



The Parish of  
**Swindon  
New Town**

## MESSENGER

### Sunday 22nd February 2026 First Sunday of Lent

#### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

<b>Monday</b> S. Polycarp	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Mark - 12.30pm Mass S. Mark - 1-4pm Welcome Space S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer Theology in the Pub 7pm The Glue Pot, Emlyn Sq
<b>Tuesday</b> Lent Feria	S. Luke - 8am Mass S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Saviour - 9.30am Mass followed by Lent Course S. Luke - 1-3pm Welcome Space S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer
<b>Wednesday</b> Lent Feria	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Augustine - 10am Mass followed by Lent Course S. Mark - 6-7pm Holy Hour (NO MASS)
<b>Thursday</b> Lent Feria	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Luke - 9.30am Rosary S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer Rosary Home Group - 6.30pm 162 William Street followed by Lent Course
<b>Friday</b> S. Gregory of Narek	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Aldhelm - 12.15 Lent Lunch S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer S. Luke - 6pm Mass
<b>Saturday</b> Lent Feria	S. Aldhelm - 10am Mass S. Luke - 6pm Vigil Mass with readings in Konkani
<b>Sunday 1st March</b> 2nd Sunday of Lent	S. Mark - 7.30am Said Mass S. Mark - 8am Morning Prayer S. Saviour - 9am Sung Mass S. Mark - 10.30am Sung Mass S. Luke - 11am Sung Mass S. Mark - 5pm Stations of the Cross

**LENT - FR TOBY WRITES:** *"In this holy season we are all called to a renewed discipline in lives of prayer and practical service. Make the most of Lent - make your confession, come to Mass more often, and spend more time in private prayer. If you'd like any advice about your spiritual life, do speak with the clergy. There are leaflets with details of our Lent programme in the parish - please take copies for yourselves but also to share with others to invite them into the life of the Church. This time of fasting opens the gates of heaven to us: let us give ourselves to penance and prayer, so that we may rejoice with the Lord on the day of his resurrection."*

**CHORAL EVENSONG** - At S. Mark's this evening at 6pm join us for Choral Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament for this first Sunday of Lent.

**LENT COURSE** This year's Lent course will explore different approaches to prayer. This week, Tom Dumbell will be leading a session on the Holy Rosary. In future weeks, we'll hear about the examen, lectio divina, icons, the Jesus prayer, and silence. All are welcome. We'll meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after the morning Mass and on Thursday evenings after the rosary home group.

**LENT LUNCHESES** - Our Ecumenical Lent lunches begin this Friday at S. Aldhelm's. We meet for prayer at 12.15pm, followed by a simple lunch with members of other churches and ecclesial communities locally. Donations will go to the work of Cafod and Christian Aid.

**PAUL TRACEY RIP** - There will be a memorial service for Paul Tracey at S. Mark's on Wednesday 11 March at 1pm. All are welcome and it will be a good opportunity for us all to pray for Paul and for his family.

**MASS TIMES** - During Lent, there will be at Mass every Wednesday at S. Augustine's at 10am; there will be a Holy Hour, with vespers and silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, at S. Mark's every Wednesday from 6pm to 7pm. This week, as the clergy will be away at a conference, there will no Wednesday evening Mass or Thursday Mass.

**THEOLOGY AT THE PUB** will be this Monday, 23rd February, 7pm for 7.30pm start at The Glue Pot, Emllyn Square. We will be asking the question: What can we do, individually and collectively, to keep a good Lent?

**FORUM MEETING** – There will be a short informal meeting after Mass, at S. Saviour's on the 1st March. Please try to join us to discuss future worship, mission and outreach for the church.

**CHRISM MASS** – Bishop Paul will be celebrating our Chrism Mass this year in Bath on **Saturday 28 March**. Please do put the date firmly in your diary and come if you can. It will be a wonderful day of celebration: Mass will be celebrated at 11am at which the holy oils for the year will be blessed and the clergy will renew their ordination promises; this will be followed by a buffet lunch, catechesis and benediction. The Chrism Festival will be at S. John's Bathwick, which is easy to get to from Swindon on the train.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday March 6th 10.30am at Christchurch.** This year materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer insights into finding rest in God. I will give you rest : Come. Everyone is welcome.

**THE KENTWOOD SHOW CHOIR** will be performing at S. Mark's on Friday 1st May at 7.30pm. Please put this date in your diary. Tickets are now available at all three churches and the parish office.

**SAVE THE DATE - 21 MARCH 2026:** S. Luke's are going to have a Working Party to clean the Church on Saturday 21 March. Please join us from 9.30am there will be lots of different things to do. Thanks. Sue Carvell

**A MESSAGE FROM SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE** - *During Lent why not gather items to help those less fortunate than yourselves and create a donation for the Swindon Food Collective, a charity helping to feed almost 9,000 people, of which 31% are children.*

*Here are some suggested donations: Tin of Baked Beans, Bottle of Washing Up Liquid, Tin of Spaghetti Hoops, Tin of Corned Beef, Tin of Custard, Jar of Coffee, Tin of Potatoes, Bar of soap, Packet of long grain rice, Tin of fruit, Carton of long life juice, Tinned Fray Bentos pie, Tube of toothpaste, Packet of jelly cubes, Bottle of shower gel, Tin of hot dogs, Tin of rice pudding, Packet of teabags, Tin of sweetcorn, Tin of spam, 2in1 Shampoo/conditioner, Tin of tuna, Laundry pods.*

There are collection boxes in each of our churches.

**BEER FESTIVAL** – Please make sure that these dates are in your calendar. 2026 Beer Festival – Friday 24 July (from 4pm to 10pm) and Saturday 25 July (from noon to 10pm). If you could help in any way or you know someone who might be a sponsor, please speak to Carol Simmons

## TODAY WE PRAY FOR

### RECENTLY DEPARTED

Rodney Padmore, Andy Beaton, Socorrina, Aida Gomenses, Trevor Day (priest), Dolores Alves Ribeiro.

### YEAR'S MIND

[22] Mary Pyper, Annie Burchell [23] William Exton, Marjorie Bond, Ezra Walter Burton, Kenneth Daubney (priest) [24] Rose Homer, Elsie Lester, Gladys Poletti, Norman Lambert (priest), Anthony McDermott [25] Eleanor Mary (Elma) Bristow, Hilda Morris [26] Helen Davis, Marie Shurmer [27] Jenny Lawson, Norman Mark [28] Winifred Hart

**FOR YOUR WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS** - Richard & Maddie Charman, John Wilson, Sue Davis, Margaret Stevenson, Chris Ockwell, Roy Norton, Wagner Lisboa, Joe Hicks, Katie Joseph, Sarah Druett, Renelle Nunes, Moncy Miranda, Moina Clement, Lourenco Gonsalves, Kayleigh Winbow, Grace King, Barbara Sheppard, Evelyn Bartlett, Lynn Thrussell, Kylie Lawson, Sally Hobbs, Carole New, Beth Wells

**HOME COMMUNICANTS** - Muriel Avenell, Betty Mitchell, Owen Shellard, Maurice Lidgeley, Beryl & Les Howell, Cynthia Strudwick,

**PASTORAL CARE** - Please do feel free to call the clergy if there is anything they can do to support you or others you know with any pastoral or spiritual needs.

email [fr.toby@psnt.uk](mailto:fr.toby@psnt.uk) mobile 07773 377503 home 01793 952910

[fr.tim@psnt.uk](mailto:fr.tim@psnt.uk) mobile 07447 449961

[fr.adam@psnt.uk](mailto:fr.adam@psnt.uk) home 01793 925345

For this week's readings see <https://universalis.com/20260222/mass.htm>

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS** Gen 12:1-4; Ps 32; 2Tim1:8-10; Matt 17:1-9

**PARISH OFFICE** - Contact Linda McEntee Tel: 01793 538220

Mon 9-11am, Thurs 9am-1pm, Friday 9-12noon [office@psnt.uk](mailto:office@psnt.uk)

Safeguarding - Lynn Trigg 07812198128 [lynn@psnt.uk](mailto:lynn@psnt.uk)

**PLANNED GIVING**- For those who make their offering by weekly envelopes, boxed sets of envelopes for **2026** are available. If you would like to have a boxed set of envelopes, please contact John Bishop.

Alternatively if you would prefer to make your offering by bank transfer, our banking details are: Parish of Swindon New Town PCC, Sort code 40-52-40, Account number 00024962.

(Please use S. Mark, S. Saviour or S. Luke as your reference or say what the payment is for, if not for planned giving) John Bishop [treasurer@psnt.uk](mailto:treasurer@psnt.uk)