

Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

St. Joseph's Parish

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Newsletter

21st February 2016

Second Sunday of Lent

Once more, for another year, we enter into our period of Lent; in danger, sadly, of allowing it to pass as yet another repeat of what has become familiar to us. It needn't be like this. If we really wish to enter into a 'mind-altering' life changing period in which we have the opportunity to experience grace like never before, then we have but to ask. We perhaps find it easier to accept that God communicates with us through words, divine inspiration or the historical intermediaries of prophets and saints. But can we, will we, ever believe that our Creator is willing to speak to us in extraordinary and spectacular ways? He certainly chose to do so with Abraham and Jesus' closest disciples. Abraham, as we hear in Genesis, was terrified yet also awe-struck and blessed through what he had been promised in such a dramatic covenant. It was as if God knew that Abraham had to experience this theophany to allow it to impress him to the depths of his being. What else could have drawn such depth of faith? This is what Abraham is famous for. And Jesus took a select three up to the summit of Mount Tabor to enable them to experience a terrifying and awesome theophany. Jesus well knew that His closest followers were going

to be 'stress-tested' to their limits—and while they all failed to share the 'Passion' with their Lord, the experience of the Transfiguration would have been seared into the very core of Peter, James and John. This would have enabled them later to endure their ultimate demand. Let us never tire of praying for God to amaze us and to 'shake us out of our skins' with His presence. Let our fear and trepidation yield to the Holy Terror of knowing God's love.



| Services | This Week | Events |
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| <p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Michael McGreevy RIP (Ireland)</i></p> <p><i>The second collection this weekend will be our contribution from Family Fast Day for CAFOD</i></p> <p>10.00am <i>Mass: Mary McGarvey RIPmm</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: Ian and Jane Kirby RIP</i></p> | <p>Sunday 21st February Second Sunday of Lent <i>Psalter Week 2</i></p>  | <p>10.05am Children's Liturgy <i>(Sundays outside school holidays)</i> Tea and Coffee in Church Hall after 10.00 am Mass</p> |
| <p><i>No School Mass</i></p> <p>7.00pm <i>Mass: Special Intention (MC) Novena to Our Lady</i></p> | <p>Monday 22nd February The Chair of St. Peter Feast</p> | <p>8-9.00pm Dancing</p> |
| <p>9.10am <i>Rosary</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: Joan Cotter RIP (Archer)</i></p> | <p>Tuesday 23rd February Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.30-12.30pm Tuesday Club</p> |
| <p><i>No Service</i></p> | <p>Wednesday 24th February Lent Feria</p> | <p>9.30-11.30am Art Group 7.30pm Lent Series, St. Margaret's</p> |
| <p>7.00pm <i>Mass: People of the Parish</i></p> | <p>Thursday 25th February Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.45-12.15pm Music Group 7-8.00pm Weight Watchers</p> |
| <p><i>No Rosary or Novena to the Sacred Heart today</i></p> <p>11.00am <i>Requiem Mass for Chrissie Fitzpatrick</i></p> <p>12.30pm <i>Burial at Leamington Cemetery</i></p> <p>7.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i></p> | <p>Friday 26th February Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.00am Lectio Divina, Hall 4-6.00pm Karate</p> |
| <p>9.15am <i>Morning Prayer</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: Michael McGreevy RIP (Ireland)</i></p> <p>10-10.45am <i>Exposition and Adoration Sacrament of Confession</i></p> <p><i>This weekend is our February Maintenance Collection</i></p> <p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Zena Godwin</i></p> | <p>Saturday 27th February Lent Feria</p> | <p>8.30am Slimming World 10.30am Slimming World</p> |
| <p>10.00am <i>Mass: Elias and Manola Saez</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: Manolo Manteiga</i></p> | <p>Sunday 28th February Third Sunday of Lent</p> | <p>10.05am Children's Liturgy <i>(Sundays outside school holidays)</i></p> |
| <p>Collections £ 368.55 Banker's Orders (weekly average) £112</p> <p><i>Many thanks for your donations</i></p> | <p>Last Week 14th February</p> | <p>Attendance: 232</p>  |

Announcements

OUR SICK

David Harwar, Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brian McCann, Rory O'Rourke, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Hollie Sauvage, Christopher Brown, Mary Moran.

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| Woodloes House | Angele Handford |
| Kenilworth Grange | Margaret Handy |
| The Lawns | Bridget Hunt John L'Estrange Ellen Quinn, Rosa Zantico, Mary Behan |
| Clarence House | Winifred Galvin |
| Eversleigh N. H. | Mollie Benson |
| Clarendon Manor | Marie Kelly, Mary Craig |
| Stratford | Monty Jenkinson |
| RLS Nursing Home | Robbie Burns |
| Craighaven | Rory O'Rourke |

ANNIVERSARIES

Andrea Luca, Ethel Locker, Kathleen Bellerby, Phyllis Hanson, Susan Taplin, James Dale, Michael Brogan, Peter Jeffrey, Mary Logan, David Colledge, Thomas Bannon, Thomas Russell

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

BAPTISM

Baptism Preparation: In the first instance an application form should be collected from and returned to the parish priest at the presbytery. Once a date has been agreed the parents will be invited to a Preparation Meeting usually held on the last Monday of the month at 7.45pm in the Holy Family Room. Please note that the child's Catholic parent/s should take first responsibility for bringing them up in the faith.



This week Our Lady's 7 Day candle burns for Mary Scahill—for the blessing of a peaceful death

Novena to the Sacred Heart

We have now begun to incorporate the Novena to the Sacred Heart into our Friday morning Mass whenever this is possible. Except for the period of Lent (when we have Stations of the Cross) our First Friday Mass with the Novena will be in the evening as usual.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Chrissie Fitzpatrick, Chrissie's Requiem Mass will be at 11.00am this Friday 26th February, followed by burial at Leamington Cemetery at 12.30

Peggy O'Rourke, who died on 15th January. Her body will be brought into St. Joseph's at 4.00pm Sunday 6th March and her Requiem will be on the 5th at 11.00am

Donald Rowe, a parishioner, died in hospital last Friday after a sudden illness. His funeral arrangements will be announced shortly.

Please also remember Whitnash teenager, Kieren Long, who was tragically killed recently.

Our sympathies and prayers go out to all their families.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Coffee and Tea after Sunday Mass

Interest has now been shown in providing facilities on a regular basis. **Please let me know if you could be a part of this group. It would be encouraging in many respects if we were able to keep this social opportunity going, so please give it some thought. The parish would ensure all necessary beverages/edibles were kept in the kitchen, so volunteers would not need to bring anything.** Many thanks Fr. Bob



Womens' World Day of Prayer

The Whitnash branch's service will take place on Friday 4th March 2016 at St. Margaret's Church at 10.30am, with our "Welcome Café" open for coffee and cake etc from 9.45am until 10.30am and again after the service. Please join us for fellowship and chat before we worship together. The service is not just for women: men and children are also very welcome to attend, so everyone please do come along and help us mark this special day. *This year, St Joseph's Year 6 girls will be participating in the service, so please come along and support them if you are able.*

Goodbye

It is with sadness that we will say goodbye to Sr. Mary Clare at the end of February. Sister has been part of our parish life for four years now and we wish her well and thank her for the many ways in which she enriched our community, as she rejoins the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul at Selly Park.

Next Week—21st February 2016

Eucharistic Ministers:

6.30pm Vigil
10.00am
5.00pm

Jan Ireson, Paddy Taylor
John Ireson, Myrna Harwar, Pauline Mills
Shelagh Price, Paddy Close

Readers:

June Arran
Sophie Morton
Amy Cawood

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|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20/21st Feb | Family Fast Day collection, CAFOD |
| 27/28th Feb | February Maintenance Collection |
| 4th March | 10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St. Margaret's |
| 5/6th March | 2nd Collection Cathedral Maintenance |
| 13th March | 10.00am next Children's Mass |

Hand In Hand

The Hand-in-Hand group of adults (with and without disabilities) from Warwick and Leamington meets regularly to build friendships and explore life and faith, using music, drama and sign language. We have been invited to take part in a conference from 24 to 26 June in Vatican City called 'Living Fully 2016'. We need to raise up to £5,000 for their travel and conference costs. If you can help please drop any donations (clearly marked 'Hand-in-Hand Rome trip') into the box in the narthex, they will be gratefully received. Or they may be handed to St. Peter's presbytery. Contact Mary Holden (420045) or Julia Fitzsimons (735275) for more information. Thank you.

Our Lady's 7-Day Candle Intention

Our Lady's blue lamp provides a welcome focus to Our Lady's corner on the right of the church. Thanks to those who have sponsored the candle for a week. If you would like to do this then simply write down your intention next to the chosen week in the book and drop a donation into the box. Please also write the intention on the small donation envelopes near the book. You may wish to add your name in brackets or your initials (entirely optional). The intention will then appear in that week's bulletin.

Night Shelter

The 2-page February Newsletter is available on the J&P table in the Narthex. Please take a copy, and bring it back for someone else to read!

Eucharistic Ministers

Maundy Thursday is traditionally the time of induction for new Ministers of the Eucharist and we have a particular need for Ministers who are able to take communion to the sick. Each person would only be required to take on one, or a maximum of two communicants to visit regularly. A DBS check would be necessary, but this is simple and non-intrusive. Please give it some thought through Lent, and let Fr. Bob know if you are able to volunteer. We particularly need **more Eucharistic Ministers for the 10.00am Mass.**

Charities Walk

Marie Banner would like to thank all who supported her charity walk last year. A wonderful total of £1049 was raised for the four charities: *The Stroke Association, Epilepsy Action, Mind, and Parkinson's UK.* Well done.

Parish Centre



Weekly Events (during normal time)

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

**OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT 2016
Stations of the Cross**

We will be holding Stations of the Cross each Friday evening during Lent at 7.00pm. Stations of the Cross is a devotion which brings us right into the footsteps of the Lord as he journeys to the cross. It is traditionally an important part of our preparation for the glory of Easter Day.



Lectio Divina

Our Scripture Reflection Hour will be held weekly throughout Lent on Fridays at 10.00am in the Hall. All will be very welcome.

Experiencing God's Love - Five Images of Transformation

This is the title of the Churches Together from Whitnash, Warwick Gates and Bishops Tachbrook's Lent Series this year. Sessions will be held at the Chapter House, St. Margaret's, every Wednesday evening of Lent until 16th March, at 7.30pm. There is a course book, costing £6. Ordered books are available at St. Margaret's on Wednesday and there are extra copies for newcomers. Everyone is welcome.

Dates for local Penitential Services will be printed in due course. The sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday morning during Exposition and Adoration

Good Friday: HUNGER LUNCH at noon in the hall.

Taking place at St. Peter's Church:
Sunday 20 March Stainer's Crucifixion sung by Diatonic Choir, 2.30pm in the Church
Tuesday 22 March Passion Play by Caramba Theatre Company, in the Church

200 Club

Congratulations to Donal Murphy, Charlie McMahon and Orla McFadden, who were the winners of February's 200Club draw. The next 200 Club subscription collection will take place on the first weekend in March.