

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

The Third Sunday of Lent
7th March 2010



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I always meant to sort out that kitchen shelf and now that it's crashed to the floor with all the crockery it's too late. The same goes for that little chip in the windscreen that now looks like a spider's web, and of course there's that faulty old plug on the TV set which probably caused last night's loud explosion during Coronation Street!

We love to put things off. Yes, we'll get round to them some day but at the moment I'm a bit tired, a bit busy or a bit too distracted to do anything about them. There's always tomorrow.

In today's gospel, one of the most frightening episodes according to many people, Jesus issues a real warning. Don't think that you can put off repentance until tomorrow because repentance is a "now-thing" and, what's more, you never know what's lurking around the corner. He reminds his listeners of two awful events that had just taken place in and around

Jerusalem: a murderous attack on worshippers in the Temple, and a disaster that killed eighteen people when a building collapsed on them. Do you think these people had any idea they wouldn't return home that day, says Jesus, and do you think they were guiltier than anyone else? Of course not. Then, he tells them, you too must repent now or you will perish like they did. Lent reminds us that repentance is not a once-and-for-all action; we don't make a grand act of repentance and then sit back and relax. Repentance is a constant activity of the Christian, not continually worrying about our stance before God, but striving all the time to be as close to God as we can by the way we treat other people. Repentance means taking a regular reality check that what we are doing and saying is consistent with our desire to belong to God's family. And although we concentrate on repentance a great deal in Lent, it is something that should be a daily activity for all of us, and we need to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be able to repent. Is there something in your life that niggles at you? Something that you know you should do something about which will improve your quality of life with God and with others? Well, don't worry about it; you can always do something about it tomorrow, after Easter, in the summer or in the run-up to Christmas.... Or perhaps not!

PARISH LENT RETREAT

This Lent Retreat will take place today, Sunday 7th March 2010, 2.30pm to 5.00pm at the Convent, 3 Longlands Close, Cheshunt, EN8 8LW. Tel: 01992 626772. The Parish offers you this invitation to step back from the routine of your every day to tune in to God and be more connected to Him.

LIVING AS ONE

Each week we recite the Creed adopted at the First Council of Nicaea (AD 325). The next three weeks of Living As One, our Lenten faith-sharing season, look closer at what the Creed says about the church that Christ left to continue his ministry and pass on his message. This week we explore the oneness and holiness of the Church, which stems not from the holiness of its people or our efforts for unity but from Christ himself. 'I am the vine,' said Jesus, 'you are the branches' (John 15:5). The living As One booklets are available at the church at £1 each. The five groups already established meet on:

Saturdays at 2.30pm at the Convent at 3 Longlands Close - 01992 621168

Mondays at 8pm at the Convent - 01992 621168

Thursdays at 2pm in the Presbytery - 01992 626772

Thursdays at 8pm at 31 Rotherfield Road, Enfield - 0208 292 8592

New and old members are most welcome.



100+ CLUB FEBRUARY WINNERS

Drawn by Cindy, £35 No.54 Mary McKinney, £25 No.132 Natalie Uvalic, £15 No.102 Gerald McGuire. Please collect prizes from the Parish office. Just 11 more members would achieve a 200 club. So if you would like to subscribe for the rest of the year for £10 per number, please put your application in before the next draw on March 28th.

ST. JOSEPH'S GAA CLUB

There will a St. Patrick's Night Dance on Saturday 13th March 2010 in Eleanor Hall 7.30pm till 11.30pm. Ceol, craic, agus damhsa, music, dance and bar. Tickets are £5 each, on sale after Mass or phone 01707 875418. All proceeds to the club and the Building Fund.

CLOTHING COLLECTION

Bags will be available next weekend for clothing, bedding curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags. If you are unable to bring your filled bag back the following weekend, please let us know via the Parish office. (01992 623156 9.00am - 1.00pm weekdays).

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

TODAY'S READINGS:

Exodus 3:1-8.13-15
Psalm 102
1 Corinthians 10:1-6.10-12
Luke 13:1-9
Mass Times

NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 33:2-7
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:18

SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm & 6.30pm
Monday			10.00am
Tuesday			10.00am
Wednesday			10.00am
Thursday			10.00am
Friday			10.00am
Saturday			6.30pm
SUNDAY	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm & 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: £1453.71. CAFOD £583.32 plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will be Station of the Cross Each Friday during Lent after 10.00am Mass and 8.00pm.

RCIA

The RCIA Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

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 10.45am on Tuesday mornings.

LINE DANCING

There is Line Dancing every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in Eleanor Hall.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Confirmation Preparation is at 8.00pm on Thursday evenings in the Church.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group will meet on Friday evening after the Stations of the Cross.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

The training for the new Altar Servers is on Saturdays at 3.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

The Eucharistic Ministers rotas for Sunday Masses during March and April can be collected from the Sacristy.

DISCOVERING PRIESTHOOD

On Saturday 13th March, 10am-4pm at Ealing Abbey. To book a place or for further information contact Deacon Gordon Nunn, Ealing Abbey, 2 Marchwood Crescent, London W5 2DZ: Tel: 0208 862 2162 or email: deacongordon@ealingabbey.org.uk

FUND RAISING EVENT FOR THE PASSAGE

Please support the work of The Passage does for homeless people in Central London, by attending 'party Like A Rock Star' at the Hard Rock Café, 150 Old Park Lane, London W1 on Thursday, 18th March, from 7pm to midnight. There will be live music from The Counterfeit Stones. Tickets are £60 each and include complimentary food and drink. Tickets are available from The Passage, St. Vincent's Centre, Carlisle Place. London SW1P 1NL. Tel: 020 7592 1856. Email: tickets@passage.org.uk. All proceeds in aid of The Passage.

BRIGHTLIGHTS

Calling all young adults of 16-30 years old who are interested on being involved in the planning and preparation of the annual diocesan young adults' festival, Brightlights, being held at London Colney on the 16th-19th July. If you want to know what goes on behind the scene, would like to help us and hopefully have some fun, come along at 1.00pm on 13th March to our first session in Wapping. For more information, email info@brightlights.co.uk or telephone 07891 375179.

VOTIVE CANDLES

The donation for candles has remained unchanged at 10 pence for many years despite rising costs. It has now become necessary to request an increase to 20 pence for the minimum donation for each candle.

Fr John will be away on holiday this week. He will be back for Tuesday 16th March. Fr John Miller will be here as usual, Fr Jim Mallon will be helping him next Sunday.