NEWSLETTER

Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate and St Gregory the Great

First Sunday in Lent

Year B / Week 3

Sunday 21 February 2021

6pm* David Wakefield (int)
9am: *(live-streamed too)*
Angela Balchin (int)
11.30am: *(live-streamed too)*
Colette Guerin +
Audrey Bagge ann+
6pm: (int)
Martin Murphy +

Monday 22
(live-streamed too)
6.30pm: Mary Phelan +

Tuesday 23
10am: Julie Bruder +

Wednesday 24
No Mass

Thursday 25
10am: Joe Connolly +

Friday 26
(live streamed too)
10.00am Marco Fiori +
11.00am Stations of the Cross (*online*)
6pm-7pm Adoration

Saturday 27
6pm* Bernard Eason +

Sunday 28
Second Sunday of Lent
9am: *(live-streamed too)*
Alfonso De Ritis +
11.30am: *(live-streamed too)*
Janet Nestor & Family (int)
6pm: Marco Fiori +

**vigil mass (sat)*

As we journey out on our Lenten way as a Parish, we are called to focus upon two words in particular – Repentance and Belief. Firstly, Repentance means to change, a 'metanoia', a change in my way of thinking, my attitude, my disposition, and the way I choose to live my life, so that the Lord Jesus Christ can be at the centre of my heart, mind, and will. True repentance requires a contrite heart and true sorrow for sin (Psalm 51:17) and a firm resolution to avoid the near occasion of sin. The Lord Jesus gives us the grace to see sin for what it really is - a rejection of his love, truth, and wisdom for our lives and a refusal to do what he says is right and good for us. His grace brings pardon and freedom from guilt, and breaks the power of bondage to sin in our lives through the strength and help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

Secondly, we are called to 'Believe'. To believe is to take Jesus at his word and to recognise that God loved us so much that he sent his only begotten Son to free us from sin and harmful desires. God loved us first and he invites us in love to surrender our lives to him. We are reminded again to believe in the Gospel - the good news of Jesus Christ - and in the power of the Holy Spirit who transforms each one of us into the likeness of Christ.

Lenten Quote from the Early Church Fathers: The call to repentance, by Chromatius (died 406 AD)

"The voice of the Lord urging the people to repentance - the Holy Spirit made it known to the people that they might take heed, saying, 'Today, when you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, as in the day of testing in the wilderness' (Psalm 95:8). In the same psalm above, he made clear that he was urging sinful people to repentance and belief.

Rightly then does the Lord urge the people to repentance when he says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,' so that through this confession of sins they may be made worthy to approach the kingdom of heaven." (excerpt from tractate on Matthew

Fr John

METANOIA
Lenten Retreat

We are beginning a Lenten online retreat called Metanoia (conversion). For those who are not online, so you feel part of the retreat, please refer to the back of the newsletter entitled:

'Who Do You Say I Am?' session one.

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82 Union Street, Barnet, EN5 4HZ **Email:** barnet@rcdow.org.uk **Website:** parish.rcdow.org.uk/barnet

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the sick, their families and all who care for them, including: Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Linda & Stuart Atkinson, Pat Cosgrove, Irene Jones, Maria Wallace, Mariella Mansi, Margaret Greaney, Maurice Hunt, Ben Price, Amparo Abalos, Linda Quilter, Stasia Gallagher, Suzanne Greig, Marina Melinta, Roberto Lusignani, Leonor Driscoll, Anne McLoughlin, Delia Ward, John Lever, Jeanette Fernandes, Aishleen Sheeran, Elaine Brennan, Sarah Macdonald, Julie Loh, Veronica Soosay, George Buhagiar, Mark O'Brien, Marlene Hollocks, Fr Antony Conlon, Kathleen Flynn, Agnes Day, Rita Rawlings, Mary Stella Soosay, Margaret Trehy, Joe Connolly, Mary Harris, Frances Brooks, Poppy Mairead O'Reilly, Simeon Calrow.

Recently died: Brian Faller

Adoration

Fridays 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Come and spend some time with Jesus in private prayer

Stations of the Cross

Friday at 11.00am.

This will be live-streamed only. Please click on the 'mass' button on our parish website at 11.00am.

parish.rcdow.org.uk/barnet

CAFOD Lent Appeal

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him 10 hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Please give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support.

Please donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/give or use the donation envelope attached to this newsletter or text LENT 5 to 70460 to give £5 or LENT 10 to 70460 to give £10 or LENT 20 to 70460 to give £20. Texts cost £1 plus one standard rate message. For more info, visit CAFOD website.

Sunday 21 February
to
Sunday 28 March
8.00pm

Join us on a journey, for one hour each Sunday evening throughout Lent, with Christ into conversion. Each of the six episodes explores areas of our life where conversion is so often necessary. Join us for the most important journey of our lives, a journey of grace, hope, repentance and transformation.

Please register to receive the zoom link at

www.barnetalpha.com/book-online
(please note you are not booking for alpha).

Please note **Women's World Day of Prayer** has been cancelled this year.

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Pastoral Assistant/Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk
Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk
Janet Nestor - Secretary: **Parish Office** - barnet@rcdow.org.uk

Sunday activity sheet: First Sunday of Lent

Today's reading is from the Gospel of St Mark

Adapted for children from NJB Mark 1:12 - 15

The Holy Spirit sent Jesus into the desert.

He was there for 40 days and was with the wild animals.

The angels looked after him.

Then Jesus went into Galilee, telling everyone the good news of God's love.

He said, "The kingdom of God is near. Believe the Good News!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Can you match the right words to the right sentence?

The _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ sent Jesus into the desert.

Jesus told everyone the _ _ _ _ News.

God's kingdom is _ _ _ _ .

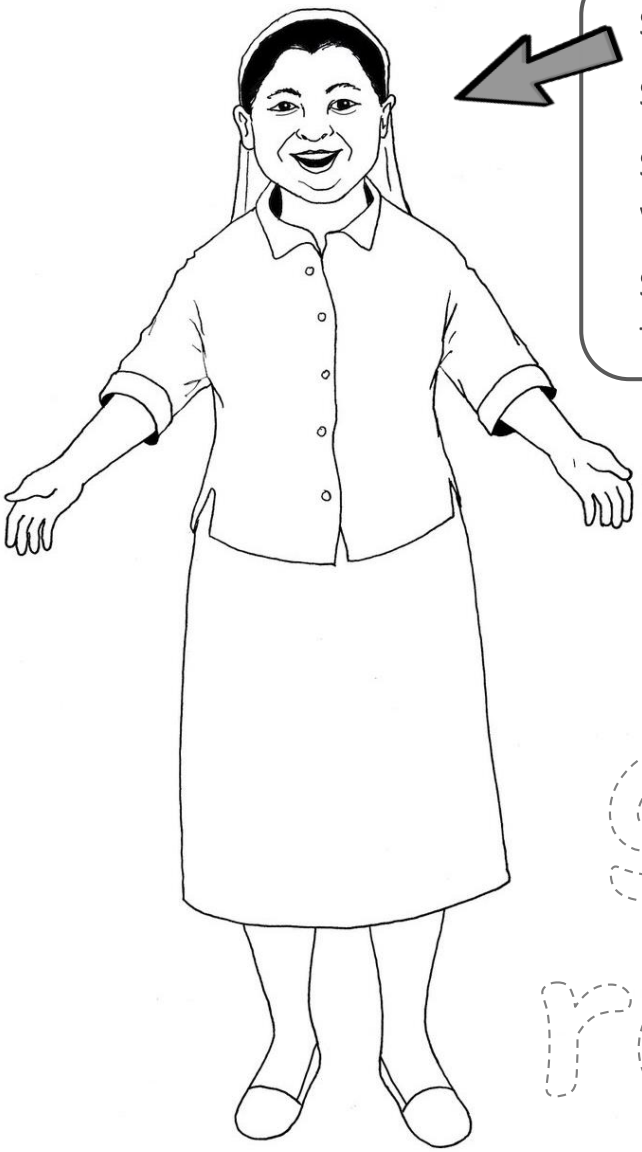
near

Holy Spirit

Good

Mission Together is the children's branch of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission.
23 Eccleston Square London SW1V 1NU 020 7821 9755 missiontogether.org.uk
missio.org.uk Registered in England and Wales Charity No. 1056651

Today is the first Sunday in Lent. In our Gospel reading we hear how Jesus went into the desert to get ready for his work. He told everyone that God loves us so much that he sent his Son, Jesus to be with us. This is the Good News Jesus wants everyone to know.



Sister Dinesha lives in the Holy Land where Jesus lived.

She cares for families who have fled their own countries.

She helps the mums and dads by caring for their children when they go to work.

She gets ready to do her work by praying and staying close to Jesus!

Let's get ready

In Lent we get ready for Easter. To help us we do three things:

1. **Prayer**
2. **Sacrifice** (giving up something)
3. **Acts of kindness**.

Use the Mission Together Lent Calendar to help you practise these each week.

Mission Together children pray and share to help children living in poverty overseas.

You can help them too by praying the Mission Together Prayer.

When you have said the prayer, colour in the picture of Jesus and Sr Dinesha and decorate the 'Let get ready' words.

Mission Together Prayer

May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship and live
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever.

Amen.

missio

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23 Eccleston Square London SW1V 1NU 020 7821 9755 missiontogether.org.uk
missio.org.uk Registered in England and Wales Charity No. 1056651

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

EPISODE 1

SYNOPSIS

Who is Jesus? Jesus takes his disciples to Caesarea Philippi, a place riddled with images of pagan gods and idols. It is important that Jesus brings them to this place that elicits many images of gods. Jesus asks the disciples who people think he is. There are all kinds of various answers, but the significant question is whether or not **they** know who Jesus is. This is significant because Jesus will depart from Caesarea Philippi and begin his journey to Jerusalem, which will end with his death. It is imperative that the disciples know who he is before they begin their grueling journey.

KEY TEXTS

Mark 8:27-30 *He [Jesus] asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Messiah."*

CCC 1 *At every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church.*

DISCUSSION

1. What does today's world think of Jesus? Who would you say the world thinks Jesus is?

2. Jesus told them not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah because their image of the Messiah and who the Messiah actually is were very different. What kind of God do you think the "world" is looking for?

3. Who do you say Jesus is? How has your image of Christ changed over the years?

Photo By Tadeusz Górny via Wikimedia Commons

"BEING A CHRISTIAN IS NOT THE RESULT OF AN ETHICAL CHOICE OR A LOFTY IDEA, BUT THE ENCOUNTER WITH AN EVENT, A PERSON, WHICH GIVES LIFE A NEW HORIZON AND A DECISIVE DIRECTION."

-POPE BENEDICT XVI-

REFLECTION

Come, Holy Spirit.

Take some time when you are not distracted, when you have a few minutes, and ask God to reveal to you the difference between who you think he is and who he is. Ask God to place on your heart what it means that he is the Christ, that he is your Christ, that he is close to you and that he has rescued you.