

Baptism: living a life of faith together

Baptism makes us members of the Church, drawing us into relationship with God (whom from then on we can call our Father) and one another. Being a member of the Church gives us responsibility for one another, to help each other in our faith and in practical need. How often are we conscious of our baptismal vocation – our call to follow Jesus? How can we remind ourselves of this calling?

FOCUS ON... **Miles for Syria**

Join us on our virtual journey to Aleppo! The aim is to complete the virtual 2,650 miles journey from St Clare's to Aleppo, by walking, cycling, running (or some other method) and pledging to contribute £1 per mile.

So, if you pledge to walk 20 miles then your financial pledge is £20. You can also raise more money by



obtaining sponsorship for your pledged distance. You can submit as many envelopes as you want (just drop envelopes into the collection baskets) – if you pledge 50 miles/£50 you could submit this over 5 weeks in 5 envelopes.

You are also very welcome to donate money without pledging miles! Just use the brown envelopes in the narthex. By doing this you are still supporting our journey to raise £2,650, which will go to support displaced families in Syria.

As we receive pledges we will plot our way across the map to Aleppo. Your pledge can be made by using the Pledge Envelopes (available in the narthex), or donating through our 'Just Giving' page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/milesforsyria

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book Page 151

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: of Lent

| Date | Time | Occasion | Intention/Details |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday 24 th | 6pm (vigil) | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT | Joan Burton RIP |
| | 7pm (vigil) | | <i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i> |
| Sunday 25 th | 9:30am | | Martin Cliff RIP |
| | 6pm | | Bill Hargreaves RIP |
| Monday | 9:15am | | Michael and Margaret Holleran RIP |
| | 5:15pm | | <i>Mass in hospital chapel</i> |
| Tuesday | 7pm | Alex Schroeder RIP | |
| Wednesday | 9:15am | Mary Logue RIP | |
| Thursday | 9:15am | St David | Eileen Wells RIP |
| Friday | 12noon | | Martin Cliff RIP |
| Saturday 3 rd March | 10am | THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT | Frank Rowe RIP |
| | 6pm (vigil) | | May Gilbert RIP |
| | 7pm (vigil) | | <i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i> |
| Sunday 4 th | 9:30am | | People of the Parish |
| | 6pm | | Rita Burns (birthday) |

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Gladys Bee** and **Pearline Simpson**, whose funerals took place last week, **Keith Foster**, whose Requiem will be on Tuesday 6th March at 11am, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon (for priestly vocations)

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Monday-Friday 7:45am during Lent.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon, and on request.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays 3pm during Lent.

ROSARY: Mysteries of Light prayed after 9:15am Mass, and before 12noon Mass on Fridays. These prayers are offered for the protection of life at all stages.

ANGELUS: said at 12noon on Fridays, at the start of Mass.

ANNIVERSARIES: Edwin Smith, Isabella Main, Joe McCallion, John Kirk, Jean Bateson, Isabelle Maxwell, Mary Hurley, Maureen Ford, James Woodruff, Marion Holden.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR: 7pm this Friday. Particularly important in Lent!

LENTEN LUNCHEs: Fridays after Mass, resuming this week. In aid of ACN.

LENT TALKS: Two talks exploring the scriptural roots of the sacraments. Tuesday 13th March and Tuesday 20th March at 7:30pm. All welcome.

CTS LENT BOOKS: Reading for Lent is now available in the narthex.

CTS BOOK CLUB: We are starting a monthly book club using a different CTS booklet each month. First meeting is after evening Mass on Sunday 11th March. The booklet for this month is called 'Living fruitfully: Generosity'. A good one for Lent! Free copies are now available from Fr Andrew after Mass or from the presbytery.

FUNDRAISING AFTERNOON IN SCHOOL: Join pupils and staff at our primary school this Thursday for their charity fundraising afternoon, in aid of our Syrian families with ACN. School is open to all from 2:30pm.

SPIRITUAL READING BOOK EXCHANGE: If you have any spiritual books that you no longer need, bring them next weekend (3rd/4th) and leave them on the table in the narthex. And take a look at anything left by others, in case you can use it!

HOLY WEEK MUSIC PRACTICES: Come and learn some new music for the Sacred Triduum. Practice in the church this Wednesday at 6:30pm. All welcome!

PARISH LOGO: You may have spotted the new logo on the front of the newsletter or online. See the notice boards in the narthex for an explanation of its meaning.

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY: please return envelopes in the collection this weekend.

AFTER-MASS TEA/COFFEE: In the narthex after Mass on Wednesday mornings, as well as in the parish hall after 9:30am Sunday Mass. All are very welcome.

200 CLUB: February draw: £161- no. 36 Veronica Sanders; £96 - no. 96 Catherine Fortune; £64 - no. 31 Patsy Cockburn. Total to Narthex fund: £9,266. Thank you.

LOURDES BINGO: £400.81 was raised for the Lourdes Fund. Thanks to all involved.

NARTHEX PLOTS: One or two people have asked – so we have reopened this scheme for a limited period. Forms are available inside the narthex.

GLIMPING GOD: Sessions at Soul Space (92 St Thomas' Road), 7-8:30pm, each Tuesday until 20th March. Email: soulpace92@outlook.com or call 07722 572753.

LOURDES BURSARY: Going to Lourdes as a volunteer? If you are under 25 and in Year 10 or above, the Catenian Association will give £75 towards your costs, no strings attached. To apply just go to www.thecatenians.com and click on 'Bursary'.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday 2nd March, 2pm at Our Lady & St Edward's. Theme: 'All God's Creation is Very Good: Praying for Suriname'.

LAST SUNDAY: Attended: 468; Collection: £1,078.68; Thank you.

Events this week (one off/occasional events in bold type)

| Day | Time | What? | Where? |
|-----------|---------|--|----------------|
| Sunday | 9:30am | Children's Liturgy | At Mass |
| | 10:30am | Holy Communion Preparation (3) | Parish Hall |
| | 11am | Holy Communion Parents' Session | Chapel |
| | 3pm | Stations of the Cross | Church |
| | 7pm | Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11) | Parish Hall |
| Mon-Fri | 7:45am | Morning Prayer of the Church | Church |
| | 9am | Pre-school | Parish Hall |
| | 3:20pm | After-school club | Parish Hall |
| Monday | 6:50pm | Baptism Preparation (1) | Chapel |
| | 7:30pm | Journey in Faith | Chapel |
| Tuesday | 7:30pm | Prayer Group | Chapel |
| | 7:30pm | Marriage Preparation (7) | Parish Hall |
| Wednesday | 9:45am | After-Mass tea and coffee | Narthex |
| | 6pm | Seekers (school years 4-6) | Parish Hall |
| | 6:30pm | Holy Week Music Practice | Church |
| | 7:30pm | NCW Liturgy of the Word | Chapel/Narthex |
| Thursday | 2:30pm | Fundraising afternoon for ACN | School |
| | 6:15pm | Beavers | Parish Hall |
| Friday | 12:30pm | Lenten Lunch | Parish Hall |
| | 7pm | First Friday Holy Hour | Church |
| Sat/Sun | At Mass | Spiritual reading book exchange | Narthex |
| Saturday | 9am | Pilates | Parish Hall |
| | 10:30am | Spanish Class | Parish Hall |
| Sunday | 9:30am | Children's Liturgy | At Mass |
| | 3pm | Stations of the Cross | Church |
| | 7pm | Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11) | Parish Hall |

Advance Diary Dates

6th March: Social Committee, 7:30pm

16th March: Stations of the Cross for persecuted Christians, with ACN, 7pm

Further ahead and further afield...

PILGRIMAGE TO LINDISFARNE (Holy Island): for young adults (20s and 30s), 4th - 8th April 2018. Two days of walking in the beautiful Northumberland Countryside along St Cuthbert's Way, followed by a day on Holy Island and a visit to Durham Cathedral. For more information, contact Sr Lynne FCJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com