St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter
112 Carlton Avenue East, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 8NB
Telephone: 020 8904 6031;
Email: wembley3@rcdow.org.uk
Website: http://www.erconwald.org.uk
Microsite: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/sterconwald
Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila
Safeguarding Rep: Rose Yip wembley3sg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
PARISH HALL LETS: Contact Elizabeth Patten on wembley3@rcdow.org.uk.
OFFICE: By appointment.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A 26TH FEBRUARY, 2023

THEME: Forty Days to Easter



On this first Sunday of Lent we have just begun our journey of forty days to Easter. We are the people of the forty days: the people of God in the Old Testament needed forty years in the desert to grow through their trials and mistakes into the People of God ready for the Promised land. Jesus spent forty days in the desert in fasting and prayer to prepare himself to make his choice to be the kind of Messiah God wanted. We today are given our forty days, too, to re-examine ourselves before God whether we want to be and are the kind of Christians God wants us to be. We look up to Jesus to see if with him and by his power we are willing to reject the temptations that try to divert us from the task God has given us.

MEDITATE: Jesus went into the desert and was tempted.

ACT: Spend time each day in your own desert of quiet time to pray for insight. Reflect on the temptations that come to you most frequently..

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

TUESDAY 14th MARCH at 11.00am. Followed by soup and rolls.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give *and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.*





ST. PATRICK'S DAY – BACON & CABBAGE CELEBRATION SUNDAY 12th MARCH, 12.30 – 3.00pm

Food will be served from 12.30pm – 2.00pm. Doors open 12.30pm. After lunch there will be entertainment by George Harte, and a raffle with some fantastic prizes. Tickets: Adults: £10, Family [2 Adults & 2 Children]: £30. In aid of the Church Refurbishment Fund.

COMING TO MASS: COVID-19 SAFE ENVIRONMENT

[Please do NOT attend Mass if you are unwell or have any Covid symptoms]

As we have many vulnerable parishioners we ask that you **continue to wear your mask and sanistise your hands** when you come to Church.
Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

DONATIONS AND COLLECTION OF MONEY
IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT GIVING ON-LINE

GIVING BY STANDING ORDER [Preferred Method]: If you would like to support the parish we would ask you to consider setting up a regular donation in this way.

Offertory Envelopes and other donations can be placed in the Collection Box at the entrance or at the exit of the Church.
There are also a number of cashless methods now available:

Make a donation via our website:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/donate/

Via Dona [the company who supply our card readers].
https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=268
Donations, Mass Intentions and Repository payments can also be made via the card readers in Church

NOW ACCEPTING CONTACTLESS DONATIONS

Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader. *You can also opt-in for **Gift Aid** to increase your donation by 25%. [If you are a UK taxpayer then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received.]*
Contactless donations are simple to administer, secure and convenient.

[If you are a tax payer, please Gift Aid your donation]

THANK YOU

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

There will be a retiring Offertory Collection at all weekend Masses. Cash only please, no "Planned Giving Envelopes", these should be placed into the boxes provided at the entrance/exit of the Church marked "Offertory" etc.



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church itself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

REPOSITORY

Lenten books are available from the Repository. Additional Easter Cards will be available from next weekend. We also have a new delivery of Graveyard Statues and Ornaments. St. Patrick's Day Cards, badges, candles and gifts.
If you do not see something you would like, please ask one of the Repository Team. You are welcome to browse.

SEASON OF LENT 2023



Lent is a time of grace, conversion, renewal and healing.
[Each Friday we recall the events of Good Friday by fasting in some way.]

Stations of the Cross: Weekdays [except Thursdays and Saturdays] at 9.00am. Friday evening at 6.30pm.

Rite of Penance: Every Saturday between 4.30pm and 5.00pm.
*Service of Reconciliation with Absolution on **Friday 31st March at 7.00pm**.*

CARDINAL'S LENTEN ALMS APPEAL



Funds raised this year will be shared between: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. Please take a donation envelope. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information please visit www.CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk

VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Fr. Anthony is at the moment visiting the sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is in need of a visit please see Fr. Anthony or contact the Parish Office. [If in hospital, please contact the hospital chaplain].

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES & GIFT AID

As a new tax year is almost upon us we will be issuing the new boxes of envelopes for those who belong to the scheme, after each of the Masses next weekend. If you are away, you will be able to collect them from Fr. Anthony or Elizabeth the following week. If you have changed your home address can you please inform the office. Thank you much for all your donations, however you choose to give.

RADIO TIMES 2 – THE SEQUELL

The Chameleons are delighted to return to the St. Ercon-wald's stage this March with the follow up to our 2014 review show. Come and join us on **4th March at 8.00pm** for a selection of radio themed sketches, monologues, music, laughter and much more! With a licenced bar. A St. Ercs's discount price of £7. It will be a night to remember. Online sales open at www.the chameleons.co.uk

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY

The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by Cardinal Vincent Nichols on **Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm** for couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you qualify, please contact the Parish Office by the weekend 18th/19th March.

CHURCH CLEANING

The Church closes for cleaning after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesdays.
If you have any spare time please come along and join us.

LITURGY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

[All services can be followed online: https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3
[Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.00am/11.30am Masses are recorded]

Sunday 26th February: First of Lent, Year A: [10.00/11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 2.7-9,3.1-7; Psalm: 50; 2nd Reading: Romans 5.12-19; Gospel: Matthew 4.1-11. **Intention:** 10.00am: Mary & Richard Gavin [RIP, A]
11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 27th February: Feria: [9.30am] Readings: 1st Reading: Leviticus 19.1 -2,11-18; Psalm: 18; Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46. **Intention:** Nalin Vitharana [RIP

Tuesday 28th February: Feria [9.30am] Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 55.10-11; Psalm: 33; Gospel: Matthew 6.7-15. **Intention:** Teresa Roberts [RIP, A]

Wednesday 1st March: St. David: [9.30am/] Readings: 1st Reading: Philippians 3.8-14, Psalm: 1; Gospel: Matthew 5.13-16. **Intention:** Michael Flaherty [Intention];
followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction at 11.00am.

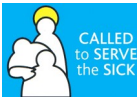
Thursday 2nd March: NO SERVICE

Friday 3rd March: Lent Feria: [9.30am/7.00pm] Readings: 1st Reading: Ezekiel 18.21-28; Psalm: 129; Gospel: Matthew 5.20-26. **Intentions:** 9.30am: Nigel Leaney [RIP] and 7.00pm: Florine & Peter Rodrigues [RIP]
6.30pm: Meditative Stations of the Cross.

Saturday 4th March: Second of Lent, Year A: [5.30pm] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 12.1-4; Psalm: 32; 2nd Reading: 2Timothy 1.8-10; Gospel: Matthew 17.1-9. **Intention:** David Rixon [RIP]

Sunday 5th March: Second of Lent, Year A: [10.00/11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 12.1-4; Psalm: 32; 2nd Reading: 2Timothy 1.8-10; Gospel: Matthew 17.1-9. **Intention:** 10.00am: Jean and Sam Greck [RIP]
11.30am: People of the Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



We keep in our thoughts and prayers: Margaret Beeby, Yves Remedios, Denton Allen, and Radwan Naffa. We remember also those in Kenbrook, Birchwood Grange and Brook House.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

QUIZ NIGHT: Feast of St. Erconwald: 22nd April
First Holy Communion & Confirmation Faire: 15th-16th April
Details to follow

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.
[*based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori]*