

**St Francis de Sales Church**  
 Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash Common,  
 Newbury RG14 6NH  
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory Road,  
 Hungerford, RG17 OAF  
 Web Site: [www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk)  
 Registered Charity Number 246871  
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**Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A**

|                                      | <i>Time</i>                       | <i>Place</i> | <i>Feast of the Day</i>  | <i>Mass Intention</i>  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| Sat Mar 14                           | 5:15 pm<br>6:00pm                 | St F         | <b>Adoration &amp; Rosary<br/>MASS</b>                         | <b>Motik O'Mahony RIP 15<sup>th</sup><br/>Anniversary</b>      |
| Sun Mar 15                           | 09:00 am                          | OLOL         | <b>MASS<br/>MASS</b>   | <b>For the health and wellbeing of<br/>Canon Peter Turbitt</b> |
|                                      | 11:00 am                          | St F         |  | <b>The People of the Parish</b>                                |
| Mon Mar 16                           |                                   |              |  |  |
| Tues Mar 17                          | 6:00 pm<br>7:00 pm                | St F         | <b>Adoration &amp; Reconciliation<br/>MASS</b>                 |  |
| Wed Mar 18                           | 9:30 am<br>10:00 am -<br>10:30 am | OLOL         | <b>Adoration &amp; Reconciliation<br/>MASS</b>                 |  |
| Thurs Mar 19                         | 9:30 am<br>10:00 am -<br>10:30 am | St F         | <b>MASS<br/>Adoration &amp; Reconciliation</b>                 |  |
| Fri Mar 20                           | 7:00 pm<br>7:30 pm                | St F         | <b>MASS<br/>Stations of the Cross &amp;<br/>Reconciliation</b> |  |
| <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A</b> |                                   |              |  |  |
| Sat Mar 21                           | 5.15 pm<br>6:00 pm                | St F         | <b>Adoration &amp; Rosary<br/>MASS</b>                         | <b>Private Intention</b>                                       |
| Sun Mar 22                           | 09:00 am                          | OLOL         | <b>MASS</b>  |  |
|                                      | 11:00 am                          | St F         | <b>MASS</b>  | <b>The People of the Parish</b>                                |

**The Popes Intention**  
March

**For disarmament and peace**

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

**Please give generously to Fr Zbigniew Easter Collection**

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/newbury-st-francis-de-sales-wash-common-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2026>

## John 9:1-41

Once again, this week we have a lengthy passage from the Gospel of John, the story of the man born blind. Only the opening verses are given here, and you are invited to complete the reading in your own Bible, by reading up to verse 41. This is another story of a journey in faith, which invites us to consider our own journey. The words of Jesus at the very start (verse 5) give us the theme: Jesus is the light of the world. Like the man born blind, we too have the opportunity of seeing again, seeing with greater clarity.

Even in the opening verses given above the man has already had to defend the reality of the healing. Yes, he is indeed the man who was blind from birth, and he has indeed been given his sight. As the chapter continues, he bears witness to Jesus increasingly strongly and increasingly indignantly. In the end there are none so blind as those who will not see. The religious leaders refuse to see that Jesus brings light into the world. They refuse to acknowledge their own blindness.

It may seem strange that we have the story of David's anointing as king in the first reading. This reminds us that, as we were given the light of faith in baptism, we were also anointed for God's service. St Paul tells the Christians of Ephesus in our second reading: 'You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord.'

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm Parish Administrator Yvonne Eaton

Please help us to continue God's work by supporting us financially Lloyds Bank 30 93 04 a/c number 00882993 CDP Newbury StFrancis de Sales Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

Please pray for Lily Brooke, Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Mary Dykes, Chris Dykes, Emma Dykes, Joe Emery, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Elizabeth Sage, Arthur Mitchell, Malcolm Higgins, Sofia Joseph, Corbert Joseph, Gillian Spencer, Krzysz Zablocki, Margaret McGuire, Sean Early, Tony Lavers, John Huckle and Eveleen Softley who ask for our prayers. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Second Collection for the Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund takes place on the 15th of March 2026.

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Clergy Support Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

J & P Group are collecting for West Berkshire Foodbank. Urgent needs for this week are - cooked meat with ring-pulls, mug shots, fruit juice (long life), tinned meat, custard/rice pudding pots, sponge puddings, tinned fish, tinned tomatoes. They can be placed in the hamper in the church hall foyer.

Sunday 15th March. Laetare Sunday, **Mother's Day Second Scrutiny for The Elect (RCIA)**

Tuesday 17th March Feast of St. Patrick Mass at 1900 **Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 1930**

Thursday 19th March **Feast of St. Joseph** Mass at 0930

Thursday 19th March 7.30pm, **Thirteenth meeting of RCIA, Journey in Faith** programme in the Parish Hall. This meeting will be led by Fr. Michael Fava and will look at **The Sacrament of Reconciliation**. The importance and value of this sacrament, how to use it?

Friday 20th March Mass at 7.0pm followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm led by the **Justice & Peace Group** and **Reconciliation**

Sunday 22nd March **Third Scrutiny for The Elect (RCIA) First Holy Communion preparation - Lesson 9 at 1200**

Sunday 22nd March St **Cassian's Pastoral Centre Open Afternoon: 2pm - 5pm** in Kintbury RG17 9SR - Come and see what the Centre does as it celebrates 50 years of running retreats for young people! Experience some of the activities run for our schools and have a look around the Centre and its grounds. Enjoy a cup of tea and some cake in the dining room. All are welcome