

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

Newsletter – **2nd April 2017 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)**

Readings: Ezekiel 37: 12 -14: Romans: 8: 8 - 11

Responsorial Psalm: *With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.*

Gospel acclamation: *I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.*

Gospel: John 11: 1– 45

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross.

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

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 Parish Committee.

Fasting with a proud heart does more harm than good. The first fast is for humility – *Pope Francis*

Bible verse to remember: Jesus wept (John 11:35)

St John Fisher on Psalm 101/102

“... No man in this life is so steadfast in well-doing but he may sometimes err. The holy man Job said, I feared all my works, I knew not what state I stood in (Job 9:28). And Saint Paul said, he who thinks himself in the state of grace, let him beware lest he fall from it (1Cor 10:12). But whoever will be assumed into the heavenly Jerusalem is sure never more to sin. He will be so confirmed by grace that never after will he offend, but whatever he does then will be good and righteous. The seed of good Christian people, that is to say, their good works, will be lifted up into heaven eternally...the Church being set firmly in the course of virtue, that she be not hindered or cast back in her journey but shortly ascend to the eternal pleasures of almighty God in heaven, where the true children of our Lord will be permanent...”
– *St John Fisher.*

Bishop Paul Mason will be with us on Good Friday to celebrate the liturgy of the day, at 3pm.

Lenten Retreat – Reminder to please sign up. Please do not forget to sign up for the **Divine Mercy Retreat** that will be held next Saturday 8th April - 11am - 4pm (Mass at 12 noon).

Repainting the Church Hall. We are hoping for a working party of parishioners, who can help us paint the church hall during the Easter Holidays, when the nursery will not be using it. This will start tomorrow, 3rd April at 9am. We have plenty of paint pads, trays and paint, so, we just need YOU! If you can spare any time within the next two weeks, even if only for an hour, please let John Endicott know by email or phone. Unfortunately, we cannot allow children in the hall during this work, for the obvious reasons of safety!

“**Lent** is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget *that real poverty hurts*: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance.

HOLY MASSES UHIS WEEK.

Sunday 2nd April	9am 11am 6pm	Peter Murray Wellbeing Ger Walsh R.I.P. Cynthia May Adams R.I.P.	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
Monday	10am	Joan Bousquet - R.I.P.	
Tuesday	10am	Hubert & Eleanor McHugh – intentions.	
Wednesday	10am	Philip & Mabel Wood - R.I.P.	
Thursday		No Mass	
Friday	10am	Patricia O’Grady - R.I.P.	
Saturday	11am 12 noon	Divine Mercy Retreat. Summitt family intention	
Sunday 9th April	9am 11am 6pm	People of the Parish. Michael Devitt - - R.I.P. Ger Walsh - R.I.P.	PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION

Sunday 26th March

Collection: Loose - £236.10; Envelopes - £312= £548.10.

St Patrick’s Day coffee morning collection - £82.54.

Attendance: 9am – 79; 11am - 80; 6pm - 42= 201

100 Club: £30 – Chris Castle N^o 1; £20 – Marilyn Campbell-Carr N^o 38; £10 – Michael Brown N^o 86

100 Club winnings can be collected the following Sunday from the Sacristy. Many thanks to those who support this venture.

This Tuesday, 4th April, from **12.30pm to 4.30pm**, we shall be Spring Cleaning our hallway, kitchen and toilet areas in preparation for Easter. Please come along and help out. Remember, many hands make light work.

Many thanks to all those who came to help with the Spring Cleaning of our beautiful Church on 28th March 2017.

The Bring & Share Lunch today, 2nd April, will have a French theme. The raffle today will be for C.A.F.O.D.

On behalf of CAFOD a big thank you to all those who contributed to the magnificent sum of **£439.29** to the CAFOD Lenten Fast Day Appeal. Our contribution is sufficient to help build, stock, and maintain at least 14 fish ponds in Zambia.

The next Traidcraft event will be on the second

Sunday of the month 9th April, after both morning Masses. You are invited to come and shop ethically and support those less fortunate than ourselves.

Many thanks to those who offered to bring their garden topsoil for the church garden.

However, you will see that a nice landscape gardener has given us all that we shall need. Thanks to Ron Fredericks for his help.

Clergy:

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