

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
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2nd Sunday of Lent (Year B) 25th February 2024

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 24th February	Vigil: 2nd Sunday	6.00pm	Jim Thomson RIP
Sunday 25th February	2nd Sunday of Lent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.30am	John & Betty Murphy RIP
Tuesday 27th February	Lent Feria	7.00pm	John Crowle RIP
Wednesday 28th February	Lent Feria	9.15am	Peter Molloy RIP
Thursday 29th February	Lent Feria	9.15am	John Andrews RIP
Friday 1st March	St David	9.15am	Mary Bridget Foley RIP
			followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 2nd March	Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	Anna, Wladyslav & Zigmunt Ziegert

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

When booking a Mass Intention please leave plenty of time if you want a special date.

Liturgy of the Word: 25th February 2024

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
 It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
 hide not your face from me.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ!
 From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
 Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Next week's Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17, Psalm 18 I Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain there in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white. (Mark 9:2)

This past Thursday we celebrated the feast of the Chair of St Peter. The Church suspended its usual Lenten purple vestments and altar dressings to celebrate the Eucharist in white; perhaps not exactly dazzling, but nonetheless acknowledging the Church's joy at its establishment by Jesus as a rock which will last for all time, presided over by the apostle Peter and his successors.

The transfiguration in Mark's gospel follows almost immediately the episode where Jesus asks his disciples who they think he is – do they think, like others, that he is John the Baptist, Elijah or one of the prophets? It is Peter who speaks up, declaring Jesus to be Christ, the promised Messiah.

As we struggle to follow Jesus' path, of all the disciples Peter is surely one with whom it is the easiest to identify. He is headstrong and impulsive, he gets things wrong. When people come to arrest Jesus, he loses his temper and attacks one of the party with a sword. After Jesus' arrest, he panics and denies even knowing him.

Jesus himself said that he came not to call the righteous, but sinners. That the Lord chose Peter rather than anyone else as his chief shepherd, tells us that He understands that we try to do our best and fail; that He will support us and guide us on the difficult and uneven path to holiness. As Pope Francis, successor of Peter and today's chief shepherd says, the Church is not a museum for saints but a field hospital for sinners.

Struggling, confused, sometimes denying, nonetheless we too like Peter, by the grace of God will be rewarded with the vision of Jesus dazzlingly white in his glory.

Cafod Family Fast Day –Friday 23 February

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's *Family Fast Day* appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk

Right to Life

Support an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to *reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks*. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Collect a postcard today from the back of the Church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment. URGENT ACTION needed.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024 If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in the Diocese. Please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code on the poster to make your donation online or place it in the box at the back of Church. Thank you for your generosity.

Women's World Day of Prayer 2024

World Day of Prayer is a women led, global, ecumenical movement. This year's service, the prayers for which have been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine, is being hosted by South Oxhey Methodist Church on **Friday 1st March at 7.30pm**. It is a united service with the churches of South Oxhey and Carpenders Park. See poster in the narthex or visit www.wwdp.org.uk for more information.

A Day with Mary

A day of instruction, devotion and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917, will be held at Our Lady & St Michael, Garston on **Saturday 2nd March starting at 10am**. See poster on the rear noticeboard.

100 Club

Membership of the 100 Club is now closed for the time being. **Please do not send us any further donations.** Many thanks for your support of this initiative to raise funds for the Parish. Our first draw will take place this weekend after 8:30am Mass on Sunday. Winners will be contacted and winning numbers will be posted in the newsletter next weekend.



The Big Lent Walk

A message from our parishioner Greg Birch.

I'm taking part in The Big Lent Walk, and hope to raise at least £200 for CAFOD. Please sponsor me! Your donations can change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.



The link for my fundraising page is <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/gregs-big-lent-walk>
There is also a poster at the back of Church with a QR code.

Prayer Day for Peace

On Friday 8th March Cardinal Vincent Nichols has asked that we make a special focus of prayer for the Holy Land. Our 9.15 Mass will be offered for *Peace in the Holy Land* and Exposition after Mass will be an opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Lourdes Pilgrimage takes place from **19th to 26th July**. Join the pilgrimage as a pilgrim. Serve as a doctor or nurse as part of our medical team. Support our sick by sponsoring a member of our medical team and by praying for them. For more information please contact the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173 or go to <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes>

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn Tannian, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Kathleen Andrews, Dave Jessop, Michael O'Brien and Alton Headley.

Offertory for 18th February

Loose	£ 345.04
Envelopes	£ 168.91
Total	£ 513.95

Many thanks