

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF**

SS Anthony & George, Duncton  
 The Divine Motherhood & St Francis of Assisi, Midhurst  
 The Sacred Heart, Petworth

<b>Sunday March 26th</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>			<b>The Parish of Petworth &amp; Midhurst</b> www.petworthcatholic.org
8.00am	Duncton	Mass	Edwards family intns	
9.30am	Midhurst	Mass	Assunta Funnell RIP	
11.00am	Petworth	Mass	People of the Parish	<b>Parish Priest</b> Canon Peter Newsam peter.newsam@abdiocese.org.uk
<b>Monday March 27th</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			
No Mass				
<b>Tuesday March 28th</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			<b>The Presbytery,</b> Angel Street, Petworth, West Sussex GU28 0BG 01798 342169
9.30am	Petworth	Mass		
<b>Wednesday March 29th</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			<b>Parish Office Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10am-2pm</b> 07934 479097 petworth@abdiocese.org.uk
9.30am	Midhurst	No Mass		
10.00am	Midhurst	Stations of The Cross		
11.30am	Midhurst	Funeral Mass	Teresa Campbell RIP	
<b>Thursday March 30th</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			
9.30am	Petworth	Mass		
<b>Friday March 31st</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			<b>Chair of Finance Committee</b> Alasdair Shaikh pfc.petworth@abdiocese.org.uk
6.00pm	Petworth	Confessions		
6.30pm	Petworth	Mass		
7.00pm	Petworth	Stations of The Cross		
<b>Saturday April 1st</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>			<b>Pastoral Lead</b> Charles Sommer charles@sommer-holdings.ltd.uk
9.30am	Midhurst	Mass	Sally & Rowland Thomas RIP	
12.00Noon	Petworth	Holy Hour and Confessions with visiting priest		
<b>Sunday April 2nd</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>			<b>Parish Safeguarding Rep</b> Sister Paula 01730 817221
8.00am	Duncton	Mass	John & Mary Chamberlain RIP	
9.15am	Midhurst	Mass	Julia McWalter RIP	
11.15am	Petworth	Mass	People of the Parish	
3.00pm	Petworth	Churches Together Palm Sunday Procession		

**Confessions before Easter** Fr Peter Johnstone will be joining Fr Peter to hear confessions during Holy Hours at Petworth next Saturday from Noon-1pm

**Farm Visit** This was such fun last year - this year with the addition of a spinning demo to show how fleece becomes yarn you can knit with - its really worth getting this in your diary! An opportunity to get together and meet the lambs at Park Farm, Lurgashall GU28 9EU Saturday 22nd April at 2:30pm. All welcome to visit the farm and see and feed some lambs followed by Tea and Cake.  
 RSVP Emma Pearce [epearce49@btinternet.com](mailto:epearce49@btinternet.com)

**Illegal Migration Bill** Caritas Social Action has prepared a statement on this, signed by its chairman, Bishop Terence Drainey. You can read it, and act as you feel appropriate, here: <https://www.csan.org.uk/news/csan-statement-on-the-illegal-migration-bill/>

**Planning for the future of our Parish** Following a

meeting with the Parish Leadership Team (Sister Paula, Alasdair and Charles, whose names and contact details appear above) we want to make some plans for the future of our parish, which will also feed into future plans for our deanery. There will be two short open meetings, one in Petworth and one in Midhurst, at which you will be able to share with us your views about the current strengths and weaknesses of our parish community. Anyone can come to either (you don't need to come to both). Please put them in your diaries:

Midhurst after Mass on Sunday April 16th  
 Petworth after Mass on Sunday May 7th

**Petworth Area Churches Together Palm Sunday Procession** This begins at The Sacred Heart at 3.00pm next Sunday

**Fr Peter's Installation as Honorary Canon** This is a simple ceremony, that takes place at The Chapter Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Thursday March 30th

at 11am. You are welcome to come if you wish!

**Chrism Mass** This takes place at Arundel Cathedral at 6pm on Wednesday April 5th, with the Bishop and all the priests of the Diocese. Never been? Come along and take part.

**Food Bank** Our local food banks have been distributing more food than they receive, and so they need our help. There are wall safes at the back of Midhurst and Petworth churches where you can leave a donation - the easiest way to support them is with money that allows them to buy what they need most.

### **The Liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum**

*Holy Thursday (April 6th)*

Mass of The Lord's Supper & Watch at The Altar of Repose **Midhurst** 8pm

*Good Friday (April 7th)*

Stations of The Cross at **Petworth** at 9.30am

Walk of Witness at **Midhurst** at 10.20am (starts at Methodist Church)

Liturgy of The Lord's Passion **Petworth** at 2pm

Liturgy of The Lord's Passion **Midhurst** at 4pm

*Holy Saturday (April 8th)*

Mass of the Easter Vigil at **Petworth** at 8.00pm

**The Grandparents' annual pilgrimage** to West Grinstead will be on Wednesday 14 June (11am–3pm). This is always a joyous day of celebration with Bishop Richard and grandparents from across the parishes of the Diocese. To reserve a place, please email [formation@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:formation@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Celebrating The Feast of St Joachim & St Anne Mass & Afternoon Tea - Saturday 22 July 2023 2.30pm at Arundel Cathedral.** Pope Francis calls us to this annual celebration for Grandparents and the more senior members of our community. Please sign up here: [Celebrating the Feast of St Joachim and St Anne \(22-Jul-2023\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

**A Mass for Engaged Couples** will be celebrated in Arundel Cathedral by Bishop Richard at 7pm on Friday 16 June. The Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre. To reserve seats, please email [formation@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:formation@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Liturgy of the Word with Children** - Saturday 13 May 2023 9.30-1pm The St Philip Howard Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley Training for liturgy leaders. Book your place through the diocesan

website. If you wish to discuss your engagement with this training please email E:

[Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Applications for 2023 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** are now open, July 28th - August 3rd. You can access the application form here: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home> Travelling to Lourdes is a wonderful experience full of fun, companionship, faith, friendship and laughter.

**Please pray for** all the recently departed, as well as for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time, among them Ronald Hines, Wynne Litchfield, Julia Blewitt.

## This Week

### **Wednesday March 29th**

No 9.30am Mass at Midhurst (Funeral Mass for Teresa Campbell at 11.30am)

### **Thursday March 30th**

Fr Peter installed as Honorary Canon at Chapter Mass in Arundel Cathedral 11am

### **Saturday April 1st**

Holy Hour and Confessions with visiting priest at Petworth Noon-1pm

### **Sunday April 2nd (Palm Sunday)**

NB slight change to Mass times  
PACT Palm Sunday Procession in Petworth at 3pm

### Giving to the Parish with Internet banking

Please enter in the reference field the reason for the transfer - 'offertory' or 'Mass stipend' or whatever. Thank you so much for your generosity.

**A/c name Petworth Sacred Heart**

**Sort code 40-05-20**

**Account number 11076612**

**OR**

You can give to our parish using the 'Donate to Our Parish' Button on the homepage of our website: [petworthcatholic.org](http://petworthcatholic.org)

**You can also** now give using the contactless card machine in the church at Petworth

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**Please continue to pray for the sick**, amongst them: Adrian Carmody-Smith, Sister Johanna, John Morey, Jennifer Thomas, Henry Anderson, Ellen Duguid, Sister Giles, Sue Bull, Margaret Daley-Dawson, Christopher Browne, Rosemary Grinstead, Tessa Bohane, Michael Rawlins, Kathleen Behan, Tristan Pye and Sister Ancilla.

## Fr Peter's Message for Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> 2023

My Dear Friends,

On our recent visit to Amsterdam we returned to a small museum that we last visited 25 or 30 years ago. It is rather off the beaten track, but since we were last there it has been greatly improved and it was such a fascinating visit. It is called The Museum of Our Lord in The Attic, and it is fascinating enough to discover the interior of an Amsterdam house laid out as it might have been in the Seventeenth Century. But as you climb the stairs to the top of the house you discover something truly extraordinary. The top floors of three neighbouring houses have been joined together, with all the walls removed, and in the resulting space has been built a Catholic Church. It is no tiny little chapel; standing in it, with the altar at one end (ok, so there isn't room for a pulpit, that has to be unfolded from one of the pillars by the altar....) and the organ at the other, with two galleries of seating as well as the floor, you feel you could be standing in a normal church at ground level. It is quite remarkable.

This church, completely invisible from outside, was built in the seventeenth century by a wealthy Catholic merchant. At the time of the Reformation, Catholic churches in Amsterdam were all lost to the new Protestant religion. But the new establishment was more tolerant than England's Protestant rulers, and while Catholics in Britain were being put to death for celebrating Mass, in Amsterdam it was tolerated if it was done in a way that was invisible. And so this church was born. It was used for two hundred years or so, until it was possible once again to build Catholic churches in public – but Mass is still celebrated there once a month. It is so well worth visiting, if you are in Amsterdam.



Sitting in this extraordinary church, it struck me just how resilient Catholics have shown themselves to be in the past. In this country we were driven underground, but survived and even flourished, without any buildings at all but with a real love of the Mass. In The

Netherlands circumstances were different, and it would have been possible to say 'lets just celebrate Mass in the dining room' or even 'lets make a simple little chapel in a back room' – but they didn't. They created a building of great beauty that takes your breath away. Just as all the old churches were being turned into rather austere and empty preaching boxes, a little jewel case was created in the roof, because only the best would do. It would have been a costly exercise, too. It would be costly to build, but also costly in terms of the space that was given to God – this large space could have been used to store merchandise, or for living accommodation, but instead it was given to God. It is quite a challenge to us, as we face times of change, to be as bold, inventive, and committed as the seventeenth century Catholics of Amsterdam were.



Just to end with an interesting detail, there is a little collection of Catholic artefacts – the usual range of chalices, monstrances, reliquaries and then this unusual little silver box, rather like a snuff box. I remember it so well from our last visit, many years ago. It is shaped like a coffin, has an internal lid and a spoon like a rather large tea caddy spoon. Apparently it was for the priest to carry soil from consecrated ground in, so that when burying a Catholic in a non-Catholic cemetery he could sprinkle a little of this soil into the grave. Once again, how inventive we have been in the past in finding ways to make the Good News of Jesus Christ present in our daily lives. Whatever challenges we face, it will always be possible to open a window and let God in.

Here is the website of the museum:

<https://opsolder.nl/en/museum-our-lord-in-the-attic/>

Have a wonderful weekend,

Fr Peter