

Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

St. Joseph's Parish

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Newsletter

27th March 2016

The Resurrection of the Lord

“Wanting but struggling to open my heart”. In the dark hours of the crucifixion the disciples would have known exactly the meaning of those words. Jesus had been put to death; He was gone, laid in a tomb. Was this the end? Did anything have any meaning any more? The disciples still wanted to believe in Him but they were struggling to open their hearts. There is a contrast between those dark hours and the early morning that heralded the dawn of the first Easter Day. It was then that Mary Magdalene and the other women disciples went to the tomb and found that it was empty. Mary believed that the body of Jesus had been taken away. She went to tell Peter and John what she believed had happened and she was seeking the help of men whose individual behaviour had been very different at the time of Jesus' trial and crucifixion. Peter had denied he knew Jesus, and John had stayed close close to the cross and remained with Jesus to the end. But now, united in grief, Peter and John run to the tomb, see the grave clothes and believe what until then they had failed to understand: *“that He must rise from the dead”*. For all these

disciples the truth of the resurrection dawns upon them slowly. According to John, it comes to Mary Magdalene in a uniquely personal way when a little while later in the Gospel she remains at the tomb and encounters, in a very emotional way her resurrected Lord. No one witnessed the resurrection, but Christ opened the disciples' hearts by appearing to them, risen from the dead. God calls each one of us to open our hearts, to make a spiritual journey throughout our lives and the end will really be at the beginning.



Services	This Week	Events
8.00pm <i>Easter Vigil and the First Mass of Easter:</i> Phil Lane RIP (LM)  10.00am <i>Family Mass of Easter: Blessings on Jerry Noonan, 90th Birthday</i> 5.00pm <i>Easter Mass: Josie Prenderville RIP</i>	<p align="center">Sunday 27th March The Resurrection of the Lord Easter Sunday</p> <p align="center"><i>Psalter: the Easter Octave</i></p>	Tea and Coffee in the Church Hall after 10.00am Mass 
<i>No Service at St. Joseph's</i>	<p align="center">Monday 28th March Easter Monday Solemnity</p>	<p align="center"><i>No Dancing</i></p>
9.10am Rosary 9.30am Service of the Word and Holy Communion	<p align="center">Tuesday 29th March Easter Tuesday Solemnity</p>	<p align="center"><i>No Tuesday Club</i></p>
<i>No Service at St. Joseph's</i>	<p align="center">Wednesday 30th March Easter Wednesday Solemnity</p>	<p align="center"><i>No Art until 6th April</i></p>
9.10am Rosary 9.30am Service of the Word and Holy Communion	<p align="center">Thursday 31st March Easter Thursday Solemnity</p>	Church Cleaning - Team 1 <i>No Music Group</i> 7-8.00pm Weight Watchers
9.10am Rosary 9.30am Service of the Word and Holy Communion	<p align="center">Friday 1st April Easter Friday Solemnity <i>First Friday</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>No Karate</i></p>
9.15am <i>Morning Prayer</i> 9.30am <i>Mass: Don Rowe RIP (MS)</i> 10-10.45am <i>Exposition and Adoration Sacrament of Confession</i> 6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Phil Lane RIP (L&J)</i> <i>2nd Collection: Hand in Hand Group</i>	<p align="center">Saturday 2nd April Easter Saturday Solemnity</p>	8.30am Slimming World 10.30am Slimming World 1.30-4.30pm Hall booked
10.00am <i>Mass: Ian Wilshire RIP</i> 3.00pm <i>Divine Mercy Devotions and Exposition at St. Peter's</i> 5.00pm <i>Mass: Carmela Viviani RIP</i> <i>There will be a short reflection the Hand in Hand Group after Communion at the 10.00am Mass</i>	<p align="center">Sunday 3rd April Second Sunday of Easter <i>Psalter Week 2</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i></p>	Tea and Coffee in the Church Hall after 10.00am Mass
Collections £393.34 Banker's Orders (weekly average) £112 <i>Many thanks for your donations</i>	<p align="center">Last Week 20th March</p>	Attendance: 213 

Announcements

OUR SICK

Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brian McCann, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Hollie Sauvage, Christopher Brown, Maureen Cowell

Woodside Angele Handford
The Lawns Bridget Hunt, Ellen Quinn, Rosa Venetico, Mary Behan, John L'Estrange, Pierre de Spa, Kathleen Hammond

Clarence House Winifred Galvin
Eversleigh N. H. Mollie Benson
Clarendon Manor Mary Craig, Marie Kelly, John Cotter

Stratford Monty Jenkinson
RLS Nursing Home Robbie Burns
Craighaven Rory O'Rourke
Galanos House Marjorie Smedley

ANNIVERSARIES

Violet Hawkins, Margaret Carr, Colin Bates, Kathleen Hornsby, Angela Freeman, George Fraser, Simon Hawkins

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord



This week Our Lady's 7 Day candle burns for Claire's special intention

Hand in Hand Group Presentation

There will be a small group of 8 or 10 from our local Warwick and Leamington Hand in Hand Group, giving a post communion reflection involving music and signing at the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 3rd April. Liz Weston will be giving a short talk before the second collection. The collection is to assist the group in travelling to Vatican City, to take part in a conference called "Living Fully 2016" from 24th to 26th June.

Newcomers to the Parish

There have been a few new faces noticed at our Sunday Masses in recent months; a very welcome addition to our parish community. If you are new to the parish please do not hesitate to introduce yourself and complete a very simple green parish census form which you will find in the narthex. It will give us a chance to get to know you whilst offering you the opportunity for involvement in activities/groups that may interest you. Many thanks Fr. Bob

Divine Mercy Sunday - 3rd April

This year, as we are in the Year of Mercy, Divine Mercy Sunday will hold a special significance. The Divine Mercy novena starts on Good Friday. Divine Mercy Devotions with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions are from 3pm to 4pm at St. Peter's on Sunday 3rd. St. Peter's is a pilgrimage church for the Holy Year of Mercy for the Warwick Deanery parishes.

Recently Deceased

Joachim Da Silva, who lived within our parish, died last week.

Our sympathies and prayers go out to his family.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory

Local Fundraising

Friends of a young local Whitnash man, Matt Bates, are raising money for special treatment for his cancer. If you would like to find out more go to: <http://www.matt-bates.co.uk/2016/03/07/not-the-scans-we-wanted-but-theres-still-hope/>

Gift Aid Envelopes

The new tax year starts after Easter and the envelopes for this are in the porch. Please take your named box. If you are not a tax payer, but would like a box, there will be a sheet of paper next to the blank boxes - just sign this and take one. Please consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme, if you are a tax payer. Just let Fr. Bob know if you are interested.

NB *We have ordered fewer envelopes this year, so some people have been allocated new numbers.*

Quiz Night

There is to be a Quiz Night on Saturday 16th April - 7.30pm until 9.30pm. It should be a very entertaining evening! You are invited to bring food for a sharing table and the organisers would welcome donations of raffle prizes.

More information to follow—do put the date in the diary.



Easter Offering

The collection taken at Easter is one of just two occasions in the Church's year when it is stipulated that it should be for the benefit of the clergy.

Next Week—3rd April 2016

8.00pm Vigil
10.00am
5.00pm

Eucharistic Ministers:

May Murphy, Josephine Whittington
Myrna Harwar, John Ireson, Tony Harris
Sr. Angela, Mary Hendry

Readers:

Alison McCleary
Kate & Ella Graham
Anne Bergonzi

3rd April	Hand in Hand group performing after Communion at 10.00am Mass
16th April	Quiz Night
26th May	7.00pm, Fr. Brian's Celebration Mass, 60th anniversary of priesthood

Thank You

Thank you to those who have agreed to serve the parish in the role of Special Minister of the Eucharist for the coming year. We are grateful to all our Eucharistic Ministers for their ongoing commitment to supporting the liturgy in this way.

Scripture Reflection - Lectio Divina

After Easter, we will revert to one monthly meeting, on the third Friday of each month, at 10.00am in the Holy Family Room. The next occasion will be Friday 15th April. All are very welcome to this gentle reflection on the coming Sunday's Gospel.

Justice and Peace

Many thanks to all those who came and supported the Good Friday Hunger Lunch.

Easter Fun Fund Raising

Thanks to all who have made and bought cakes, hunted Easter Eggs, filled in Quiz sheets and bought raffle tickets during our Easter Fun Fund Raising few weeks.  When we have information on winners and funds raised, we will let you know. Thanks to all who have organised the various activities and to everyone who has supported them—the narthex will look quite empty when the Easter prizes disappear!

A Celebration for Fr. Brian

It is the 60th anniversary of Fr. Brian's Ordination to the Priesthood on Thursday 26th May and there is to be a Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, Droitwich at 7.00pm followed by a social in the parish centre. Fr. Brian has sent a general invitation to St. Joseph's parish, and needs to know (for catering, etc.) who is able to come. His contacts are: email fr.bee27@gmail.com or phone: 01905 773258 or letter: Sacred Heart Presbytery, 208 Worcester Road, Droitwich, WR9 8AZ Please let him know by Sunday 8th May if you would like to go.

Fr Bob would like to attend and if there is enough interest, would be happy for us to organise a coach to leave from St. Joseph's. After Easter, there will be a list in the porch to sign for those who would be interested in that.

Parish Centre



Weekly Events (during normal time)

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

Items for the Bulletin

It would be really helpful if any information which you would like to be included in the coming weekend's bulletin could be emailed to :-

Fr. Bob (st.josephs47@outlook.com) and Jan Ireson (janvireson@gmail.com)

Ideally, this would arrive by Friday morning at the latest. Alternatively, a written note could be handed in to Fr. Bob or Jan.

Thank You

Many thanks to all those whose hard work and preparation meant that the Easter Services were celebrated with the church freshly cleaned and beautifully decorated with flowers. Thanks to the musicians and choir, the altar servers, the readers and Eucharistic Ministers whose efforts added to the dignity of the ceremonies and thanks to all those who attended and took part in the special liturgies of the season. Perhaps a special thank you to those who worked in the background to make sure everything went smoothly. A special thanks also to a very generous donation offered towards our flowers.

Many thanks also for your cards and good wishes and a blessed and Happy Easter to you all!

Fr. Bob

