



**Catholic Parish of Eastbourne & St Leonards**

**Churches of Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory and St Agnes**

**Parish Clergy:** Fr Kevin Dring and Fr Charles Ezejide

**Pastoral Assistant:** Caroline Rother – [pastoral.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pastoral.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary:** Cheryl Wood **Parish Office:** 2-4 Grange Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4EU **Hours:**

Mon-Fri 9.30 –1.30 pm **Email:** [eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk) **Telephone:** 01323 723222

**Website:** <https://ourladyofransom.org.uk>

**Safeguarding Co-ordinator:** Alison Parsons [sg1.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg1.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk)

**FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER: 15-21 MARCH 2026**

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

1 March £2481 – 8 March £2565  
CAFOF Lent Fast Day £1107

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS:**

Good Friday – The Holy Places  
Sun 26 April – World Day of Prayer for  
Vocations: The Education of Future Priests

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Ana Ramsey, Pat Avann, Pauline Bosley, Nora  
Woolf and Antoinette Mercieca  
and all those in hospital or housebound

**FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY**

Maria Featherstone, Bill Evans and Audrey  
Rogers and their families at this difficult time

**Prayer for those who live  
with dementia**

Loving God,  
Be close to all who live with  
dementia and those  
who care for them.  
When memories fade, hold them  
fast in Your faithful love.  
May Your peace dwell where  
words are few, and Your presence  
be deeply felt.

**Happy Mothers Day to all mums, living  
and deceased – thanks for all you do  
and have done for us!**

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Sat 14 March	OLR	6.00 pm	Maureen Davis RIP
<b>Sun 15 March</b>	St G	9.00 am	Barrow Family
<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>	OLR	10.15 am	People of the Parish
	St A	11.30 am	Gerry Goodwin RIP
	OLR	5.30 pm	Mario Ferioli RIP
Mon 16 March	OLR	11.00 am	Teresa Loughman RIP
Tues 17 March	OLR	11.00 am	Eileen Walsh RIP & Intentions of Dorthy Walsh
Wed 18 March	OLR	11.00 am	Paula Duggan RIP
Thurs 19 March	OLR	11.00 am	Cathy and Mike Kelly
Fri 20 March	OLR	11.00 am	David Morden RIP
Sat 21 March	OLR	10.00 am	Gaetano Grillo
	OLR	6.00 pm	Intentions of Fr Bruno Witchalls
<b>Sun 22 March</b>	St G	9.00 am	Fr Charles – Anniversary of Ordination
<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>	OLR	10.15 am	People of the Parish
	St A	11.30 am	Bernadette and Tom Shell
	OLR	5.30 pm	Johanna Wallis RIP
Mon 23 March	OLR	11.00am	Intentions of Bernadette Kavanagh
Tues 24 March	OLR	11.00 am	Elizabeth Peters RIP
<b>Wed 25 March</b>	OLR	09.00 am	Loretta Wood RIP
<b>ANNUNCIATION</b>	OLR	11.00 am	<b>REQUIEM: MARIA FEATHERSTONE RIP</b>
Thurs 26 March	OLR	11.00 am	Renata Jurgens RIP
Fri 27 March	OLR	11.00 am	Fr Charles – Anniversary of Ordination
Sat 28 March	OLR	10.00 am	Rafaele Basile RIP
	OLR	10.30 am	<i>Adoration and Confessions</i>

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 10.30-11.00 am  
Wednesday Rosary for Peace 10.25-10.50 am before Mass  
Friday 11.30 am-6.00 pm Benediction  
Saturday 10.30 am-12.00 noon Benediction

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 10.45-11.45 am and 5.00-5.45 pm (OLR)

**ROSARY:** St G - Tuesdays 10.30 am

OLR – after Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Masses

**DAILY PRIVATE PRAYER:** OLR open daily 8.00 am-6.00 pm

**LIVE-STREAMED MASSES:** [www.youtube.com/ourladyofransom](http://www.youtube.com/ourladyofransom)

**The Choice of God**

It is “Laetare Sunday”. The Lord calls us to rejoice because our redemption is close at hand. We are edging closer to the redemptive death of Jesus on Calvary on Good Friday. The joy we feel is further strengthened by the knowledge that the choice of God is not like the choice of man. The ways of God are not our ways. The way of man is to look at outward appearance, while the way of God is to look at the heart. Samuel looked at outward appearances in his imagined choice of a king over Israel until God pointed him to David, who was in the wilderness. The choice of David, after all, may not seem like a perfect choice, but God perfects every imperfection. From the loins of David came forth the saviour of the world.

The lesson for us is to come before God, who does not judge us nor condemn us. God is our shepherd who will never abandon us, even in our weakness. So, we who have been blinded by guilt or sin now have a chance at salvation. God wants to see your effort at repentance so we can see the beauty of God’s love. Having entered God’s love and mercy, let us now walk as children of light because God has chosen you, like David, against the choice of men! God bless, Fr. Charles

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL WHO JOIN US FOR MASS, ESPECIALLY TO ANY VISITORS. IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AFTER MASS SO THAT WE CAN PROPERLY WELCOME YOU!**

## PARISH DIARY – MARCH 2026

**Mon** 16 Mar – Contemplative Prayer Group, OLR, PMR, 3-4.30 pm  
**Tues** 17 Mar – Lenten Reflection, OLR Hall, 11.45 -12.45 pm  
**Wed** 18 Mar – Co-workers of St Mother Teresa, PMR, after 11 Mass; new members welcome  
**Thurs** 19 Mar – Mothers’ Prayers, PMR, 11.45-1.00 pm  
**Sat** 21 Mar – FHC Classes, 9-10 am & 10.30-11.30 am, OLR

**HOSPITAL MINISTRY:** If anyone is going into hospital, please let us know so we can ensure Sacramental visits. If you are in hospital or are going for surgery and would like to be Anointed in advance, please tell Fr Kevin or Fr Charles.

**FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION 25 MARCH:** please note change of time for the Parish Mass which will now be at **9.00 am, at OLR** with the funeral of Maria Featherstone at 11.00 am

### LENTEN DEVOTIONS

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

**OUR LADY OF RANSOM:** After 11am Mass on Fridays

**ST GREGORY:** 10.30am Tuesdays

**ST AGNES:** 7.30 pm Tuesdays

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS:** “Made for Heaven” Prayer, Reflection, Discussion, OLR Hall, Tues 17, **Mon 23**, Tues 31 March, 11.45 am

#### HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday** – St Gregory’s 09.00; OLR 10.15 and 5.30 pm; St Agnes 11.30 am

**Holy Thursday** – Mass of the Lord’s Supper, OLR, 8.00 pm

**Good Friday** – Solemn Liturgy of the Passion, OLR, 3.00pm

**Stations of the Cross** - St Gregory’s 10.00 am; OLR 12 noon, St Agnes, 7.00 pm

**Holy Saturday** – The Solemn Vigil, OLR, 8.00 pm

**Easter Sunday** – St Gregory’s 9.00am, OLR 10.15am, St Agnes 11.30am and OLR 5.30 pm

**NEW CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP:** A new Christian bookshop has opened, Equip Bookshop, 20 The Waterfront, BN23 5UZ, (in the Harbour).

### ST AGNES

**GRANDPARENTS’ MEETINGS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month, 2 pm

**ST AGNES WEEKLY SOUP LUNCH:** Soup, cheese, tea & coffee for St Wilfrid’s Hospice; Thursdays, 12.30 pm, No booking needed.

**POLISH MASS:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, 6 pm

## OUR NEW PARISH

The New Parish will be overseen by a Clergy Team, moderated by Fr Kevin Dring. The team will work closely with Hub Secretaries, Hub Leadership Groups and lay representatives to support pastoral planning, governance and the shared mission of the Parish. The West Hub covering Eastbourne, Polegate, Hamden Park, Hailsham and the East Hub; St Leonards, Hastings, Bexhill, Battle and Rye.

**East Hub Secretary: Elizabeth Fitch**

stleonards@abdiocese.org.uk 01424602077

**West Hub Secretary: Cheryl Wood**

eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk 01323 723222 **New Parish**

**Website:** [www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk](http://www.eastbourne-stleonards.org.uk)

## PASTORAL AND FAITH DEVELOPMENT

**ROSARY FOR PEACE:** is prayed every **WEDNESDAY**, during Exposition at OLR between 10.25 – 10.50am

**FRIDAY ALL DAY ADORATION:** from after 11am Mass until Benediction at 6pm, live streamed for those at home.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING:** Sacred Heart Chapel, Thurs after 11 Mass

### POPE LEO’S PRAYER FOR PEACE

Pope Leo prays that nations will renounce weapons and choose dialogue and diplomacy instead and asks God to help us “disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment, and indifference,” so that we may become instruments of reconciliation.

### SYNOD RELEASES FINAL REPORT OF STUDY GROUP ON WOMEN

**IN THE CHURCH:** Entitled “Women’s participation in the life and leadership of the Church” this was established by Pope Francis after the first Session of the General Synod of Bishops. Pope Leo has directed the publication so as to share with the entire people of God the workings of this part of the Synod. To view the whole report of these proceedings, go to:

<https://www.synod.va> and click on the relevant link.

### MENS WAY OF THE CROSS – OVER THE HILLS & THROUGH THE

**NIGHT:** Fri 20 March, OLR, 9pm, 10-11pm Mass, walk on Beachy Head, 4-6 am back at OLR for Adoration and hearty breakfast.

### DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK 12-19 MARCH

invites us to pause, pray, and stand in solidarity with those living with dementia, their families, and all who care for them. It highlights the dignity of every person, reminding us that each life remains precious and loved by God, even when memory fades.

### WIDOWED, SEPARATED AND DIVORCED:

Weekend 8-10 May 2026 at Worth Abbey, RH1 4SB. *Beginning Experience* is a peer ministry to the widowed, separated and divorced led by trained volunteers. Their work is carried out at special weekend gatherings, which encourage participants to deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness. For further details, please email Mary at: [BeginningExperience.soe@gmail.com](mailto:BeginningExperience.soe@gmail.com).

### GIFT AID:

The envelopes for cash donations for the next financial year are available for collection. If you wish to join the Gift Aid scheme to benefit the Parish, please contact Nick Price, on [pfc.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pfc.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk)

## NEW PARISH UPDATE:

one of the really fruitful areas of work in recent months has been that of small Focus Groups, bringing together reps from the larger Hub Leadership Groups. We have Focus Groups looking at: Prayer & Worship, Formation & Mission, Communications, Pastoral Care, Finance & Stewardship. They are identifying lots of tangible ways we can work across our churches to enhance the service we want to provide to parishioners and to reach out to those who are not (yet) part of our communities. Soon you will all be invited, through ministries you’re already exercising or as brand-new volunteers, to help in rolling out the fruits of the work of these Focus Groups. We are also just about to launch a new quarterly Parish Magazine spotlighting good news from across all our churches.