

This week at St Lawrence's



21st/22nd February 2015

First Sunday of Lent
(Missal Page 148 – YEAR B Vol. 1)



Genesis 9:8-15; Psalm 24; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15
Second Sunday of Lent (Missal Page 151): Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Psalm 115;
Romans 8:31-34 ; Mark 9:2-10

Dear Friends

So we begin another Lent, more than forty days and forty nights when we are given the invitation to consider again what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. During these days we should nurture our desire to see Him more clearly, to love Him more dearly and to follow Him more nearly. Our Lenten schedule here at St Lawrence's gives us many ways to begin to do that. Don't let this Lent pass you by. Over these next four weekends Fr Fortunato, Fr Gerry and myself will be inviting you to look again at the Seven Sacraments, those outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual graces, God's ways of making us holy. St Ambrose of Milan puts it very beautifully: *"You show yourself to me, O Christ, face to face: I meet you in your Sacraments."* What an eye-opening way to look at it, meeting Christ Himself, every time we walk through these doors!

This weekend we are considering the Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation, sacraments which give us a deep-down and indelible character, identity and dignity as God's own beloved sons and daughters. That divine imprint on our souls and in our lives can never be taken away from us. We are and will always be, as St Paul reminds us, a new creation. At our Baptism and again at our Confirmation we are signed on our foreheads with the Sacred Oil of Chrism, anointed to be "other Christ's" for a world that hungers for His touch, and as we are anointed these words are said, words that define the whole and rest of our lives: *"God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water, and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into His holy people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as a member of His body, sharing everlasting life. Amen."*

With my prayers for each and every one of you for a happy, holy and whole hearted Lent.

Fr Chris.

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 1pm (Polish) & 6 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 11am & 5pm

SACRAMENTS

RITE OF CATHOLIC INITIATION IN ADULTS (RCIA)

Please keep in your prayers our catechumens and candidates preparing to be received into the Church at Easter. They were welcomed by the Cardinal at the Rite of Election service at the Cathedral this weekend.

PARISH NOTICES

REMINDER

Please note that during Lent, there will be Eucharistic Adoration, Monday to Friday at 8.30am and an early bird Mass every Friday at 06.45am.

LENT FAITH SHARING PROGRAMME

ANOINTED based on the life and mission of Jesus Christ commences this week, 23rd February. We encourage you to join one of the groups or to use the booklet for individual or family prayer. More details from Sr. Katherine.

LENTEN ALMS

"A way has to be found to enable everyone to benefit from the fruits of the earth, and not simply to close the gap between the affluent and those who must be satisfied with the crumbs falling from the table, but above all to satisfy the demands of justice, fairness and respect for every human being." (Pope Francis)

The diocese has asked all parishioners to consider making a Lenten Alms gift to Caritas and you will find leaflets with more information and donation envelopes in the Church. You can get more information about Caritas (and make an online donation) at www.rcdow.org.uk/caritas.

UCM

The UCM will meet on **Monday 23rd February** for their Mass in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing members there.

READERS TRAINING DAY

A Training Day has been organised for **Saturday 28th February** from 12noon to 4pm in the Parish Centre. This Training Day is for **ALL** current readers and for anyone interested in reading at Mass. We will start with a "bring and share" lunch.

"SACRISTY PARENTS"

We are seeking to start a system of "Sacristy Parents" to assist in getting our altar servers ready before and after Mass. Please contact Florie in the Parish Office or Bridget with your names: Safeguarding checks will be required for anyone who works with children or elderly in the parish. Please also state the time of Mass you attend.

CHILDREN'S MASS

A big thank you to all our children who read so beautifully at the 11 am Mass on Sunday 8th February. Numerous parishioners mentioned how lovely they read, they were a credit to themselves, their parents and their school. Our next children's Mass is on the **8th March at 11 am**. If your child is in year 3 or above and would like to read at this Mass, please let me know. (bridgetbrinkey@rcdow.org.uk)

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our warmest congratulations to Harry and June Canning who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on 19th February.

SIGNING OF OFFICIAL FORMS

A donation of £20.00 towards the new Parish Centre Appeal will apply for Passport and Driving Licence Applications and any other documents to verify identity that require signing by the priest.

NURSERY SCHOOL FORM SIGNING

Fr Chris will be available to sign Nursery School Forms on the following Tuesdays from 3.45pm to 5.00pm: **February 24th, March 3rd, 17th, 24th, April 21st, 28th**. Please come with your child and wait in Church and bring all the necessary paperwork with you.

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the souls of **Jean Watson RIP, David Nisbet RIP and Mary Lucey RIP** who have died recently. Their funerals will take place

JEAN WATSON RIP – at Hanworth Crematorium on Monday, 23rd February at 2.40pm.

DAVID NISBET RIP - at Hanworth Crematorium on **Monday 23rd February** at 4pm.

MARY LUCEY RIP – at St Lawrence's on Monday 2nd March at 12 noon.

Please keep in your prayers all the family and friends who mourn them.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

PILGRIMAGES 2015

LANCIANO, LORETO AND SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

A, six day, pilgrimage from the **8th to 13th September**. The cost will be £735 on a half board basis plus insurance. If you would like join this pilgrimage please collect a booking form from the Parish Office and return as soon as possible with your deposit.

LOURDES 2015

Once again we will be travelling by coach to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, **25th July to 2nd August**. On the way to Lourdes we will be visiting the shrine of St Martin of Tours and on the return journey we will be stopping in Rocamadour and St Bernadette's shrine in Nevers. Price £699 per person plus insurance. Single supplement £186. Price includes full board whilst in Lourdes and half board at stops on route. If you are interested, please enter your name on the sheet at the back of Church to reserve your place. Booking forms are available from the Parish Office. There will be a meeting for all those interested this **Sunday 22nd February** at 7pm in the Parish Centre. **We especially need young people (16+) to help care for our sick, disabled and elderly pilgrims, and a nurse to accompany us on the pilgrimage.**

OTHER

THANK YOU FROM MARY MCGHEE

"Dear Parishioners of St Lawrence's, thank you so much for the warm welcome you gave me when I came to speak about the EXPLORE project which will be working in our diocesan high schools to promote marriage. If anyone (married or single) is interested in becoming a volunteer or would like more information please do not hesitate to contact me. Mary McGhee, marymcghee@rcdow.org.uk; web: www.thexploreeperience.co.uk ;M: 07786 737437 W: 020 8898 7104."

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. Mary's Meals wants your unwanted clothing and bedding (**no duvets or pillows please**) and will be at our church on the morning of **Sunday 8th March**. to collect them all. Over the next few weeks please collect your unwanted clothes and put them in tied sacks. Then on **Saturday 7th or on the morning of the 8th March** bring them with you when you come to Mass. Amazingly 3 full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals feeds children one good meal every day at school in over 12 countries. Because of their low costs they can do this for as little as £12.20 per child per year!

THIS FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY IS CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, helping them to tackle poverty and injustice. Fast Days are our opportunity to support this vital work. Please take a Fast Day envelope and prayer card attached to the newsletter, and consider fasting and praying in solidarity this Friday, 27 February. Please return the Fast Day envelope with your donation for next weekend's CAFOD collection on **28 February/1 March**. This Lent, every pound you give will be matched by the UK Government, up to the value of £5m. This means your gift will have double the impact. CAFOD at Romero House needs to receive money by Wednesday 1 July for it to qualify for match funding.

PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARD FOR OTHER EVENTS/NEWS

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 21st Lent Feria	10.45 11.45 12.00 12.30 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Eileen Galligan (Intention) Stations of the Cross Sacrament of Reconciliation Bertha McDonagh RIP (3rd Anniversary)
+ Sunday 22nd First Sunday of Lent	09.00 11.00 13.00 14.30 18.00	Ted Chapple RIP People of the Parish Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Mass led by the African Community Tony Doherty (Intention)
Monday 23rd Lent Feria	08.30 09.15 09.30	Eucharistic Adoration Morning Prayer Colin Shrubbs RIP
Tuesday 24th Lent Feria	08.30 09.15 09.30 10.00	Eucharistic Adoration Morning Prayer John Owens RIP Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 25th Lent Feria	08.30 09.15 09.30 19.30	Eucharistic Adoration Morning Prayer Celebrant's Intention Stations of the Cross in Polish (Droga Krzyżowa)
Thursday 26th Lent Feria	08.30 09.15 09.30	Eucharistic Adoration Morning Prayer Fr Brian Heaney RIP (Anniversary)
Friday 27th Lent Feria	06.45 08.30 09.15 09.30 10.00	Peace in the Middle East Eucharistic Adoration Morning Prayer Philip Garvin RIP Stations of the Cross
Saturday 28th Lent Feria	10.45 11.45 12.00 12.30 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Patrick Galligan (RIP) Stations of the Cross Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
+ Sunday 1st Second Sunday of Lent	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Eugene Hourihan RIP George & Daisy Maple RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Holy Souls Canha Family

Sanctuary Lamp: Janet Danladi (Intention)

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collection:

14th/15th February: Envelopes £934.07 Loose £1,072.51 Standing Orders £480.92 Total: £2,487.50
Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

Contact us:

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Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

Sisters: Sr. Katherine O'Reilly, Sr. Monica Killeen, Sr. Nora Gorman

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley

020 8890 2367

feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano Parish

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

