

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fitzpatrick MA. STL
Permanent Deacon: Rev Michael Walker
Safeguarding Rep: Jill Allen
Parish Secretary: Gail Barlow *Weds am & Thurs am.*
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Newsletter no: 2558

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered as a Charity. No 234216

1st Sunday in Lent Yr C



*you shall do homage to the
Lord your God; him alone
shall you adore.*

10th March 2019

Mass Book: Page 153 Psalter Week 1

Readings:

Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Psalm 90:1-2, 10-15 *resp v15*
Romans 10:8-13
Luke 4:1-13

Mass Times

Saturday	9 th Mar	6:00pm	Mass	Marife, Maria, Mariano Waken
Sunday	10 th Mar	8:30am	Mass	Rose Byrne
		10:30am	Mass	Kate Hunt
Monday	11 th Mar	NO MASS		
Tuesday	12 th Mar	9:15am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30am	Mass	People of the Parish
Wednesday	13 th Mar	9:30am	Eucharistic Service & Liturgy of the Word	
Thursday	14 th Mar	7:00pm	Mass with Bishop Kenney and Deacons	
Friday	15 th Mar	9:15am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30am	Mass	Graham & Eijkenboom families
Saturday	16 th Mar	11:00am	<u>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</u>	
Saturday	16 th Mar	6:00pm	Mass	Paul Gleeson
Sunday	17 th Mar	8:30am	Mass	Loreta Pierce
		10:30am	Mass	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.00-12.00 & 5.00-5.45pm

Offertory Collection: *Thank you for your generous support.*

Envelopes (Gift Aid) £ 37.00 (NGA) £ 5.00

Loose £ 261.87 **Contactless £45.00**

R&R Appeal (GA) £37.00 (NGA) £5.00 Loose £ 120.45

Second collection – Cathedral Maintenance: (GA) £ 16.00 (NGA) £ 148.30

Children's Bibles: £50.00

Standing Orders for February: £3,258.00 Many thanks

Contactless Payments: You can now use your Debit/Credit Card. *Just ask!*

You can also register your Credit/Debit card for Gift Aid purposes.

Please pray for: *The Sick & Housebound of our Parish Community:*

Barbara Brogan, Melene Clifford, Rosemary Daniel, Jean Marie D'Souza, Rita Good, Gill Harrison, Gill Lane, Evelyn Lochrin, Tom Mannion, Caroline Mieczkowska, Diana Newbury, Halina Seligman, Jackie Tidbury, Carl Veys, and Carol Willis.

If you know of anyone who is sick, do let us know.

Those who have died:

Anniversaries that occur at this time:

Howard Green, Rose Byrne, Christopher Herman. *May they rest in peace*

On Thursday, we welcome **Bishop William Kenney**, our area Bishop and **the Permanent Deacons of Oxfordshire** as they gather for Mass and a meeting. The Mass will begin at our usual time of 7:00pm. You are all most welcome and *encouraged* to attend.

The Season of Lent: there are lots of opportunities to have a great **Lent:**

- **Stations of the Cross:** Fridays of Lent.
- **Holy Hour and Exposition:** Saturday 11 – 12.00 Noon.
- The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available at the same time.
- **“Walk with Me” Booklets and Calendars** are in the Church Narthex.
- **Ecumenical Lent Lunches:** Thursdays at Christchurch. See poster.
- **Lent Talks:** A Series of reflections on the **Eucharist in the Life of the Church** beginning on Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm

On Thursday, we have the first of our **Ecumenical Talks and Lent Lunches**, at Christchurch 12-12.30pm. The Theme is the Passion story in the Gospel of Luke. I am leading the first session on Luke 22, 47-53 = Jesus is arrested.

Pilgrimage to Littlemore: *Saturday 23 March 2 - 5pm*

Fr Michael Miners of Watlington is leading a pilgrimage in the footsteps of Blessed Cardinal Newman. It begins with Mass at 2.00pm in Littlemore on Saturday 23 March. It should finish by 5.00pm. All welcome.

Confirmation 2019 *we begin very shortly = 19 March/30 March*

There is a meeting for Parents of those candidates for Confirmation on Tuesday 19 March at 7.30pm. The Mass of enrolment will be Saturday 30 March at 6.00pm.

Retiring Collection: It has been our practice to have a retiring Collection each Sunday of Lent: **Next Week:** 17 March: **CAFOD Family Fast Day.** 24 March: **NOMAD.** 31 March: Fr Hudson’s Society. 7 April: Friends of the Holy Land. 14 April: Easter Flowers.

Mary’s Meals – Today’s Retiring Lenten Collection

Mary’s Meals provides life-changing meals to some of the world’s poorest children every school day. We are a no-frills charity with a single idea that works by providing one good meal in a place of learning. Children are drawn into the classroom, where they can receive an education which could one day free them from poverty.

Mary’s Meals is named after Mary the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty. We reach out to people of all faiths and of none. Our vision is that in this world of abundance, every child will receive one daily meal.

Celebrating the Mercy of God.

During Lent we consider how we can experience God's tender mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Today we reflect upon the need for preparation before we receive the sacrament.

Lent is traditionally a time when we resolve to respond to God's care for us in a special way. This might consist of devoting more time in prayer, or time for acts of kindness towards others. We might resolve to give up something and help the poor with the proceeds. The Church has always encouraged us to make Lent a time when we give more time to God's ways and return to him. One of practices we are encouraged to do is to go to Confession and Communion during Lent or Eastertide. This is called our '*Easter Duty.*'

Lent is a time for conversion of heart and mind. Each of us is called to respond to God, because we know that he has called us to live in a close and loving relationship with him. Through sin this relationship can break down. It is then that we need to seek God's forgiveness and love, just as we would with any relationship, if it is to prosper and grow.

For some people resolving to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be the first hurdle to overcome. We get out of the habit, or put it off. By listening to the Gospel at Mass, each Sunday of Lent we will come to understand the powerful liberation and healing which the forgiveness of Jesus brings. Each of us is in need of God's love and mercy. We are created to live in a relationship with God, and we can deepen this by opening our hearts to the reconciliation Jesus offers us in this sacrament.

As with any sacrament, preparation is important. This is especially the case with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are called to spend time examining our conscience and opening our heart to God, that he might reveal to us the areas of our life that are most in need of his healing presence. It is not what we say that is most important within this sacrament, but the spirit and humility which underlies it. By spending time in prayer before the sacrament, we can recollect ourselves, and put before God our need for '*a humble contrite heart.*' (Ps 50)

Spending this time with God has two positive benefits. Firstly, we are less likely to go completely blank as soon as we walk into the confessional, and secondly, we can open our heart, mind and spirit to God's all-powerful love and kindness that can bring us true peace and reveal to us the presence of his tender mercy in our life.

Fr Paul