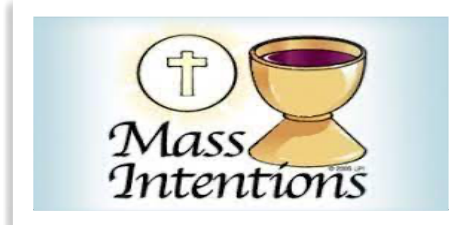




First Sunday in Lent

Year A Week 1

THIS WEEK



Sun 26th 1st Sunday of Lent

- 6pm*: Michael Barrett (RIP)
- 8.30am: Helen Brady (INTS)
- 10.30am: Nora Panczak (INTS)
- 6.00pm: Sr Jo Chamber SND (INTS)

Mon 27th St Gregory of Narek

- 6.00pm: Tess Sullivan (INTS)

Tue 28th

- 9.30am: Morning Prayer
- 10.00am: Kathleen Sheridan (RIP)
- 7.00pm: SVP (Parish Hall)

Wed 1st March No Mass

Thurs 2nd

- 9.30am: Morning Prayer
- 10am: Monica Watson (RIP)
- 10.30am: Tea & Coffee Morning (JP II Room)

Fri 3rd

- 9.30am: Morning Prayer (Church)
- 10am: Philo Smyth (INTS)
- 10.30am: Stations of the Cross (Church)
- 12.00am: CAFOD Family Fast Day (JP II Room)
- 2.00pm: Christian Meditation (Church)
- 7.30pm: Mass of Transformation
Mary Long (INTS)

Sat 4th

- 6pm*: Rosemary Alford (RIP)

Sun 5th 2nd Sunday of Lent

- 8.30am: Bridget Mary Lyons (RIP)
- 10.30am: Elizabeth Van Dijk (RIP)
- 6.00pm: Kay Kennedy (RIP)

LED BY THE SPIRIT

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry."

A question for us on this First Sunday of Lent – are we ready to follow the Lord Jesus Christ and to go with him wherever he may lead us over these forty days? Jesus did not choose his own course or path in life, but followed the will of his Father in heaven. After Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, he was led by the Spirit of God to withdraw into the wilderness of Judea. Why did Jesus choose such a barren, lonely place for a sustained period of prayer and fasting? St Mark states it most emphatically: "The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness" The word tempt in English usually means to entice someone to do what is wrong or forbidden. The scriptural word used here also means test in the sense of proving and assessing someone to see if they are prepared and ready for the task at hand. We test flight pilots to see if they are fit to fly under all conditions, including times of adverse turbulence, storms, and poor visibility. In like manner God tests his people to see if they are ready to follow and serve him without reservation or compromise.

Jesus was no exception to this pattern of testing and preparation for the mission his Father gave him. He was led into the wilderness for 40 days without food and little shelter. He had nothing to sustain himself in this barren wilderness except what the Father would provide for him during his forty days of prayer and fasting. Jesus was tempted like us and he overcame sin not by his own human effort but by the grace and strength which his Father gave to him. He had to renounce his will for the will of his Father. He succeeded because he wanted to please his Father and he trusted that his Father would give him the strength to overcome the obstacles that stood in the way. St Luke says that Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit" (Luke 4:1). When tempted by the devil Jesus did not try to fight his adversary on his own human strength. He relied on the power which the Spirit gave him. During this opening week of Lent May we also fully depend on the grace and guidance of the Spirit of the Father.

Fr John

Lenten Quote from the Early Church Fathers: *On the Snare of the Devil, by Ambrose, 339-397 A.D.* "The devil said to Jesus: 'If you are the son of God, command that these stones become bread' (Luke 4:3). Here we learn that there are three principal weapons that the devil likes to carry in order to wound our souls. They are gluttony, arrogance and ambition. Here begins the weapon with which he has already been victorious. We likewise should begin to be victorious in Christ in the very same area in which we have been defeated in Adam - we should be wary of gluttony, arrogance and ambition." Meditations may be freely reprinted for non-commercial use - please cite: copyright © 2023 Servants of the Word, source: dailyscripture.net, author Don Schwager.

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NOTICES

WELCOME

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT YOUR PARISH?**

Please visit the parish website on barnetcatholic.com where you will find information on the parish, parish groups and much more. Information is also available in the church porch.

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

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal

Thank you for your continued generosity in the past years. This year's appeal goes towards Marriage & Family life, Youth & Evangelisation, The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. Please use the envelopes to donate, you can also use the QR code on the envelopes to donate. For more information visit www.CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk

CAFOD Family Fast Day Lent Appeal

Donations at the Soup Lunch will help families fighting climate crisis and ensure we can quickly respond to those emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. For more information visit cafod.org.uk/give

Music

Communion Song Response

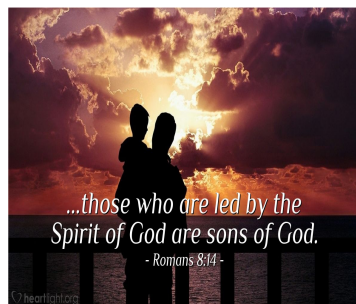
"Not on bread alone are we nourished but on every word from God"

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the Sick and Homebound including:

Delia Ward, Hannah Fennel, Janine Kelly, Gabriel Dempsey, Sinead Mayes, Rosemary Chester, Paul Reed, Marian Darby, Ken Quigley, Mary Geraghty, Edel O'Sullivan, Linda Quilter, Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Pat Cosgrove, Bernadette Hunt, Roberto Lusignani, Elaine Brennan, Mark O'Brien, Rita Rawlings, Joe Connolly, Eric Power, Michael Keyes, Eileen Robbins, John Chuter, Margaret Greaney, Veronica Soosay, John Thompson, Lucretia Olivier-Hall, David John Hall, and Louie

Recently deceased: Elvio Umberto Carnera, Steven Hunt, John Stirling-Gallacher, Walter Scott and Kathleen Flynn



Saturday RE Classes

Spring Term 2023

Classes for children at non-Catholic primary schools are welcome to come and learn about their Catholic Faith.

During the sessions we pray together, we talk, sing songs and make new friends.

Venue: The JP II Room

Time: From 9.30am to 10.45am

Dates: Saturday 11th & 25th March

RCIA

Are you thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Would you like to share your faith with those who are considering becoming Catholics?

Next meeting: 28th February 2023

Sessions: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Where: JP II Room

Every Tuesday

For more information contact:

David Williams via email.

davidinbarnet@hotmail.com

Saint Patrick's Celebration

Friday 17th March 2023



In aid of the Building fund, an evening of Live Irish Music, Licensed Bar, Raffle draw and Irish Stew Supper.

7pm in the Parish Hall.

Tickets will be sold at all masses of weekends of the 5th and 12th March

All Welcome

Church Choir

All are welcome to join the choir to sing and play at the **Holy Week services**. If you are interested, please let Teresa O'Sullivan know by email: howelsy@btinternet.com or by leaving a message at the Presbytery, so music can be prepared for you. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March from 7.45pm to 9pm and on Tuesday 4th April from 7.30pm.

East and New Barnet World Day of Prayer 2023 - Annual Service



Saturday 4th March at 2.30pm

St James Church

71 East Barnet Road

EN4 8RN (app. Sainsbury's)

The theme is *"I have heard about your faith"* and is

organised by the Christian

Women of Taiwan.

ALL ARE WELCOME

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 hours 10.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday; closed Wednesdays and Weekends)