



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Year C Week 4

THIS WEEK

Sun 27th March 2022

6pm*: The Lucid Family+

8.30am: John D'Souza (int)

10.30am: Patrick Delaney (ann+)

6pm: Parish Mission Week

Mon 28th

6pm: John Awan (ann+)

Tue 29th

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10am: Neil Magee+

Wed 30th

No Mass

Thu 31st

10am: Giovanni Rossi (ann+)

10.30am Coffee morning - JP room

Fri 1st

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10am: Tyrone Johnson+

10.30am: Stations of the Cross

1.30pm: Christian Meditation

7.30pm: Mass of Transformation

Sat 2nd

12pm: Janet Nestor

(Thanksgiving)

6pm*: Kathleen, Simon,

Jimmy Doherty+

Sun 3rd 5th Sunday of Lent

8.30am: Maria Power (int)

10.30am: Sandra Soady (int)

6pm: Gerard McDonald+

The Lenten Gospel today opens with Jesus passing by a man who has been blind his entire life. The disciples react to this situation with the typical worldview of their era. In their minds, suffering is always a punishment for something, so they ask Jesus whose sin this man is suffering for: his own or that of his parents. Jesus' response proves that not all hardship is "our fault," so to speak. While it's true that our own choices have the greatest impact on our lives, it's also true that bad things can happen to those who've done nothing to deserve those particular struggles.

Jesus heals the man by putting mud on his eyes and sending him away to wash. The end result is a man who can see, though he'd never been able to before. The ideas of light, sight, and blindness are often used in Scripture as symbols of spiritual knowledge and enlightenment. In this case, the man's experience is a metaphor for the Christian experience.

Following from the Parish Mission it is wonderful to hear different parishioners speak about their experiences of the week. One young person described the prayer ministry time at the Mission as the "best experience in her entire life"; another spoke of physical healing in her legs and a "warmth over her body from Christ"; another spoke of a time of refreshment and hope, "like pouring water once again upon thirsty ground". May our eyes continue to remain open to the wonders of Our Lord.

Lenten Quote from the Fathers of the Church. St Augustine:

"He set forth a great mystery. He spat on the ground, He made clay of His spittle; for the Word was made flesh. And He anointed the eyes of the blind man. The anointing had taken place, and yet he saw not. He sent him to the pool which is called Siloam. But it was the evangelist's concern to call our attention to the name of this pool; and he adds, Which is interpreted, Sent. You understand now who it is that was sent; for had He not been sent, none of us would have been set free from iniquity.

Fr John

*In thanksgiving for **JANET NESTOR**, we would like to invite you to join us for Mass at 12 noon on Saturday 2nd April, followed by a gathering in the hall. If you would like to contribute to Janet's leaving gift, please post **DONATIONS FOR JANET'S PRESENT** through the presbytery door marked: "**Gift for Janet**".*

LENT 2022

A HUGE THANK YOU to all our Groups and Team of Volunteers that made our Parish Showcase Weekend such a colourful and informative event.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

(Led by Fr. John) every Friday after the 10am Mass Please join us.

IF YOU WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN the Choir to sing for the Holy Week and Easter Services, rehearsals start on Tuesday 29th March. Please contact Teresa O'Sullivan via the Presbytery 02084493338 or by emailing howelsy@btinternet.com

THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL at St Fidelis Friary would like to thank the Parish for the generous contribution to their way of life and ministry. They would like the Parish to know *"It was a particular delight to serve you and your parish community during the recent Parish Mission."* They would like to assure us of their continued prayers for our intentions, and they remember all who do good at Mass and our celebration of Evening Prayer each evening.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR PARISH? Please visit the parish website on parish.rcdow.org.uk/barnet where you will find information on the parish, parish groups and much more. Information is also available in the church porch. This , is produced weekly with current news on what is happening in and around the parish - available at the back of the church or on the website under 'news'.

If you would like to register yourself and/or your family, please email the parish office with your details to barnet@rcdow.org.uk

NOTICES

WELCOME!

THE PARISH PASTORAL FORUM:

Consists of the parish team and a group of parishioners who are often at Mass at the weekend. Please do stop to say hello or if you have any questions. Their details are in the porch and website - if they can't help you, they will know someone who can! Their details are in the porch and website

NEED TO TALK? If you would like to speak to Anita pastorally and in confidence, Anita is available on Tuesdays after 10am mass. Please knock on the presbytery door or email anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

LIFE ASCENDING GROUP: Meeting on Tuesday 28th March after the 10.30 Mass. Please join us.

ST. CATHERINE'S 3 YEAR OLD NURSERY ADMISSIONS:

Admissions are invited from families whose child attains 3 years of age between the 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 for nursery intake September 2022. Supplementary information forms and nursery admission arrangements can be found on the school website or collected from the School office. Final day for submission: Friday 1st April. For further information, please contact the school office on 0208 4404946 or email:

[admissions@stcatherines.barnetmail.com](mailto:admissions@stcatherines.barnetemail.com)

THANK YOU FROM CAFOD: Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Feast Day; The donations for Soup Lunch amounted £251.61, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world For lots more detail on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website cafod.org.uk

SCRUTINIES RESPONSE

Walk in my Ways, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Particular prayers: The people of Ukraine

Please remember in your prayers the Sick and Homebound including:

Sean Kelly, Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Linda & Stuart Atkinson, Pat Cosgrove, Bernadette Hunt, Roberto Lusignani, Elaine Brennan, Mark O'Brien, Rita Rawlings, Margaret Trehy, Joe Connolly, Mary Harris, Eric Power, Michael Keyes, Eileen Robbins, John Chuter, Marlene Hollocks, Margaret Greaney, Veronica Soosay, Leonor Driscoll, John Thompson, Lucretia Olivier-Hall, David John Hall, Suzanne Greig, Paul Stephens, George Buhagia, Paul Dempsey

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk

Georgina Awan - Parish Administrator: **Parish Office** - barnet@rcdow.org.uk (office is closed every Wednesday)

*Act of Consecration
to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Basilica of Saint Peter
25 March 2022*

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns. We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (*Jn* 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer.

Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war.

Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.

Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness.

Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.
Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love.
Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity.
Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (*Jn 19:26*). In this way he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (v. 27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history. At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The "Fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the "Fiat", on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our "living fountain of hope", water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen.