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Salford Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No 2500374

19th March 2017 THE NEWSLETTER for the Third Sunday in Lent (A)

Masses for this week.

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sa 18 th	5.30pm St P's	Priest's Intention	Vigil of the 3 rd Sunday of Lent
Su 19 th	8.30am St P's	For the parish	3 rd Sunday of Lent
Su 19 th	10.00am St J's	Priest's Intention	3 rd Sunday of Lent
M 20 th	7.55am	Priest's Intention	St Joseph
T 21 st	8.00am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday
W 22 nd	8.00am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday
Th 23 rd	7.55am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday
F 24 th	8.00am	Priest's Intention	Lent Weekday

L = Lately Dead, A = Anniversary of Death, R = Remembrance M = Martyr, V = Virgin, B = Bishop, Pp = Pope
 P = Personal Intention, S = Sick, B = Birthday D = Doctor, P = Priest, R = Religious

Please pray for the following, the anniversaries of whose deaths occur at this time:

David Taylforth, Pat Henry, Leo Wells, Mary Lakeland
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Collections: Very many thanks for your weekly donations for 11th/12th March

Vigil	8.30am	10.00 am	TOTAL
£41.70	£73.19	£61.52	£176.41

Collection for CAFOD to date: £372.33

Readings at Mass

	3 rd Sunday of Lent	4 th Sunday of Lent
1 st Reading	Exodus 17:3-7	1Sam 16:1,6-7, 10-13
2 nd Reading	Romans 5:1-2,5-8	Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel	John 4:5-42	John 9:1-41

Things to do in Lent.

We normally associate 'Lent' with giving something up, imposing some sort of rigorous penance on ourselves which we joyfully stop on Easter Sunday! That is fine as a discipline once a year to sharpen ourselves up, but far better, I would have thought, to begin something in Lent which we will go on doing after Lent because it is a good thing that we have started to do. One example is visiting those in need. Can I visit a friend who is sick on a regular basis, cheering them up and doing small acts of kindness which will ease their burden? Clearly, it would be very wrong to stop doing this once Easter Sunday arrives.

If I can't visit, can I write a letter regularly to someone who would appreciate being remembered in this way?

Have you ever written a letter to the media congratulating them and thanking them for a good article published or a good programme on television? You can make a difference if you do. Such letters are more powerful than any letter of complaint.



The Jesuit Pastoral Conference

8th – 10th June 2017

In 2017, a meeting is planned in the Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire.

The dates and times are from **5.00pm on Thursday, June 8th** until after **lunch on Saturday, June 10th.**

The theme of the meeting is a study of the three encyclicals issued by Pope Francis since he became Pope. They are:

Evangelii Gaudium - The Joy of the Gospel

Laudato Si – Care of Planet Earth

Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Married Love.

I recommend this opportunity very highly. Pope Francis has taken his responsibilities very seriously indeed and we need as a parish to take on board his wishes for the Church of today.

If you would like to attend, please see Fr Griffiths.

‘A Prophet for our Day’

Lenten Talks and Discussions

21st & 28th March 2017

in St Joseph’s School at 7.30pm with refreshments.

From Fr Griffiths:

This week’s theme is The Teaching and Message of the Prophets – Morality.’

Are we happy at the standards of behaviour of ourselves and those around us? What did the Jewish Prophets have to contend with? Is their message to their people, the Jews, relevant to us today in our situation?

Lenten Penance Service with Confessions.

So as to be more available for the elderly and for families, next Saturday afternoon, **March 25th, from 2.00pm until 4.00pm**, there will be an opportunity to make your **Lenten Confession** in St Peter’s Church. The afternoon will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2.00pm and end with a simple Blessing at 4.00pm. It is not expected that people will stay for the whole time and there will be visiting confessors available for hearing confessions. Please feel free to drop in for confession when convenient. Frs Frank Hull and Peter Brook will be here to assist with confessions.

Sunday, April 2nd at 3.00pm - **A Mass with Anointing of the Sick** followed by refreshments in St Joseph’s Chapel and School. More news and information later.

Don’t forget **Stations of the Cross** on the Wednesdays of Lent at 7.00pm in St Joseph’s School Chapel.

Praying with the Pope in March, 2017

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

Look at www.ThePopeVideo.org for more information.

Knowing the Faith.

‘Classes’ on various aspects of Catholic teaching.

Venue: The Parish Priest’s office. Enter by the stepped entrance at the side of the church.

Time: 7.30pm.

Next Meeting: March 20th 2017

Topic: Christian Life in the World

Money Matters.

From Kaz Poloczek.

The new Gift Aid Envelopes are ready for collection at the back of the church for the new tax year starting on April 6th.

If you have not yet joined the Gift Aid Scheme and you pay Income Tax and would like to consider joining the Scheme please ask Fr Griffiths or Kaz Poloczek (01254 826527) for a Gift Aid Form.

If you no longer pay tax and are a member of the scheme, please let Fr Griffiths know that you have stopped paying tax. Also, if you have changed address since you joined the Gift Aid Scheme, please let Fr Griffiths or Kaz know so that our records can be updated.

If you Gift Aid using a cheque, this needs to be handed in before the end of March.

As Parish Priest, I would like to thank all you who are able and who Gift Aid their church donations. This increases your contribution by 25% and makes a considerable difference.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Kaz for all his hard work in running the Scheme. His efforts are very much appreciated. Fr PG SJ