

The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk
www.carpenterspark.org.uk

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

1st Sunday of Lent (Year A) 26th February 2023

Fr John Warnaby Parish Priest Tel: 0208 428 0088
Linda Grimes Parish Administrator Tel: 0208 428 0088
Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 25th February	Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	Tomjoe & Betty Murphy RIP
Sunday 26th February	1st Sunday of Lent	8.30am	Margaret Tighe
		10.30am	John Crowle RIP
Tuesday 28th February	Lent feria	7.00pm	Vetti Vettivelu RIP
Wednesday 1st March	St David	9.15am	Michael Donnelly RIP
Thursday 2nd March	Lent feria	9.15am	In Thanksgiving
Friday 3rd March	Lent feria	9.15am	John Andrews RIP followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 4th March	Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	People of the Parish

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

Mass Intentions: Please leave plenty of time if you want a special date

Liturgy of the Word: 26th February 2023

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

Responsorial Psalm: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Next week's Readings: Genesis 12:1-4, Psalm 32, 2 Timothy 1: 8-10, Matthew 17:1-9

As we come together on this first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells us about Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. There, Jesus stands firm against the temptations of Satan, using scripture as his support. The living gift of scripture can guide us every day in Lent, whether in the readings at Mass or wherever we read the Bible.

Jesus enters the wilderness to spend time in prayer with his Father – something he did repeatedly during his ministry. Lent is for us too a time when we can try to spend more time with God. Lent is an opportunity to turn again to the Lord and to become more like him. A time to open our hearts to God: to close our hearts to temptations to indifference and self-sufficiency and open them to love God and those around us.

The Church recommends prayer, fasting and almsgiving as things to be embraced in the Lenten season.

Prayer allows us to make a special effort to talk to God and to listen to his call at this time. We don't have to be in Church to pray – we can raise our hearts to God anywhere – at home, or perhaps as Spring begins to take hold, as we enjoy the outdoors.

Fasting or acts of self-denial or abstinence, challenge our desire for self-gratification; allowing us not to take for granted the gifts that we have received and to realise that we don't have to buy or consume things to find happiness.

Almsgiving provides an opportunity for us to share from the abundance of our resources with those who are less fortunate. It reminds us that we show our love for God in how we care for others. We might find time to make a special effort to help someone we know personally by some act of charity or service.

May this Lent be for us a journey of true conversion, standing beside our brothers and sisters in need, embracing Christ's victory over sin and death in our own lives.

HOLY HOUR

For Lent we have started a Holy Hour, during which there will be Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament. This will take place straight after 9.15am Mass on Fridays. All are Welcome!

CAFOD Family Fast Day –Friday 4th March

On Friday how about skipping a meal or eating less and using the money saved to donate to CAFOD's Family Fast Day.

Pick up an envelope from the back of Church and return it next weekend. There is also a poster at the back of Church with a QR code which you can scan with your mobile to donate.



Bach's St John Passion at Westminster Cathedral

As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform of J.S. Bach's St John Passion on **Thursday 16th March 2023 at 7.30pm**. Parishioners of the diocese now have the opportunity to buy their tickets at a discount of 50%. Discounted tickets are available at:

<https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F005D88A31F16CD?did=saint50john> using offer code: **SJP50**

See poster at the back of Church.

SAVE THE DATE-SATURDAY 18TH MARCH

We will be welcoming Bishop Paul at all Masses on the weekend 18/19 March. As it coincides with the Feast of St Joseph, it's the perfect opportunity to have a Parish Get Together in the Hall, straight after 6pm Mass. Please contact Linda in the Parish Office if you can volunteer in any capacity.



Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

Meal's Meals have also launched an emergency appeal to support children and families as they fight for survival. With their trusted local partner Dorcas, they are working around the clock to feed people in the city of Aleppo, Syria. They stand ready to expand emergency response as funds allow. Please give what you can today – no donation is too small. www.marysmeals.org.uk



We will shortly be ordering envelopes for offertory collections for the next financial year. We are grateful for all your financial help, though in a few cases your envelopes were rarely used and didn't even cover the cost to us of supplying them!

Please help us if you can, to meet our increasing costs-particularly in heating and lighting.

The most helpful way of supporting the parish is donating by standing order, which also reduces our volunteers' work in counting .

If you would like to switch from envelopes or cash, to standing order, please let us know asap. Alternatively, pick up a standing order form at the back of the church.

Invitation for all our young adults (age 16-28)

Joel's Bar is a young adults ministry which runs Catholic Charismatic events. They are passionate about seeing young people inspired and equipped to live an authentic Christian life in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are holding a retreat in Worth Abbey, Crawley from **9-14 April**. For further details check out <https://www.joelsbar.co.uk/>



Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially

Helen Birch, Bebe Ryan and Alice Sheppard.

Offertory for Sunday 19th February 2023

Envelopes	£215.60
Loose	£344.27
Total	£559.87

Many thanks