

There is a 'Bring & Share' Lunch, on the first Sunday of the month, after the 11 am Mass, in the Parish Hall; Traidcraft on the second Sunday after the 9am & 11 am Masses, and a Parish Walk on the third Sunday starting at 12 Noon from the Parish Hall.

Flower arranging: Liz could use some help during the week if anyone is interested in developing their flower arranging skills.

Church cleaning: Could you be one of a team to ensure this happens regularly? Or maybe willing to fill in during sickness or holiday times on a one-off basis? Thank you to those who have offered to help – many hands make light work. If interested, please Contact Gill – 312171.

Warning: If you receive an automated call saying it is HMR&C and to press 1 it is a scam. The number 0300 200 3313/2701 are HMR&C but if you press 1 it will take you to the scammer's number so they can gain information/money from you. No bank or HMR&C/government dept will contact you by phone or email requesting information or for you to contact them, they will write to you if needed. Please do not let these fraudsters get away with conning vulnerable people by sharing all known scams with your relatives, friends and neighbours.

The Food Bank list of needed products is now available in the Porch for March 2019.

Notable Dates

6th March
Ash Wednesday

25th March – Feast of the
Annunciation

14th April – Palm Sunday

18th April – Holy
Thursday

19th April – Good Friday

20th April – Easter Vigil

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Newsletter –3rd March 2019 Eighth Sunday (C)

Readings: Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7; Corinthians 15: 54-58; Luke 6: 39-45

Responsorial Psalm. *It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia. Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your son. Alleluia.*

Next week's Readings: Kings 8:41-43; Galatians 1: 1-2, 6-10; Luke 7: 1-10

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday after 10am
Mass, during Adoration.
Sunday 10.30 – 10.45am
& 5.30 – 5.45 pm.

Every new day is
another chance to change
your life.

On Wednesday the 6th of March we begin the holy season of Lent. We celebrate the time the Lord goes into the desert for us to battle the devil and then through his ultimate sacrifice opening the gates of heaven for us. As we reflect closely on these mysteries so the season bids us to a time of prayer, penance and self-denial. Most people like to give up those things that they delight in. We move from those temporal things that delight us to those which can help lead us to Christ who gives

us life eternal. Some people also take on things by saying novenas or devotions or do some spiritual reading every day. Our Lenten observance should also have a communal nature through our almsgiving to charity. Some people like to save money they spend on luxuries like sweets and cigarettes and pass them on to those in need. Let us then pray for one another that we may use this time to deepen our love for the Lord and one another. I wish you all a holy lent. God Bless. Fr Neil.

Lenten Alms: We usually make a parish collection during a Sunday in Lent for this. I would like to support those charities locally who may be in need. If you would like to nominate one please write a note to Fr Neil with the details and why you think it is a worthy cause.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

		3 rd March	Feast Days
Sunday	9am 11am 6pm	Holy Mass, no Intentions Eddie Perry – R.I.P. People of the Parish	8 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday	10am	McHugh Family - Wellbeing	St Casimir
Tuesday	10am	Holy Mass No Intentions	Feria
Wednesday	10am 7pm	Holy Mass (School attending) People of the Parish	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	10am	Holy Mass No Intentions	Saints Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs
Friday	6:15pm 7pm	Stations of the Cross Holy Mass No Intentions	Saint John of God.
Saturday	10am	Fred Fletcher, Snr – R.I.P followed by Adoration	Saint Frances of Rome.
Sunday	9am 11am 6pm	Holy Mass No Intentions Eddie Perry – R.I.P. People of the Parish	First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 24th February:

Collection: Loose – £199.29; Gift Aid - £207.80= £407.09

Attendance: 9am -54 ; 11am – 69 , 6pm – 43 = 166

100 Club: £30 – Felim McCarthy N^o 74, £20 – M. Smith N^o 42;

£10 - P. King N^o 94

This Sunday is the Day for the Unemployed and there will be a second collection, for Poor Parishes.

C.A.F.O.D. Lunch today: Here is hoping our soup makers and bread makers have been busy and will be bringing their creations to the ‘Bring & Share lunch’ today after 11am Mass. It doesn’t matter if you have not made soup or bread, come along anyway, and bring something else to eat or drink or a donation. Any leftovers will be distributed to the homeless. Friday 15th March will be CAFOD Lenten Fast Day.

Note on Fasting and Abstinence during Lent: Common guidelines, tend to favour those who are 18 – 60 years of age. Those on medication are exempt, but can fast if they could under the advice of their doctor. Children can be encouraged to have some form of abstinence, under the guidance of their

parents. Strenuous fasting is not encouraged. Usual guidelines are that on the day of the fast have one main meal and have less food during the other meal times. Abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday, Fridays of Lent and Good Friday is advised. If one cannot abstain from meat, then it is advisable to abstain from some food that is regularly taken. Abstinence can also take the form of certain pleasures such as sweets, smoking, alcohol, and cutting the time spent on watching television and on the Internet. It is also traditional practice to save the money from fasting and abstinence and donate them to those in need. *Sundays of Lent are feast days so do not qualify as a day of fasting.*

The Centre for Catholic Formation our diocesan catechetical centre has some informative videos on their You Tube Channel including the three pillars of Lent which can be accessed on the internet via <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyOG6vBwGOHHf9Si9jE2PVQ/videos> or bring up the YouTube page and search for the centre and then find the video talks called the three pillars of lent.

The Southwark Diocesan Spirituality Commission will be producing an online series of reflections for Lent. The reflections, sent straight to the subscriber's email inbox, will focus on the forthcoming Sunday readings. Each day there will be a different reflection; Monday & Tuesday will focus on the first reading, Wednesday on the psalm, Thursday & Friday on the second reading and Saturday & Sunday on the gospel. The reflections will draw us deeper into the Lenten season and allow us to hear the readings anew, looking at where they resonate in our own lives and how they can draw us nearer to God. This is a great way to gently engage with Lent every day of the season. **To subscribe now, visit:** <http://eepurl.com/bF0b6P>

New Hymn Books: We shall be ordering new hymnals for our parish as the current ones are a bit dated. The new ones are called “Laudate” and are used in quite a few of the parishes in our diocese. A book is priced at £6.25, if you would like to help with the costs or want to sponsor a book(s), please put the donation and details of the dedication, in the “New Hymn Book” envelopes and give it to Gill or Fr Neil please.

One look can start a friendship. One word can end a fight. One smile can save a relationship and one person can change your life!.