 23; Genesis 35; Philemon.</p> <p>Sister of St Benedict and Abbess at a convent near to her brother's monastery at Monte Cassino.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> South Park Avenue; Downs Road. Alton Abbey and the Community at Wantage.</p>	<p><b>11th: Next before Lent</b> Readings: Psalm 2; Exodus 24: 12-end; 2 Peter 1: 16-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Newlands Avenue; Larch Drive. Those who provide after service refreshments.</p>	<p><b>12th:</b> Readings: Psalm 27, 30; Genesis 37: 1-11; Galatians 1.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. Those who put together the Church magazine and weekly news-sheets.</p>
<p><b>13th:</b> Readings: Psalm 32, 36 Genesis 37: 12-end; Galatians 2: 1-10.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Craven Way; Hillary Drive; Lockinge Close. Those who keep the church and grounds clean and tidy.</p>	<p><b>14th: Ash Wednesday</b> Readings: Psalm 38; Daniel 9:3-6, 17-19; Luke 15:11-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cullen Place; Hanover Court. That all at Peter's might have a holy Lent.</p>	<p><b>15th: Sigfrid</b> Readings: Psalm 77; Genesis 39; Galatians 2: 11-end.</p> <p>Born in England, Sigfrid was a Benedictine monk and 11th Century missionary to Sweden.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Clarence Pl; Frideswide's Court. Theologians and those who teach and train our clergy.</p>	<p><b>16th:</b> Readings: Psalm 3, 7; Genesis 40; Galatians 3: 1-14.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Wantage Road; Colbourne Road. The Quiz and Chips Team.</p>

## Prayer Intentions: February 2024

<p><b>17th: Janani Luwum</b> Readings: Psalm 71; Genesis 37: 1-11; Galatians 1.</p> <p>Archbishop of Uganda 1974-1977, and one of the most influential Church leaders in Africa, he was murdered by Idi Amin's regime.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Barleyfields; Elbourne. Persecuted Christians throughout the world.</p>	<p><b>18th: Lent 1</b> Readings: Psalm 77; Exodus 34: 1-10; Romans 10:8b-13.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. Bishop Steven, Bishop Gavin and their staff.</p>	<p><b>19th:</b> Readings: Psalm 10, 11; Genesis 41: 25-45; Galatians 3: 23-4: 7.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Park Road; Park Close. The work of Train and ECHO Trust with young people in the area.</p>	<p><b>20th:</b> Readings: Psalm 44; Genesis 41: 46-42:5; Galatians 4: 8-20.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Didcot Library, its users and the staff who provide such essential services.</p>
<p><b>21st:</b> Readings: Psalm 6, 17; Genesis 42: 6-17; Galatians 4: 21-5:1.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Norreys Road; Norreys Close. Churches Together in Didcot and District.</p>	<p><b>22nd:</b> Readings: Psalm 42, 43; Genesis 42: 18-28; Galatians 5: 2-15.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Meadow Way; Brunel Road. Our Church Wardens.</p>	<p><b>23rd: Polycarp</b> Readings: Psalm 22; Genesis 42: 29-end; Galatians 5: 16-end.</p> <p>Thought to be a disciple of John the Apostle, who consecrated him Bishop of Smyrna. One of the three greatest Apostolic Fathers. Martyred c155.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Portway; Wheatfields. Didcot Police Station, our PCSOs.</p>	<p><b>24th:</b> Readings: Psalm 59, 63; Genesis 43: 1-15; Galatians 6.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. Didcot Community Hospital, all who use the facilities and who work there.</p>
<p><b>25th: Lent II</b> Readings: Psalm 105; Isaiah 51: 1-11; Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. Those who prepare intercessions and lead us in prayer in our worship.</p>	<p><b>26th:</b> Readings: Psalm 26, 32; Genesis 43: 16-end; Hebrews 1.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. Our communications team, and those posting to our Facebook page.</p>	<p><b>27th: George Herbert</b> Readings: Psalm 50; Genesis 44: 1-17; Hebrews 2: 1-9.</p> <p>Metaphysical Poet and Anglican priest (died of TB, aged 39).</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Those who pray for St Peters.</p>	<p><b>28th:</b> Readings: Psalm 35 ; Genesis 44: 18-end; Hebrews 2: 10-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. Didcot Emergency Food bank and its volunteers, clients and supporters.</p>
<p><b>29th:</b> Readings: Psalm 34 ; Genesis 45: 1-15; Hebrews 3: 1-6.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Those in the food, fishing and farming industries, transport workers, and supermarket, shop and hospitality workers.</p>			

# Parish Safeguarding Officer: Alison Driscoll

St Peter's is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies.

If you have any concerns about the welfare and safety of yourself, or of a child or vulnerable adult known to you, or you wish to discuss any previous abuse suffered by you or another person known to you please contact St Peter's - Safeguarding Officer

Name: Alison Driscoll

Email: [safeguarding@stpeters-didcot.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stpeters-didcot.org.uk)

Or speak with Reverend Hannah on 01235 812114 or email [priest-in-charge@stpeters-didcot.org.uk](mailto:priest-in-charge@stpeters-didcot.org.uk)

Or contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer (DSA) on 01865 208295 or

email [safeguardingreferrals@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguardingreferrals@oxford.anglican.org)

If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority Children or Adults Services. Call 999, or the MASH team on 0345 050 7666 or you can make an online referral:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub>

or 101 online <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/report-a-crime>



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Well 'Tis *The Season To Be Jolly* !

What better way than finish **2023** with an eye on what we can look forward to in **2024** ?!

' In a recent Radio 4 programme the BBC medical guru, Dr Micheal Moseley, ( 'Just One Thing' ) he went on to say how during our inevitable aging process & progress we all need to keep active in **mind, body and soul** !

This is never more important for all those who have surplus time at hand, such as retired or semi retired individuals who may be looking beyond learning, earning and living- your local branch of the **Didcot and District u3a** (University of the Third Age) can provide '*Learn, Laugh, Live!*'

**So every Third Tuesday of the month at the Didcot Civic Hall meetings are held starting at 2:30** with an informative get together over coffee, tea and biscuits and learn about and the numerous **Interest Groups** available most week days that include; learn a new language (choose from 4!), gardening, nature and social walks, wine appreciation (4 more groups!), family history, science maths & technology, photography, ukulele and many more!

In addition, during the monthly meetings there is a Guest Speaker providing talks on interesting subjects like those for the early months of 2024;

**20th February** - *How to be Gardener in the 21st Century* - Timothy Walker

**19th March** - *Curiosities in the Cotswolds Part 1* - Alan Copeland

**16th April** - *Coaches and Coach Horns, their story from the Golden Age to the Present Day!* - Colin Pawson

Hopefully something for everyone - and more ? And we look forward to welcoming new and returning members - for further information please contact the following;

**Google;** [u3asites.org.uk](http://u3asites.org.uk) or for Didcot & District u3a or [chairman@didcotu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@didcotu3a.org.uk)  
[Secretary@didcotu3a.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@didcotu3a.org.uk)

And always remember . . . . '*Learn , Laugh, Live !*

## **ECUMENICAL LENT GROUP 2024**

Please feel welcome to join us for 'A Journey Through the Psalms' 10:30 to 12noon.

On Fridays 23 Feb & 1, 8, 15, 22 March. At the home of Jenny Loder 75 Loyd Road Didcot

Please let us know if you are coming:

Jenny Loder 01235 519199

Josie Midwinter 01235 759398

[josie.midwinter@gmail.com](mailto:josie.midwinter@gmail.com)

## **Next issue**

Wednesday 21 February 2024 is the next magazine deadline. Please telephone or email the editor with any articles—

210525 or [maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com](mailto:maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com)

## A Lenten food calendar

**Saturday before Lent**—*Egg Saturday*

**Monday before Lent**—*Callop or Peasen Monday*

**Tuesday before Lent**—*Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day*

**Wednesday in Lent**—*Fritter Wednesday*

**Thursday in Lent**—*Fritter Thursday*

**Mid Lent Sunday**—*Mothering Sunday, Refreshment Sunday, Fig Pie Sunday*

**5th Sunday in Lent**—*Carling Sunday*

**Palm Sunday**—*Pudding Pie Sunday, Fig Sunday*

**Good Friday**—*Hot Cross Buns*

## Registers

Funerals 'may they rest in peace and rise in glory'

David Aplin

## Year's Mind for February

- |    |                   |                        |
|----|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1  | Frank Allen       | Florence Burrows       |
|    | Ethel Bridgewater | Frederick McIntyre     |
|    | June Edwards      | Gwen Lewis             |
|    | Fred Snell        | Edith Milton           |
| 2  | Dorothy Allen     | 20 Albert Gurry        |
|    | Magdalene Purdy   | Linda North            |
|    | George Lewington  | Winifred Archer        |
|    | Arthur Oliver     | Alfred (Jim) Griffiths |
|    | Leslie Bateman    | Alan Marshall          |
| 3  | Alice Large       | 21 Mabel Akers         |
|    | Eva Cobb          | Lilian Hayter          |
| 4  | Audrey Cooke      | Norman Dance           |
|    | Arthur Burge      | Edwin Marks            |
| 5  | Charles Talbot    | 22 Peter Walker        |
|    | Linda Charlton    | Kathleen Glenn         |
|    | William Turner    | Norman Warwick         |
| 6  | Elsie Cox         | 23 Edna Barnes         |
| 7  |                   | Eva Brown              |
| 8  | Marjorie Palmer   | Tina Talmange          |
|    | Ronald Tredwell   | Florence Taylor        |
|    | Axel Johansen     | Gordon Soul            |
| 9  | Amy Hemmings      | 24 Rose Fernback       |
| 10 | David Griffiths   | Ian Humphries          |
| 11 | Jason Belcher     | Robert Jepson          |
| 12 | Geoffrey Clarke   | Mary Potter            |
|    | Ian Whittern      | Philip Humphreys       |
| 13 | Alfred Burrows    | Enid Pointer           |
|    | Brenda Wells      | 25 Alice Knapp         |
|    | Victor Polley     | Ethel Berry            |
| 14 | Eric Rees         | Alice Cooper           |
|    | Lydia Robinson    | Nancy Spindler         |
|    | Stanley Johnson   | Norman Edge            |
|    | Fred Watts        | 26 May Burnage         |
| 15 | Elizabeth Edmonds | 27 Leonard Price       |
|    | Eric Blake        | Edith Jones            |
| 16 | John Peace        | 28 Florence Miles      |
|    | Sarah Sheard      | Amelia Brown           |
|    | Irene Roberts     | Milun Spasojevich      |
| 17 | James Gorton      |                        |
|    | Cecil Burrows     |                        |
|    | Mabel Thompson    |                        |
|    | Ruby Austin       |                        |
| 18 | Alfred Humphries  |                        |
|    | Alice Burrows     |                        |
| 19 | Clive Hawyes      |                        |
|    | Gwendoline        |                        |
|    | Brocklehurst      |                        |
|    | Reginald Darby    |                        |

# Church Calendar for February 2024

## SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

**Thursday 1 *Brigid***  
9.30AM—Said Mass

**Sunday 4 *2 before Lent***  
10.00AM—Parish Mass

**Wednesday 7**  
10.00AM—Wednesday Church

**Thursday 8**  
9.30AM—Said Mass

**Sunday 11 *Next before Lent***  
10.00AM—Parish Mass

**Wednesday 14 *Ash Wednesday***  
9.30AM—Said Mass  
7.00PM—Sung Mass

**Sunday 18 *First Sunday of Lent***  
10.00AM—Parish Mass

**Thursday 23**  
9.30AM—Said Mass

**Saturday 24**  
7.30PM—Quiz ‘n’ Chips  
(Doors open 7.00PM)

**Sunday 25 *Second Sunday of Lent***  
10.00AM—Parish Mass

**Thursday 29**  
9.30AM—Said Mass



**Vicar**  
The Revd. Hannah Reynolds  
The Vicarage,  
47A Newlands Avenue,  
Didcot  
01235 812114

Email:  
hclairereynolds@gmail.com

### Associate Minister



The Revd. Fran Childs  
01235 816166

### Safeguarding Officer

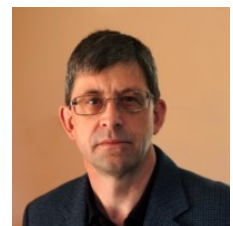


Alison Driscoll  
[safeguarding@stpeters-didcot.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stpeters-didcot.org.uk)

### Church Wardens



Alan Wilson  
07817 061752



Tim Scane  
07785 308160

## ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS MONTH

**Monday 8.30AM Morning Prayer**  
**Tuesday - Thursday & Saturday**  
**9.00AM Morning Prayer**

**Sunday**  
**10.00AM - Parish Mass—live streamed**  
**from church**