



NEWSLETTER

Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate and St Gregory the Great



Third Sunday in Lent

Year A Week 3

THIS WEEK



Sun 12th 3rd Sunday of Lent

6pm*: Maurice Du Réau (RIP)

8.30am: Himo Ansara (RIP)

10.30am: Eric & Alice Power & Family (INTS)
(Scrutinies 1)

6.00pm: James Lynch (RIP)

Mon 13th

6.00pm: Italo Molinari (RIP)

Tue 14th

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10.00am: Maria D Costa (RIP)

10.30am: Mothers' Prayer Meeting (JP II Room)

Wed 15th March No Mass

Thurs 16th

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10am: Funeral of John Stirling-Gallacher

10.30am: Tea & Coffee Morning (JP II Room)

Fri 17th St Patrick

9.30am: Morning Prayer (Church)

10am: Paul Collins (RIP)

10.30am: Stations of the Cross (Church)

12.00pm: QUEST (JP II Room)

2.00pm: Christian Meditation (Church)

6.00pm: Adoration (Church)

Sat 18th St Cyril

6pm*: Maria Guedes (RIP)

Sun 19th 4th Sunday of Lent

8.30am: Huguette Ansara-Hicter (RIP)

10.30am: Franco D Costa (INTS)

6.00pm: Karen Goode (INTS)

LIVING WATER

"Jesus said to the Samaritan woman, "everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

What is the point of Jesus' exchange with the Samaritan woman about water? Water in the arid land was scarce. Jacob's well was located in a strategic fork of the road between Samaria and Galilee. One can live without food for several days, but not without water. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things. When rain came to the desert, the water transformed the wasteland into a fertile field. The kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water. Fresh water from a cool running stream was always preferred to the still water one might find in a pool or reservoir. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Exodus 17:6). Even though the Israelites did not trust God to care for them in the wilderness, God, nonetheless gave them abundant water and provision through the intercession of his servant Moses.

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life" (Proverbs 13:14). "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. The water which Jesus spoke of symbolised the Holy Spirit and his work of recreating us in God's image and sustaining in us the new life which comes from God. The life which the Holy Spirit produces in us makes us a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). On this Third Sunday of Lent, God poses a question to us - Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you?

Fr John

Lenten Quote from the Early Church Fathers: The Living Water of the Spirit, by St John Chrysostom, 347-407 AD Sometimes Scripture calls the grace of the Spirit "fire," other times it calls it "water." In this way, it shows that these names are not descriptive of its essence but of its operation. For the Spirit, which is invisible and simple, cannot be made up of different substances... In the same way that he calls the Spirit by the name of "fire," alluding to the rousing and warming property of grace and its power of destroying sins, he calls it "water" in order to highlight the cleansing it does and the great refreshment it provides those minds that receive it. For it makes the willing soul like a kind of garden, thick with all kinds of fruitful and productive trees, allowing it neither to feel despondency nor the plots of Satan. It quenches all the fiery darts of the wicked one. (HOMILIES ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 32.1) 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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The Samaritan Woman



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 25th March

Mothers' Prayers Meeting



Dear Mothers and Grandmothers of the Parish. You are invited to our 1st Mothers' Prayer Meeting on **Tuesday 14th March** after the 10am Mass in the JP II Room.

Thereafter the Meetings will take place on alternate Tuesdays around 10.30am. "*Lets storm Heaven for our precious children*"

St Vincent De Paul Society Meeting (SVP)

March Meetings - 14th & 28th, time is 7pm at the Parish Hall. For Members and all interested to join Tel: 07740031950 - 02084498404 Eileen

CAFOD Soup Lunch

Thank you very much to everyone who supported the CAFOD soup lunch on Friday 3rd March. We made £508.91. **The CAFOD Group.**

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

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 weekend of the 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 15th, 22nd, 29th March from 7.45pm to 9pm and on Tuesday 4th April from 7.30pm.

Funeral Mass

The Requiem Mass for John Stirling-Gallacher will take place on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 10am. Please pray for Diane, family and friends. **All are Welcome.**

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

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving with the Cardinal

All those preparing to celebrate 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60 plus wedding anniversaries, please email the church office with your names, wedding date, full postal address, email and phone number before **31st March 2023.**

For Your Special Prayers

All those preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

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, John Stirling-Gallacher,

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)