

Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

St. Joseph's Parish

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Newsletter



6th March 2016

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Remembering is at the heart of today's readings; a remembering that is healing and life-giving. God remembered His promise to Abraham to give his descendents the Promised Land, and the people have remembered their covenant with God. Many of us know the parable of the 'Prodigal Son' and the circumstances around which Jesus told it. And remembering is a part of this as well. The younger son is indeed prodigal; wasteful and dissolute. He has forgotten his father, family and even his faith, as he's reduced to working as a swineherd. But here, at his lowest point, the son remembers and the key thing he remembers is his father's goodness and love. It proves to be a saving memory for the boy as he returns home to seek his father's forgiveness. But it is the father who proves to be prodigal (in the sense of his extravagance) as he runs out to meet his son, embracing him and restoring his dignity, in the symbols of the ring, the robe and the sandals. The scribes and Pharisees are represented by the elder son who could not entertain forgiving his brother. The older son's memory only sees the wrongs that his brother has committed and so this memory acts as a barrier to forgiveness. Jesus' parable is an



unfinished story because we are left wondering what the elder son will do next. The parable is, if you like, left for us to complete. As we ponder this situation of the father pleading with him to enter and join the celebration, we also are invited to accept the grace of forgiveness. It is only when I can see how much I have been forgiven that I can forgive others. Our prodigal Father wants us to remember His love and join the party.

| Services | This Week | Events |
|--|---|---|
| <p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: John Kelly RIP (DK)</i> <i>2nd Collection: Cathedral Maintenance</i></p> <p>10.00am <i>Mass: Joan Cotter RIP (H&HB)</i></p> <p>4.00pm <i>Reception of the body of Peggy O'Rourke</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: Phil Lane RIP (KC)</i></p> | <p>Sunday 6th March Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>Psalter Week 4</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>200 Club subscriptions will be collected this weekend</i></p> <p><i>Donations for the Hamper by this weekend, please</i></p> |
| <p>11.00am <i>Requiem Mass for Peggy O'Rourke</i></p> <p>2.15pm <i>School Mass: Phil Lane RIP (HF)</i></p> <p>7.00pm <i>Mass: Joan Cotter RIP (AF)</i> <i>Novena to Our Lady</i></p> | <p>Monday 7th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>8-9.00pm Dancing</p> |
| <p>9.10am <i>Rosary</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: Joan Cotter RIP</i></p> | <p>Tuesday 8th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.30-12.30pm Tuesday Club</p> |
| <p><i>No Service</i></p> | <p>Wednesday 9th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>9.30-11.30am Art Group</p> <p>7.30pm Lent Series, St. Margaret's</p> |
| <p>7.00pm <i>Mass: Phil Lane RIP</i></p> | <p>Thursday 10th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.45-12.15pm Music Group</p> <p>7-8.00pm Weight Watchers</p> |
| <p>9.10am <i>Rosary</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: Susan Day RIP (M&D)</i></p> <p>7.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i></p> | <p>Friday 11th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>10.00am Lectio Divina, Hall</p> <p>4-6.00pm Karate</p> |
| <p>9.15am <i>Morning Prayer</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: People of the Parish & John Streeter</i></p> <p>10-10.45am <i>Exposition and Adoration Sacrament of Confession</i></p> <p>12-1.00pm <i>Exposition. Adoration and Confession. Part of 24hours throughout the Deanery</i></p> <p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: John Kelly RIP (D&K)</i> <i>This weekend is our March Maintenance Collection</i></p> | <p>Saturday 12th March Lent Feria</p> | <p>8.30am Slimming World</p> <p>10.30am Slimming World</p> <p><i>Donations for the cake sale today, please.</i></p> |
| <p>10.00am <i>Children's Mass: Anselmo Bao (H&MB)</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: Joan Cotter RIP (RG)</i></p> | <p>Sunday 13th March Fifth Sunday of Lent <i>Psalter Week 1</i></p> | <p>10.05am Children's Liturgy <i>(Sundays outside school holidays)</i> Tea and Coffee in the Church Hall after 10.00am Mass</p> <p><i>Easter Egg Hunt and Cake Sale after Mass.</i></p> |
| <p>Collections £440.60</p> <p>Banker's Orders (weekly average) £112</p> <p><i>Many thanks for your donations</i></p> | <p>Last Week 28th February</p> | <p>Attendance: 228</p>  |

Announcements

OUR SICK

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Margaret Patricia Gallagher, Mary McSharry,
Kathleen Farrell, Denis O'Rourke

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 the Harwar Family*

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 available book and drop a donation into the box next to it. 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Peggy O'Rourke, who died on 15th February. Her body will be brought into St. Joseph's at 4.00pm Sunday 6th March and her Requiem will be on the 7th March at 11.00am followed by cremation at Oakley Wood.

Donald Rowe, a parishioner, died in hospital Friday 20th February after a sudden illness. His body will be brought into St. Joseph's at 5.30pm 14th March and his requiem will be on 15th March at 10.30am followed by cremation at Oakley Wood.

Please also remember **Margaret Handy**, a recent resident of the Lawns, who died recently. Her funeral is at Oakley Wood at 2.15pm on 8th March

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

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 will supply all necessary beverages/edibles in the kitchen. Many thanks Fr. Bob

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.**

Morning of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers

On the morning of Saturday 19th March (from 10.30am until 12.30pm) there will be a two hour session of reflection and Eucharistic Adoration for our parish ministers. It will consist of a DVD presentation and opportunity for brief discussion (and future planning) followed by Exposition. Please do take this opportunity if possible since some important issues and concerns can be aired.
Many Thanks Fr. Bob

Indo-Celtic Music and Dance. Albany Theatre, 53, The Butts, Coventry (02476998964). Features many popular local groups, including Comhaltas. A spectacular evening of music promised. [19th March 7.30pm]

Next Week—13th March 2016

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| 6.30pm Vigil | Eucharistic Ministers: Stephen McFadden, May Murphy |
| 10.00am | Adam Borley , Pauline Mills, Myrna Harwar |
| 5.00pm | Shelagh Price, Tony Harris |

Readers:
Honor Hynes
School
Anne Kirby

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|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5/6th March | 2nd Collection Cathedral Maintenance |
| 13th March | 10.00am next Children's Mass |
| 12/13th March | March Maintenance Collection |
| 13th March | 11.15am Easter Egg Raffle/Hunt |
| 22nd March | 7.00pm Penitential Service |
| 16th April | Quiz Night |

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.

Easter Fun Fund Raising

We have a number of fund raising activities over the Easter period to raise money for new sky-lights for the Church:

Easter Egg Hunt and Cake Sale- after mass

on Sunday 13th March

Easter Quiz - quiz sheets on sale shortly

Easter Raffle Hamper - tickets on sale from 12th March

Donations for the hamper and cake sale would be warmly welcomed. Hamper donations by 6th March and cake donations by 12th March, please.



Justice and Peace Group

There will be a meeting at 4pm in the HFR on Monday 7th March to enable planning for the coming year. Everyone welcome. Do come and have your say.

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

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 are:

- St Peter's* at 7.00pm on Friday 18th March
- St. Mary Immaculate* at 7.00pm on Monday 21st March
- St. Joseph's* at 7.00pm on Tuesday 22nd March

The sacrament of Reconciliation is available in our parish 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

The next 200 Club subscription will take place after the Masses this weekend 5th/6th March. New members welcome.