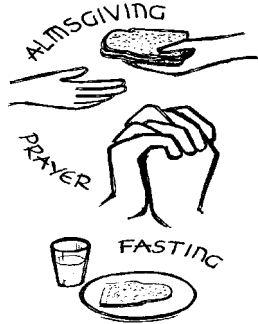


Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
1st March 2009



204, High Street
Waltham Cross
Herts EN8 7DP
01992 623156
www.walthamcrossrc.org.uk



LENT IN THE CHURCH

The season of Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. The liturgy prepares the catechumens for the celebration of the paschal mystery by the various stages of Christian initiation; it also prepares the faithful, who recall their baptism and do penance in preparation for Easter. During Lent we wear vestments of purple to show the penitential nature of the Season. The Alleluia is always omitted during Mass. We reduce all decoration in the Church. It is not permitted to adorn the altar with flowers, and the organ and other instruments may only be played for the purpose of sustaining the singing. An exception is made for Laetare Sunday and Feasts and Solemnities.

LENTEN ALMS

Each year we collect Lenten Alms for those both "at home" and "abroad" who are most in need. Within the Diocese the money collected will be for the St John Southworth Fund. This is a grant giving scheme which supports the pastoral care activities of the Diocese. It assists those who are homeless, migrants and refugees and the pastoral support for the elderly, children and various other projects. Since its launch in December 2007, it has provided funding towards 45 projects and 5 individuals throughout Greater London. Outside the Diocese our Lenten Alms will be for the support of a School Building Project by the Catholic Church in Bangladesh. Please be as generous as you can. The Collection Box for Lenten Alms is at the Lady Altar on the left-hand side.

If people wish to see their Lenten Alms being used even nearer to home, they may wish to donate them to the New Parish Centre Fund. There will be a collection box by the Offertory Table for those who wish to donate to the Fund, (but please do remember that donations may be gift-aided using the envelopes provided, which can then be placed in the Offertory Baskets.)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will be Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent – after 10.00am Mass in the morning, and at 8.00pm in the evening.

PARISH LENT RETREAT

A Lent Retreat is an invitation to step back from the routine of your every day to tune within, to seek God and to let Him come close. These few hours of prayer and reflection are a **GIFT** you give yourself to live more intentionally. To be held on Sunday 15th March 2009, from 2.00pm-4.00pm at the Convent, 3 Longlands Close, EN8 8LW. For details please contact The Sisters on 01992 626772.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

Please give generously to CAFOD'S Lent Fast Day Appeal, Friday 6th March 2009 and bring hope to people living in poverty. Please take a Fast Day envelope home with you today and return it next weekend, filled with the results of your fasting and self denial on Friday.

CAFOD
just one world
Registered Charity No. 285776



100+ Club February Winners:

£35 Linda Dellicoll, £25 Daphne Curtis, £15 Jocelyn Blackman.

The next Bingo Session will be on Saturday 28th March in Eleanor Hall after 6.30pm Mass.

ST JOSEPH'S GAA CLUB

The St Joseph's GAA Club invite you to a St Patrick's Night Dance on Friday 13th March (a biteen early!) in Eleanor Hall from 7.30pm to 11.30pm. Come and join in the music and dancing for just £5 a ticket, available from the Parish Office or by calling Margaret Mooney on 01707 875418 or Noel Griffin on 01992 424673. All proceeds to the Parish Centre Fund and St Joseph's GAA Club.

FUNDRAISING GROUP

There will be a meeting for the Fundraising Group on Tuesday 3rd March at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

Fr. John will be away on holiday from this Sunday evening until Friday 13th March.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

TODAY'S READINGS:

Genesis 9:8-15
Psalm 24
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:12-15

NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:

Genesis 27:1-2 9-13 15-18
Psalm 115
Romans 8:31-34
Mark 9:2-10

Mass Times

SUNDAY	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 6.30pm
Monday	Casimir	10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday		10.00am
Thursday		10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday		6.30pm
SUNDAY	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 6.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation –

Saturday 10.30 - 11.00am & 5.45 – 6.15pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church each Friday morning from 9.15 to 9.45.

Offertory Last Week: £1446.05

plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!

SVP

The SVP Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Sacristy.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary meets in the Sacristy at 10.45 on Tuesday mornings.

RCIA

The RCIA Group will meet on Tuesday evening at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

The new rota for Sunday Eucharistic Ministers is available from the Sacristy.

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves alone again through bereavement, divorce or separation. This will take place from March 27th to 29th 2009 at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham. For details telephone Mary on 01296 487634.

ARCHBISHOP'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The Cardinal invites all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 50th and 60th + wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2009, to a Thanksgiving Mass. This will be on Saturday 30th May at 3.00 pm at Westminster Cathedral. If you qualify, please let Fr John know. He will need: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email if you have one (or if not, a phone no.).

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting for all candidates who are preparing for Confirmation on Thursday 5th March at 8:00pm in the church.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Annual Service will be at 10.30 on Friday 6th March at St. Mary's Church in Cheshunt.

MARIE CURIE

Marie Curie will be collecting throughout Hertfordshire in March as part of the Great Daffodil Appeal. One of the main areas where they need extra volunteers is in Waltham Cross. They are seeking volunteers for collecting donations and in return giving out Marie Curie daffodils in the Pavilion Shopping Centre in Waltham Cross on Saturday 7th March. This will take place between 9.00am-2.00pm, so if anyone can spare a few hours on this day or know of anyone who can, please contact Denise McManamin on 07966 077529, who will provide you with further details. Please look out for the collectors in Waltham Cross next weekend and give generously.

STEPS ALONG THE WAY

A 10TH Anniversary Celebration of the Vocations Discernment Group with Fr. Chris Vipers and Fr. John Armitage for young adults aged 18-38 discerning their call in life, will be held on Friday 13th March 2009 from 7.00pm onwards in the Hinsley Room at Westminster Cathedral. For further details visit www.free2become.org or call 01277 373848.

LORD, GIVER OF LIFE

"Lord, Giver of Life" is the Diocese' Faith Sharing Programme which will be running during Lent. There will be Meetings each week:

Thursdays at 2pm in the Presbytery

Thursdays at 8pm at 31 Rotherfield Road, Enfield.

Saturdays at 2.30pm at 3 Longlands Close, Cheshunt,

All are welcome.