

# ***ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH***

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

**Newsletter – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Second Sunday of Lent (A)**

Readings: Genesis 12: 1 – 4a: Timothy: 1: 8b – 10

Responsorial Psalm: *May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

Gospel acclamation: *From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:*

*"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."*

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1–9

## **Ecumenical Station of the Cross.**

With other Christian Denominations, we are going to pray the Stations of the Cross on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 Wednesday at 7pm in our church and afterwards we will join for Compline at St Peter's Church.

## **Holy Mass Intentions**

envelopes are available after Mass on the desk in the Church Porch. Please request a date from our Welcoming Ministers or just find a date from the calendar kept there.

## **Confession**

Every Saturday 10.30am  
Good Friday from 10-45am  
Reconciliation Mass and  
Confessions – 10 April – 7pm

**Stations of the Cross** every Friday, at 7pm, during the season of Lent. Next Friday they will be led by the First Holy Communion Group.

**Bring your old palms**: In order to make ash for the Ash Wednesday next year, please bring your old palms and place them in the box kept in the porch.

## **Thought for the day**

Sometimes, all it takes is one prayer to change everything. As long as you have God you are always bigger than your problems.

## **Bible verse to remember:**

"May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you" [psalm 32:22]

## **St John Fisher on Psalm 32(33) – today's responsorial Psalm:**

"This Psalm is fittingly and not unworthily called a penitential Psalm, because penance is here so carefully treated and spoken of. First, the prophet praises those whose sins are utterly removed by penance, and, on the other side, he shows the wretchedness of those who forsake penance. He also shows the reason for and the manner of contrition, confession and satisfaction, which are the three parts of confession. He also teaches the necessity of contrition and shows the impediments to it, with the proper remedies. Next, he comforts and lifts up those who are weak in soul. He calls to those who are out of the right way for coming into bliss and in a manner threatens them. He promises damnation to those who refuse penance, forgiveness, to those who go forward and profit in it, joy; and lastly, he promises eternal glory to those who are perfect..." – *St John Fisher*

**St Patrick's Day:** We celebrate St Patrick's Day in our parish on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 [Saturday] at the 10am Mass. After the Mass, we shall have Irish coffee and Irish music in the Hall. All are welcome.

## **Lenten Retreat – Reminder to please sign up.**

Thanks for participating in the Lenten Retreat yesterday. Special thanks to Stephanie Painter for leading the retreat. Please do not forget to sign up for the **Divine Mercy Retreat** that will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April Saturday - 11am-4pm (Mass at 3pm).

## **Lent Course: Return of the Prodigal**

**Son** we are running the Lent Course "Return of the Prodigal Son" based on the book by Henri Nouwen. It will take place on the next five Wednesday evenings started on the 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome to this opportunity to reflect on our lives in the light of the Gospel parable as we approach Easter. Hope to see you there



HOLY MASSES THIS WEEK.

<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	9am 11am 6pm	Mary Jenkinson - R.I.P. Elsy Chacko - R.I.P. People of the Parish.	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Monday	10am	Service of Word and Eucharist	
Tuesday	10am	No Mass	
Wednesday	10am	Service of Word and Eucharist	
Thursday		No Mass	
Friday	10am	Service of Word and Eucharist	ST PATRICK, BISHOP AND MISSIONARY
Saturday	10am	Michelle Whip R.I.P. Holy Mass followed by St Patrick's Day celebrations in the Hall	
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	9am 11am 6pm	Mary Jenkinson R.I.P. People of the Parish John Naughton R.I.P.	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Collection: Loose - £342.00; Envelopes - £309.12 = £591.12.

Attendance: 9am – 140; 11am - 81; 6pm - 45 = 266

100 Club: £20 – Joan Meehan N<sup>o</sup> 37; £10 – Malcolm Campbell-Carr N<sup>o</sup> 38

**Please pray** for the repose of the Souls of *Mr. Jeremiah Joseph Hoyne* whose funeral will take place here on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm, and *Mrs. Mary Patricia Jenkinson* whose funeral service will be held here on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10am. Pray also for the soul of *Margaret Devitt*, who died recently. Her funeral is this Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Balham, Church of the Holy Ghost at 12 noon. May they rest in the peace of Christ. Our sympathy to all family and friends.

**On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**, we shall be Spring Cleaning our beautiful church, after the recent repairs to the roof and ceiling, in preparation for Easter. Fr Antony would be pleased if you are able to come along and help out. Remember, many hands make light work.

**A 90 minute walk is planned** to Aylesford next Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, leaving after 11am Mass. The walk is mostly on good paths. Lifts are available.

**Do you want to Fast this Lent?** By Pope Francis:  
Fast from Hurting Words and say only kind words.  
Fast from Sadness and be filled with gratitude.  
Fast from Anger and be filled with patience.  
Fast from Pessimism and be filled with hope.  
Fast from Worries and have trust in God.  
Fast from Complaints and contemplate simplicity.  
Fast from Pressure and be prayerful.  
Fast from Bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.  
Fast from Selfishness and be compassionate to others  
Fast from Grudges and be reconciled.  
Fast from Word and be silent so you can listen.

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