



Sunday 19th February 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

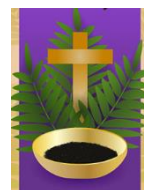
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Ash Wednesday begins the forty-day journey of Lent, it sets us on a time of self-examination and repentance, to wait upon and prepare for the renewal given by God's Spirit in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent is about altering our mind-set toward whole new ways of thinking and acting, with prayer, care for our neighbour and repentance for our sinfulness.

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these forty days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless the journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. Guide our steps this Lent, so that we might find greater fulfillment in your promises and better serve others with a heart that's reflective of you. Amen.



Can you help?

St. Patrick's RC School . . . To celebrate the 60th anniversary of St Patrick's School we are going to work with the folk trio, The Younguns, to compose a song to mark this great occasion. The song will mark the key events in the life of the school. Therefore, we are asking you to email or write to school to suggest significant milestones in the life of the school since 1963 that you believe we could use. We look forward to letting you all hear the finished piece later in the year. E-mail address is admin@stpatricks.bhcet.org.uk Mr. S. Williams (Headteacher)

At the suggestion of Canon Cooper, following the dreadful scenes seen after the Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, we have decided to bring forward the CAFOD Family Fast collection, which was due to be taken on 5th March. **It will now be held this weekend instead.** Envelopes are available at the back of the Church for those who wish to Gift Aid their donations. While we will send off an initial cheque to CAFOD, the collection will remain open for the return of any envelopes until 5th March. Parishioners can also put any donations, not being Gift Aided, into an envelope marked 'CAFOD Earthquake Appeal' and put it into the main Sunday collections.


Third World: Syria - Turkey Earthquake . . . For the next three weeks, all donations placed in our Third World box will be forwarded to CAFOD for their emergency Syria-Turkey Appeal. Thank you for your continued support. God Bless

Invitation

In March Canon Cooper celebrates his 50th Anniversary into the priesthood. A special Mass of thanksgiving is to be held at St. Patrick's on **Saturday, 11th March at 12 noon**, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. Everybody welcome.



World Day of Prayer . . . A women led global ecumenical movement. This year's theme is 'I have heard about your faith.' **Friday 3rd March in St Bede's RC Church 2.00pm.** All welcome.

7 th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
19	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
20	Monday	9.15am	Margaret Bentley
21	Tuesday		
22	Ash Wednesday	7.00pm	Jean Duffy
23	Thursday	6.00pm	SVP Rosary
24	Friday	9.15am	Andre Tassel
25	Saturday	9.15am	Philip Andrews
1 st Sunday of Lent			
26	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Sheila Norman, Irvin Eeles	
		Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, Brian Lee,	
Reader for Sunday 26 th February ~ Maurice Ward			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



**Today is a Day of Prayer
for the Unemployed**

O God, who made us in your image and intended us for creative work; look with love on those of us who are unemployed. Guide the leaders of our country, that they may take wise decisions which will benefit us all. Finally we ask you, Lord, to guide us in the knowledge that we all have worth in ourselves and that we are all of equal value in your eyes, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.



ASH WEDNESDAY . . . Mass times for Ash Wednesday are:

12Noon - St. Mary's RC Church, **7.00pm** - St. Patrick's RC Church

The Stations of the Cross during Lent will be on a Thursday evening, starting on Thursday 2nd March. They will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 7pm. If any group would like to volunteer to lead Stations of the Cross please contact Deacon Mick or telephone the Parish office, 01642 580171. Thank you

A feature of our parish since its inception over 50 years ago has been the involvement of parishioners in the running of both the spiritual and social aspects of parish life. In the background for many years there has been a small cohort involved in the management of our premises in accordance with diocesan and statutory requirements, from church upkeep and building maintenance to paying the bills. For the last couple of years or so, much of this has been put on hold because of Covid, but now things are returning to normal and the parish premises are starting to be fully used again.

However there needs to be an appraisal of how we manage this. Most of the cohort mentioned above have been involved for many years. Ill health and old age are starting to take their toll and so we may need to introduce some new blood into our 'back room' set up. Involvement would mean not necessarily being able to 'do things' but also being able to get things done. So if you feel you can contribute to this 'behind the scenes' team, please contact Bill Douglas on 0795 4422636.