

Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

St. Joseph's Parish

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Newsletter

22nd March 2015

5th Sunday of Lent

What is the difference between a contract and a covenant? We might well ask this in the light of our reading from the prophet Jeremiah this Sunday. We hear a familiar story about God and His relationship with His chosen people—the nation forged from God's election of a people He was to lead out of slavery and guide into a promised land. Countless times the chosen people had broken the covenant yet God wishes to create a new one with them. The inescapable fact here is that God is doing the initiating whilst Israel is 'doing' the sinning and breaking. Doesn't this sound very one-sided? Well, it is. This is the very nature of 'covenant' in its traditional, original meaning—a relationship between unequals. From our perspective, covenant should be looked upon as GIFT. Covenant originates from, and always refers back to, God. A contract, on the other hand, seeks equality in benefit and in sanction, so that whichever party breaks it some penalty ensues. It is purely legal, and



whilst marriages in other religions/ cultures are contractual only, Christian marriage is a covenant because it originates from and refers back to God. God gives marriage its authenticity and power. A marriage contract satisfies only a legal requirement. We thank God for sending us His Son—the final and definitive covenant that contains all others.

Services	This Week	Events
6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Pauline Jenkins RIP</i> 10.00am <i>Mass: The Horan Family</i> 5.00pm <i>Mass: Noel McGivern RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 22nd March Fifth Sunday of Lent</p> <p><i>Psalter Week</i> 1</p> 	10.05am Children's Liturgy Coffee and Tea after 10am Mass Youth Group 
<i>No School Mass</i> 7.00pm <i>Novena to Our Lady</i> <i>Mass: Richard Chidzick RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 23rd March Lent Feria</p>	3-6.00pm Hall booked 7.30pm Proclaim Discussion Groups, St. Peter's 7.45pm Baptism Preparation Meeting, HFR 8-9.00pm Dancing
9.10am <i>Rosary</i> 9.30am <i>Mass: Private Intention</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 24th March Lent Feria</p>	10.00am Tuesday Club 6.00pm Whitnash Community Forum, Hall 7.30pm 'Finding a Voice', St. Margaret's
9.00am <i>Mass: Fr. Anthony Sims</i> 7.00pm <i>Penitential Service, Warwick</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 25th March The Annunciation of the Lord Solemnity</p>	9.30-11.30am Art Group (<i>last until 15th April</i>)
7.00pm <i>Mass: Deacon Thomas Ashcroft</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 26th March Lent Feria</p>	10.45-12.15pm Music Group 1.30pm Proclaim Discussion Groups, St. Peter's 7-8.00pm Weight Watchers
9.10am <i>Rosary</i> 9.30am <i>Mass: Ian Wilshire RIP</i> 7.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 27th March Lent Feria</p>	10.00am Lenten Scripture Reflections, Hall 4-6.00pm Karate <i>End of school term</i>
9.15am <i>Morning Prayer</i> 9.30am <i>Mass: People of the Parish</i> 10-10.45 <i>Exposition and Adoration</i> <i>Sacrament of Confession</i> 6.30pm <i>Mass: George Fraser RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 28th March Lent Feria</p>	8.30am Slimming World 10.30am Slimming World 6.30-7.30pm Hall booked
10.00am <i>Mass: Pauline Jenkins RIP</i> 5.00pm <i>Mass: Maria Lazzara RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday <i>Psalter Week 2</i></p> 	10.05am Children's Liturgy  Easter Fayre - in the Hall, after Mass! 6.00pm Youth Group
Collections £523.19 Banker's Orders (weekly average) £100.46 <i>Many thanks for your donations</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Last Week 15th March</p>	Attendance: 258 

Announcements

OUR SICK

David Harwar, Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Marie Kelly, Seren Robertson, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brian McCann, Rory and Peggy O'Rourke, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Sue Day, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Eddie Hoare.

Warwick Hospital	Colin Jenkins
Heathcote Hospital	Margaret McLaughlin
Kenilworth Grange	Margaret Handy
The Lawns	Bert Brind, Bridget Hunt John L'Estrange
Clarence House	Winifred Galvin
Eversleigh N. H.	Mollie Benson
Clarendon Manor	Mary Jenkinson
Stratford	Monty Jenkinson
RLS Nursing Home	Bernie & Robbie Burns

Anniversaries

Patrick O'Driscoll, Paul Prescott, Hubert Vincent, Norah Baker, Mary Connolly, Colin Dunphy, Cornelius Sullivan, Alexander Hay, Ned Crowley, Phyllis Thacker, Margaret Dowling, John Carroll
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

Baptism

Elias O'Driscoll

Sunday April 26th at 12 Noon

Caelen Lea Connolly

Sunday 3rd May at 12 Noon

A **Baptism Preparation Meeting** is on Monday 23rd March at 7.45pm in the Holy Family Room.

Opportunities for Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our usual Penitential Service will take place on Tuesday 31st March at 7.00pm, when there will be a number of priests present. There will be a Penitential Service at St. Mary Immaculate, Warwick at 7.00pm on Wednesday 25th March.

Rotas for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

for April, May and June are available in the sacristy.
Thank you!

Recently Deceased

Hugh Williams, one of our parishioners, died on Friday after prolonged illness. We offer our sympathies and condolences to his wife Anne and all his family.
May he rest in peace and may the Lord give comfort to all who mourn him.

ACTIVITIES DURING LENT 2015 Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 7.00pm. This is traditionally an important part of our preparation for the glory of Easter Day.

Lenten Scripture Reflections

The last Lenten Scripture Reflection will take place this Friday 27th March. The session will be in the parish hall at 10.00am and all are very welcome.

Churches Together

The last meeting takes place on Tuesday 24 March at 7.30pm. The course is around the film 'The King's Speech', entitled "Finding a voice".



Safeguarding and Documentation

We need to have our safeguarding administration and documentation up to date. It has, for some time, been required practice for volunteers to complete the relevant forms. In parishes, the areas concerned will include: CHILDREN'S LITURGY, EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY, YOUTH GROUP WORKERS, ADULT ALTAR SERVERS, SACRISTANS AND CATECHISTS. We've already received a good number of these from our teams, but we need to make sure all volunteers have completed their relevant forms. Could any volunteers (from the above areas) who have not yet been given forms please see Fr. Bob or Honor Hynes [safeguarding co-ordinator] so that we can complete the process and make sure all documentation is up to date. Be assured that form completion will be fully explained and shouldn't be time consuming. We will guide you through the task. Many thanks for your patience and understanding. We do rely upon our generous teams to allow the parish to function.

Hunger Lunch

Our Hunger Lunch will be at noon on Good Friday in the Hall - Soup and a roll; £1.50 for Adults; £2.40 for Family. Organised by the Justice and Peace Group. Everyone welcome!

New Head Teacher

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Julia Wallace, who has accepted the position of Head Teacher at St. Joseph's School, starting from September. Let us remember our school community in our prayers over the coming months as it prepares for change in leadership.

Next Week—29th March 2015

Eucharistic Ministers:

6.30pm Vigil
10.00am
5.00pm

Jill Sheard, May Murphy
Adam Borley, Tony Harris, Pauline Mills
May Murphy, Sr. Angela

Readers:

Jan Ireson
Bernard Bergonzi

29th Mar 11.30am Easter Fayre, Hall
31st Mar 7.00pm Penitential Service
1st April 11.30am Chrism Mass, Cathedral

EASTER LITURGIES

Time is pressing and we are already approaching our Holy Week liturgy and the Paschal Triduum. This period is the source and summit of the Eucharist we celebrate every week and we are invited to become a part of it in the fullest sense.

There are leaflets available at the back of church with the times of services for Holy Week and the Triduum - do take one home so that you are aware of everything that is happening.



There will also be **lists** available, so that you may volunteer to take part in these special liturgies, e.g. as a Reader or a participant in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday.

Altar Servers add enormously to the dignity and solemnity of these important occasions and are a great help to the smooth running of the liturgies. Perhaps parents could encourage our servers, who have a lot of demands on their time, to make a particular commitment to the Easter Triduum, and it would be wonderful to see all our older servers supporting them.



The Easter services are full of extra liturgical symbolism, eg the new fire at the Vigil, and we need **behind the scenes help** to make sure everything goes according to plan. Please volunteer if you can.

Last but not least: our church is always kept beautifully clean and we have a talented team of flower arrangers who ensure that it is fittingly decorated, so it would be a good idea if a small group could offer to **clean the brassware**. There's a list for anyone who is willing to do this.



Please do offer to take a part, especially during the Triduum - The Mass of the Lord's Supper through to Easter Sunday. You will be much appreciated and will help everyone enjoy a wonderful tribute to the Lord.

- ◆ For those who volunteer for the Washing of the Feet—just one foot will be washed.
- ◆ Holy Saturday's Vigil will begin outside with the lighting of the Paschal Fire
- ◆ Please could altar servers attending any of the Easter Services (especially the Triduum) arrive 30 minutes before the start to go through the details. *Thank you!*

Parish Centre



Weekly Events (during normal time)

Monday: Dancing
Tuesday: Tuesday Club
Wednesday: Art /Choir
Thursday: Music Group / Weightwatchers
Friday: Karate
Saturday: Slimming World
Sunday: Youth Club

Justice and Peace Group

Organisers of the Night Shelter are very grateful for the generous contributions of food from the parish. Their latest Newsletter is available on the table under the Justice & Peace Notice Board. You may Take a copy, Read it, Return it please.

Flowers for Easter

We would be grateful for any contributions towards the flowers for Easter so that the church can be decorated beautifully to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. Please put any offerings into the flower box on the left of the main door. *Thank you!*

Easter Fayre. Sunday 29th March 11.30am

Please Come!

Please Help!

It's in the Hall

After Mass

contact Dawn
or email



on 07792939984
dawnsauvage@aol.com

Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

Maundy Thursday is the usual day for commissioning new Special Ministers of the Eucharist in addition to the existing ones. These ministers enhance our liturgies and help uphold the dignity and respect for the Blessed Sacrament. Please consider offering your services. Ministers also have the opportunity to take Communion to the sick and the housebound, if they are able to do so. New readers are urgently needed as well for the weekend Masses. Please speak to Fr. Bob if you feel able to help and *please let him know if you intend not to renew your commitment to Eucharistic Ministry at this time..*

Gift Aid Appeal

Pat Murphy, from our parish Finance Committee, will speak after all Masses this weekend. The benefits of gift-aiding should be made clear to any parishioner who is thinking about joining the scheme. Many thanks for all of you who are already in the scheme. It helps immensely.