

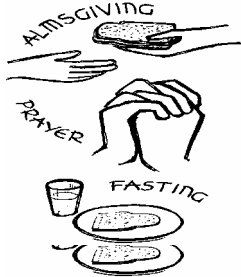
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Fifth Sunday of Lent
29th March 2009



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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 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.

Grand Draw Tickets are available in the Church. Please take some of the tickets, and sell them as widely as possible. The draw will take place during the St George's Day Spring Fair.



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.

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

Donations of Flowers for the Church for Maundy Thursday and Easter will be more than welcomed. They can be left in the Sacristy anytime from Wednesday week onwards. Offers of help with the cleaning, decorating and preparation of the Church for the Easter Celebrations will be even more welcomed! We will be starting at about 9.30am on Holy Saturday morning. All are welcome and needed.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Please collect one of the Parish Easter Cards at the Entrance to the Church. It has all the times of the Masses and Services during Holy Week and Easter Day. Don't go home without one! Please note that all the Masses next weekend will start outside at the Front of the Church with the Blessing of Palms. We will then proceed into the Church.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
 In your compassion blot out my offence.
 O wash me more and more from my guilt
 And cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
 Put a steadfast spirit within me.
 Do not cast me away from your presence,
 Nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
 With a spirit of fervour sustain me,
 That I may teach transgressors your ways
 And sinners may return to you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
 If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
 Wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
 Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

TODAY'S READINGS: NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:

Jeremiah 31:31-34	Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalms 50:3-4, 12-15	Psalms 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Hebrews 5:7-9	Philippians 2:6-11
John 12:20-30	Mark 14:1-15:47

Mass Times

SUNDAY	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 6.30pm
Monday		10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday		10.00am
Thursday		10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday		6.30pm
SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY	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: £1,610.82

plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!

OFFERTORY BOXES

The new offertory boxes are now available. Please collect them from the shop area.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

Sunday 29th March at 10.45am Emmanuel Obasi

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 at 8.00pm in the Church.

VINCENTIAN VOLUNTEERS

A positive opportunity for young people to have a challenging experience in serving vulnerable people, and living in a community with other like-minded volunteers. Accommodation and living expense provided.

Volunteer year is from September 2009 until July 2010. If you would like to know more please contact Sr Barbara Quilty DC at 0161 226 9561 or 0161 209 9156. Email: barbaraquilty@hotmail.co.uk or visit our website: www.vincentianvolunteers.org.

'THE FRIENDSHIP OF CHRIST AND VOCATIONAL CHOICES'

A presentation by Bro Charles Mary from the Community of St John, for young adults aged 18-38. Friday 3rd April 2009, 7-9pm in the Hinsley Room at Westminster Cathedral. For further details visit www.free2become.org or call 01277 373 848.

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY

A magazine entitled 'Blessed Among Women' is available from the Church Shop – price £3.50. It is full of interesting articles.

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.

ST JAMES R.C. SCHOOL, BURNT OAK REUNION

A reunion has been organised at St Mary & St Andrew Parish Centre, Dollis Hill Lane, NW2 6HE on Saturday 16th May at 7.30pm. This reunion group is for those who attended St James from 1971-1977. You are welcome to bring guests. For more information or to let us know that you are able to attend please contact one of the following: sue.mullins@hotmail.co.uk (Susan Heath), wembley3@rcdow.org.uk (Joanna Hurley), pab.3morton@tiscali.co.uk (Patricia O'Keeffe), Michaelohare2@yahoo.co.uk (Norah Kennelly). It would be good to see as many old friends as possible.

WEDDINGS THIS WEEK

Saturday 4th April 2009 at 1pm
 Silvana Di Francesco & Salvatore Viola

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,