



The Parish of
**Swindon
New Town**

MESSENGER

**Sunday 8th March 2026
Third Sunday of Lent**

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday S. Frances of Rome	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Mark - 9am Toddler Group S. Mark - 12.30pm Mass S. Mark - 1-4pm Welcome Space S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 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 and Free Shop S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday Lent Feria	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Augustine - 10am Mass followed by Lent Course S. Mark - 6-7pm Holy Hour S. Mark - 7pm Mass
Thursday Lent Feria	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Luke - 9.30am Mass S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer Rosary Home Group - 6.30pm 162 William Street followed by Lent Course
Friday Lent Feria	S. Mark - 8.45am Morning Prayer S. Aldhelm - 12.15pm Lent Lunch S. Mark - 5pm Evening Prayer S. Luke - 6pm Mass S. Saviour - 7.30pm Youth Group
Saturday Lent Feria	S. Aldhelm - 10am Mass S. Luke - 6pm Vigil Mass with readings in Konkani
Sunday 15th March 4th 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. Luke - 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."*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Join us for Stations at 4.30pm this evening at S. Saviour's. This will be in the Taize-style of our Contemplative Worship. It is a wonderful devotion as we follow in our Lord's steps, making the way of the Cross and meditating on his sacred Passion.

LENT COURSE This year's Lent course will explore different approaches to prayer. This week we'll hear about lectio divina. All are welcome. We'll meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after the morning Mass and on Thursday evenings after the rosary home group.

LENT LUNCHES - Our Ecumenical Lent lunches continue this Friday 13th 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. Please do come if you can.

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.

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.

BROAD GREEN FORUM will be attending Welcome Space, at S. Luke's this Tuesday. This includes representatives from Swindon Borough Council. The forum talks about ways we can improve the local community. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be serving ploughman's lunches - Please come!

ROSARY AND EASTER CARDS - If you were inspired by Tom's talk on Praying the Rosary last week, we have a number of Rosary beads in the office. We also have a small amount of Mothering Sunday and S. Patrick's Day cards and a lot of Easter Cards. Please come in and have look.

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 for £10 at all three churches and the parish office.

S. LUKE'S WORKING PARTY - S. Luke's are going to have a working party to clean the church on Saturday 21 March. Please help if you can from 9.30am there will be lots of different things to do. As well as cleaning in the Church on Saturday 21 March 2026 from 9.30am there will be a working party painting the kitchen off the main hall. Please come and join us if you are available - many hand make light work. See you there - 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

Andy Beaton, Socorrina, Aida Gomendes, Trevor Day (priest), Dolores Alves Ribeiro, David Wilkinson, Gary Allman

YEAR'S MIND

[9] Macdonald Coventry, Albert Glass [10] Winifred Adams, Alice Blackford, Raymond Wheeler [11] Ada Cousins, Peggy Sybil Gale, S. Fraser Mitchell [12] Ethel Winslow, Barry Blacklock [13] Alice Rose Cliffe, Anthony (Tony) Webb

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, James, Jane Carter

HOME COMMUNICANTS - Muriel Avenell, Betty Mitchell, Owen Shellard, Maurice Lidgely, 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 mobile 07773 377503 home 01793 952910
fr.tim@psnt.uk mobile 07447 449961
fr.adam@psnt.uk home 01793 925345

For this week's readings see <https://universalis.com/20260308/mass.htm>

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 1Sam 16:1,6-13; Ps 22; Eph 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

PARISH OFFICE - Contact Linda McEntee Tel: 01793 538220

Mon 9-11am, Thurs 9am-1pm, Friday 9-12noon office@psnt.uk

Safeguarding - Lynn Trigg 07812198128 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