

Queen of Martyrs And St Swithin



Tel: 546 3574

Email: olgom@rcaolp.co.uk

Website: queenofmartyrs.org.uk



PASTORAL AREA of St Raphael and St Paul

Holy Name & Our Lady & St. Philomena 476 0289

Blessed Sacrament 474 2682

St Teresa's 226 1354

PARISH CLERGY

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris Fallon Assistant: Fr Anthony Kelly

Deacons: Rev Malcolm Fletcher & Rev Christopher Housbey

3rd Sunday of Lent – 15th March 2020

Liturgy for the Week

Saturday 14 th	6.00 pm	Sarah Moore (B'day Rem) Elizabeth Moore (Anniv)
Sunday 15 th 3 rd Sunday of Lent	11.30 am	Francis Doran (Anniv) Annie Murray
Monday 16 th	9.05 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
	2.45 pm	Funeral Service: Jane Maguire
Tuesday 17 th	9.05 am	Mass: Jean Holmes (Mem)
	9.45 am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Wednesday 18 th	7.00 pm	Mass: Emily Purdie (Thanksgiving)
		<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Thursday 19 th	9.05 am	Mass: Joan McDonnell (Anniv)
Friday 20 th	9.05 am	<i>Eucharist Service</i>
Saturday 21 st	6.00 pm	Mass: Joe McCormack (B'day Rem) David Rolls RIP
Sunday 22 nd 4 th Sunday of Lent	11.30 am	Mass: Special Intention Rita Lee

Welcome to Gods Family

Thomas James Gallagher who will be baptised this Sunday

WE JOURNEY TOGETHER - THE SCRUTINIES

Beginning this Sunday we celebrate three very special Rites during Mass on the middle three Sundays in Lent.

The Rites are called "The Scrutinies."

They are ancient Rites and they may, at first seem strange to us but in fact, they are profoundly rooted in our human experience.

We all need to examine, or "scrutinise" who we are, the areas in our lives where we are tempted, and to reflect on the things we do and the things we fail to do.

We all need healing:- and the strength that can come from the support of our brothers and sisters in our Community.

Since last October, new members of our Pastoral Area have been preparing to be fully received into the Church.

Their names are Nicola Boyle, Claire Campbell, Min (Mandy) Ding, Emma Foulkes, Susan Gallagher, Adam Hoults, Rachel Hoults, Karl Jenkins, Damien Lewis, Hongfu(Phil) Pan and Ehizogie Wedgedbor.

They have been meeting each week, and are now ready to receive this new strength in the midst of their spiritual journey.

They are opening their hearts to receive the gifts of our faith.

As we join them for the Scrutinies and support them through these Rites, we too have an opportunity to reflect and to deepen our resolve to hold fast to Christ.

During the Rites, we will be invited to pray for "the Elect" in silence.

Our new members are very special to us and through the Scrutinies we pray that they, and indeed all of us, will be strengthened in all that is upright, strong and good.

It is wonderful for us to reflect upon the journey these "Elect" are making during Lent. May it be an inspiration and source of renewal for each of us as we journey towards the great celebration of Easter together.

Weekly Collections & Gift Aid

We will shortly be distributing weekly collection envelopes for use from Easter Sunday, 12 April and we want to thank you all for the kind and generous donations you make which greatly help the running of the parish.

If you are a taxpayer but do not Gift Aid your regular donation, please consider doing so and ask us for a Gift Aid form, because at no cost to you we can reclaim an additional 25 pence from HMRC for every £1 you donate. That doesn't sound much

but last year we were able to claim £4722.45 from HMRC so it really does make a difference.

If you have been using Gift Aid but no longer pay tax or if you use Gift Aid and have changed your name or address, please let us know.

A number of parishioners now make donations via Standing Order rather than use the envelopes, whether using Gift Aid or not. Please ask us for a form if you would prefer to donate this way.

Margaret Nugent, who administers the Gift Aid scheme for the parish, and Tony Dowling, one of our counters, will be on hand after both Masses this weekend to provide forms and deal with any amendments.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Collection: £331

Raffle: £89.40

Fairtrade Food Sale: £216

Thank you for your generosity and support.

St John Bosco Arts College Presents
“**The Passion**”

Wednesday 1st April, 6.30pm – 7.30 pm

All parishioners are welcome to attend

Refreshments will be served afterwards

Coronavirus

We are no longer using hymn books during services or serving tea after 11.30 am Mass.

Gentle Reminder

If you are travelling to Mass by car, please be careful not to park across anybody's access to their property on Stonebridge Lane. Thank you.

**We pray for those who have died recently,
and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time,**

May they rest in peace.

Amen

We pray for all who are sick,

Janet Clark, Raymond Doran, Peter Fraser, John Murphy, Peter Tallon, T. C. Sheila Willcox, Andreas Samaras, John Walker, Sr. Kathleen Hamilton, David & Julie Pearce, J. G., Mary Mousley, Paul, Angela Adlen, Emily Purdie, Giles Rowe, Angela Gregory

Give me a drink

Thirst and hunger bring people together and break down barriers. Under the midday sun, after a long journey, a Jewish man and a Samaritan woman, who would usually not have anything to do with each, are just two thirsty people.

At first the woman is suspicious of Jesus, but he earns her trust and the obstacles between them are overcome. He asks her for a drink because she has a bucket and he doesn't. Once that basic human need is satisfied, he offers her a different kind of drink, water that will not just satisfy her physical thirst, but will become a spring of life welling up within her. Jesus is thirsty from his journey but he is also thirsting for people who are willing to receive the gift of life he offers. The woman is thirsty from carrying the bucket all the way from the town, but she also thirsting for life and love. She has had five husbands but now she is alone: we don't know the details of that story but it cannot be a happy one.

Scholars tell us that the five husbands may stand for the five gods that the Samaritan people worshipped, false gods who could not give them life. Instead of these, Jesus offers the woman a life-giving relationship with his Father, the one true God.

Once she has overcome her fear and realised what gift she is being offered and who is offering it to her, she leaves behind the once-treasured bucket of cool water and runs back to the town to spread the good news and her joy is so infectious that the people follow her back to Jesus.

Millions of people in deprived parts of our world are in danger of dying from hunger, thirst and disease. In the name of our shared humanity, we must respond to these basic human needs, at home and abroad, but we must also be aware that, as Mother Teresa said, spiritual poverty is as real as material poverty. Many people today, even those who are not physically hungry or thirsty, are desperate for the true life and joy that comes from knowing they are loved by the Father who made them. We have received that gift and we can offer it to others.

Fr Chris