

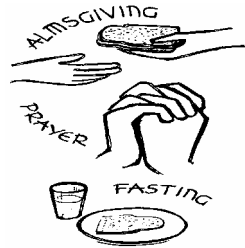
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
22ND 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.

ST JOSEPH'S GAA CLUB

Many thanks to St Joseph's GAA Club for hosting a great St. Patrick's night celebration, over £1,000 has been raised so far.

Saturday 28th March Bingo – Bar open from 7.30pm. Eyes down 7.45pm.

ST GEORGE'S DAY SPRING FAIR - SUNDAY 19TH APRIL

We are now collecting contributions for the tombola and white elephant stalls. Donations would be most welcome and can be left in the side entrance to the Church. Any parishioners wishing to have a table/stall at the fair should contact Denise on 07966077529 or Sharon on 07979800974.

PENTECOST CELEBRATION - SATURDAY 30TH MAY

In the past the Parish has celebrated our rich and diverse community at Pentecost and we plan to revive this tradition on Saturday 30th May with Mass at 6.30pm followed by an International Evening. This will be an opportunity to share something of our different cultures through language, food, costume, music etc and we hope to display National Flags in the Church.

The next Fundraising Group Meeting will be on Tuesday 7th April at 8.00pm.

Please take a Building Together Fund Raising Events leaflet, from the Church Entrances.

THE CARDINAL'S RETIREMENT

As you will know, the Cardinal is due to retire soon from his position as Archbishop of Westminster. There will be a series of Masses of thanksgiving for his ministry in the Diocese over these past nine years. The Mass for the Deaneries in Hertfordshire will be on Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm at St Alban and St Stephen Church, in St Albans. All are welcome!



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion:
on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps.

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.'

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16
Psalm 136:1-6
Ephesians 2:4-10
John 3:14-21
NEXT WEEKS' READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 50:3-4.12-15
Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-30

Mass Times

SUNDAY	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 6.30pm
Monday		10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday	Annunciation of the Lord	10.00am
Thursday		10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday		6.30pm
SUNDAY	FIFTH 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: £1,748.35
plus February Standing Orders: £1,463.50 Thank you!**

BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

Saturday 28th March at 1.30pm Gabriel Darling
Sunday 29th March at 10.45am Emmanuelle Obasi

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a meeting for the Finance Committee and the Fundraising Committee on Monday 23rd March at 8.00pm.

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.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting for all candidates who are preparing for Confirmation on Thursday 26th March at 8.00pm in the Church.

FIRST COMMUNION MEETING

There will be a meeting for the parents of the children who are being prepared for First Communion on Thursday 26th March at 8.00pm in Eleanor Hall.

THE PERMANENT DIACONATE IN WESTMINSTER

Do you want to know more?

"A Come and See Morning" at Holy Apostles Church Hall Cumberland St Pimlico SW1V 4LY on Saturday 28th March 10.00am till 12.30pm for those interested in it for themselves, for wives of possible deacons, for those who want to encourage others, for priests, religious, pastoral assistants, for catechists and chaplains. No pre-booking required. Just come! Further info. From canon Pat Browne 07988 441 691 or Deacon Jim Richards 07977 133572.

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.

HAVE YOU SIGNED A GIFT AID FORM?

The Gift Aid claim for tax you have paid on your donations is due in soon. If you have stopped paying tax please contact the parish office 01992 623156 as it is important that we do not claim tax if you have not paid it. Thank you.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the Late Mychajlo Wasylyk will be celebrated on Wednesday 25th March at 1.30pm.

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,