Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 3rd March 2024





204, High Street Waltham Cross Herts EN8 7DP 01992 623156

http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/walthamcross walthamcross@rcdow.org.uk

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Today we hear God deliver the Ten Commandments to Moses and the Chosen People. The commandments provide a way for them to live up to their part of the covenant. We face the same challenge today. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to examine our consciences and recall times when we have failed to follow one of God's commands and determine which commandments we find difficult to obey consistently. Particularly during this penitential season, let us repent of our sins, reconcile with God and those we've wronged, and pray for the grace to do better.

From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2023 World Library Publications

MEDOG MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK Saturday 2nd March 6.30pm Peter McKeown RIP Sunday 3rd March 8.30am Cleophas Tsaurai & Chiremba Family The Third Sunday 11.30am Cindy Pereira RIP Of Lent 6.30pm People of the Parish Monday 4th March Casimir 10.00am Richard O'Reilly RIP Tuesday 5th March 10.00am Nelly Kelly RIP Wednesday 6th March 10.00am The Anyaso Family Thursday 7th March 10.00am Anthony Chukwuma RIP Friday 8th March John of God 10.00am Private Int. Saturday 9th March 6.30pm People of the Parish

TODAY'S READINGS:NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:Exodus 20:1-172 Chronicles 36:14-16Psalm 18:8-11Psalm 136

1 Corinthians 1:22-25 Ephesians 2:4-10 John 2:13-25 John 3:14-21

LIVE STREAMING FROM THE CHURCH

The live stream runs twenty-four hours a day, so you can 'visit' the Church whenever you wish. There is a link on the Parish Website and it is also accessible at http://www.churchservices.tv/walthamcross.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

During Lent we are asked to pray for: Europe; Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

For those who are ill: Nicola Harker, Lily Barber, Natasha Papet, Rodney Imbert, Lisa Thorogood, Tina Figueria, Iris Waters, Vera Argue, Lesley Cartwright, Patsy Joseph, Val McGuinness, Michael Verbruggen, Mary Fitzgerald, Betty Bambury, Jean Pearce,

For those who have died recently: Anna Severino, Petrunella Pankiw,

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Anthonia Archibong, Sauver Debono,

DAY OF PRAYER - FOR THE HOLY LAND - FRIDAY 8th MARCH

The Cardinal has asked that the whole Diocese has a Day of Prayer for the Holy Land on Friday 8th March. We have the Blessed Sacrament as usual on Friday morning at 9.15am-9.45am, we have 10.00am Mass, the Stations straight after Mass, the Rosary and Stations again at 7.00pm in the evening, please try and attend one, or you can pray at home.

LENTEN PRAYER AND PRACTISES

There will be Stations of the Cross in the Church each Friday morning at 10.30am, after the morning Mass, and at 7.00pm in the evening. There will also be Faith Sharing Groups meeting during Lent. They will be used on the Resource **We Dare to Say**, a series of reflections based on five lines from the Lord's Prayer. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. It is suitable for individual use as well as for groups. The booklets are available from the Parish Office, priced at £4 each. The Faith Sharing Group will meet on Thursday mornings at 11.00am in the Church.

LENTEN ALMS

The Collection Box near the Statue of St Anthony will be used for the collection of your Lenten Alms Donations. You can also make donations on line, just put Lenten Alms as the reference. We will be using the donations to support the Broxbourne Food Bank.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024 –All Funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of its 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 our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. There are also copies of the Lent 2024 edition of "Mosaic", the Diocese' publication which reports on the work of Caritas in the Diocese. Thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

On Saturday from 10.30 – 11.00am and from 5.45pm – 6.15pm.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for your last week's Offertory Collection which came to £969.36; plus the February Standing Orders £4,727.00; Online Donations £282.50; Contactless £30.00.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late Anna Severino will be celebrated on Monday 4th March at 11.30am.

COME TO TEA!

The Parish Centre is open every Monday afternoon for Afternoon Tea and Biscuits and a chat from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome. We even have Orange Squash for those who are too young for tea or coffee!

It is also open on a Wednesday from 1.30pm -3.00pm for Soup and Toast as well as tea, coffee or orange squash. Again, everyone is welcome. There is no need to book, just turn up and enjoy the company.

200 CLUB WINNERS - FEBRUARY 2024

1st No. 92 - Rebecca Harris:

2nd No. 107 - Una Griffin;

3rd No. 27 - Michael Morris

RCIA

The RCIA Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Confirmation Preparation will continue on Thursday 7th March at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.

HAVE YOU SIGNED A GIFT AID FORM?

We will soon be putting in a Gift Aid claim asking the Inland Revenue to give us the Tax that you have paid on your donations. If you have stopped paying tax please would you contact the Parish Office on 01992 623156 so that we don't ask for the tax if you haven't paid it.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please collect your new sets of Offertory Envelopes after Mass at the weekend. If you no longer use your Offertory Envelopes or wish to move from Envelopes to a Standing Order, can you please let the Parish Office know. Thank you.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. We collected £531.77. Your generous donations, given in love, will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk.

YOUNG ADULTS LENT RETREAT DAY

Young Adults Lent Retreat Day with the Assumption Sisters & Fathers on Saturday 16th March 2024 11am – 7pm. Venue: The Assumption Priory, Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PB (closest tube station: Bethnal Green). Programme: including talks • prayer, adoration and confessions • Stations of the Cross • faith sharing • mass and social time. Donations only. Register by emailing to: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

CARITAS ST JOSEPH'S FAMILY FORUM

This is for anyone interested in discussing issues relating to the inclusion of people with learning disabilities. Our next event is Monday 4 March when Bernice Hardy, Co-founder of Wave (we are all valued equally) will share the story of its work to encourage more inclusive worship and social places in the heart of our communities. https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/family-forum-talk-caritas-st-josephs/

VOLUNTEERING FAIR

Caritas Volunteer Service will hold a volunteering Fair on Saturday 9 March, 3pm – 5pm, at Westminster Cathedral Hall. If you are considering volunteering and want to explore possible roles within the diocese, do come along. More details will follow here: https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/volunteering-fair-2/

INCLUSIVE MASS

Caritas St Joseph's regularly support inclusive Masses. These Masses will celebrate the gifts of all people and are for everyone, and especially those who have learning disabilities, their friends and families. The next Mass takes place in Enfield on 9 March. Find out more here https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/events/

SUPPORT THE JRS UK LENT APPEAL

As we fast this Lent, we remember all those who can struggle all year round to access food and warmth. Through your support, JRS UK can provide food, hardship grants and legal advice – and help restore dignity for refugee friends within a warm, loving community. Donate to the JRS UK Lent Appeal: https://www.jrsuk.net/lent-appeal-2024/

PRAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

JRS UK has prepared its own Way of the Cross, inviting you to reflect on the experiences of refugees and forcibly displaced people in the world today, in light of the suffering that Jesus endured. Join us on Zoom as we pray Stations of the Cross this Lent on Thursday 21st March 2024. Find out more: www.jrsuk.net/praying-with-refugees

FR JOHN

Fr John is away on holiday until the evening of Tuesday 5th March. Fr Tom will be here to care for the Parish.