



# Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## The Third Sunday of Lent

### Services Today

**9:30am** Said Mass with Children's Church

**11:00** Sung Mass

**Hymns**

**73: Responsorial Psalm 95: 374: 357: 379**

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, When I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, Come and Listen to me.

### **678 Oculi mei**

**Introit** Mine eyes are ever looking unto the Lord, for he shall pluck my feet out of the net: look thou upon me, and have mercy upon me, for I am desolate, and in misery. **Psalm** Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul: my God, in thee have I trusted, let me not be confounded. Glory be to the Father...

**Gradual** Up, Lord, and let not man have the upper hand: let the heathen be judged in thy sight. ∿ While mine enemies are driven back: they shall fall and perish at thy presence. **Tract** Unto thee lift I up mine eyes: O thou that dwellest in the heavens. ∿ Behold, even as the eyes of servants: look unto the hand of their masters. ∿ And as the eyes of a maiden: unto the hand of her mistress. ∿ Even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God: until he have mercy upon us. ∿ Have mercy upon us, O Lord: have mercy upon us.

**Offertory** The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb; moreover by them is thy servant taught.

**Communion** Who so drinketh the water that I shall give him, saith the Lord: it shall be in him a well of water, springing up unto everlasting life.

### **Please remember in your prayers**

Fr John & Carol Luff, Willa Owen, Jill Stephenson, Margaret Morris, David and Barbara Streek, Wendy Clamp, Mandy Le Tissier, Margaret Boden Heaume, Lindsay Gallagher, Barbara Renouf, Peter Le Page and Helen Sheppard

Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at

<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>: Vicar: Father Joe Thompson Tel.01481 720268

## Collect

Almighty God,  
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,  
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:  
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,  
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Old Testament Reading - Exodus Ch17 v1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?' 3 But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?' 4 Then Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.' 5 The Lord answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the Lord saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

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## Responsorial Psalm 95:

**'O Come let us worship and bow down and kneel before our Maker'**

## New Testament Reading - Romans Ch5 v1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. 6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## Gospel - John Ch4 v5-42

5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. 7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a

Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?’ (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.’<sup>11</sup> ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?’

<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.’<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.’<sup>16</sup> He told her, ‘Go, call your husband and come back.’<sup>17</sup> ‘I have no husband,’ she replied. Jesus said to her, ‘You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup> The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.’

<sup>19</sup> ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.’<sup>21</sup> ‘Woman,’ Jesus replied, ‘believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.’<sup>25</sup> The woman said, ‘I know that Messiah’ (called Christ) ‘is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.’<sup>26</sup> Then Jesus declared, ‘I, the one speaking to you – I am he.’

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, ‘What do you want?’ or ‘Why are you talking with her?’<sup>28</sup> Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> ‘Come, see a man who told me everything I’ve ever done. Could this be the Messiah?’ <sup>30</sup> They came out of the town and made their way towards him.<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile his disciples urged him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you know nothing about.’

<sup>33</sup> Then his disciples said to each other, ‘Could someone have brought him food?’<sup>34</sup> ‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. <sup>35</sup> Don’t you have a saying, “It’s still four months until harvest”? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. <sup>37</sup> Thus the saying “One sows and another reaps” is true. <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.’<sup>39</sup> Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I’ve ever done.’ <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. <sup>41</sup> And because of his words many more became believers.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, ‘We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.’

## Post Communion

Merciful Lord,  
grant your people grace to withstand the  
temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil,  
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## NOTICES

Please note there will be **No Morning Prayer or Tuesday said Mass** during Father Joes absence

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 10.00am Coffee and Chat in Church**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday**

**9:30am - Said Mass with Children's Church**

**11.00am - Sung Mass**

### Payment to Charity Forms

I'm afraid it's that time of year again when our thoughts turn to Tax!

As you know, if you have made donations to a charity of more than £500 in any year then that charity can claim back the tax you have paid on that donation.

St Stephen's is a registered Charity, so we can claim the tax rebate on **any** payments you have made to the church.

This is a very valuable and vital source of income for the church at no cost to you, so may I ask you all to complete the forms (found on the black chest) and return them to me as so as possible. If you have any questions as to what and how you can claim, please ask me.

This is all treated with the strictest confidence.

Tony



YOU ARE INVITED  
TO JOIN US FOR  
OUR  
*Friendship Lunch*

St Stephen's Community Centre  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 12pm

MENU

Beef or Vegetable Lasagne  
*served with Italian salad & crusty bread*

Sicilian Lemon Cheesecake  
*Special dietary requirements catered for*

£10

RSVP: Jill Mabire or Aileen Thompson  
by Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Tel: 01481 720 268

Please join us for refreshments

**In the Vestry after the 11am Mass**

*After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!*

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**

To Fliss or email [fmil397026@aol.com](mailto:fmil397026@aol.com)

I tried to make a deep joke about a well... but it went over everyone's head.