



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH



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ASH WEDNESDAY—WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY: Ash Wednesday is the start of Lent when we are invited for forty days to set aside more time for prayer and fasting in preparation for Easter. The Ashes, made in the sign of the cross on our foreheads on this day, are an outward sign of our inward sorrow for our sins and of our commitment to Jesus as Our Lord and Saviour. Masses on Ash Wednesday with distribution of Ashes are at 9.15am and 8 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT: Come and pray the Stations of the Cross at The Blessed Sacrament every Friday at 7.30pm during Lent starting next Friday 28th February.

LENT WALK WITH ME: The booklets help us on a daily basis to focus our attention on the Lord during the season of Lent. £1.00 each available in the porch – please put the money in the box in the Repository.

CONFIRMATION 2020: The next session for our confirmation candidates is this Thursday 27th February at 7pm in the Hall.

JUSTICE AND PEACE NEWS: The Justice and Peace quiz will be held in the hall **next** Saturday, February 29th at 7.30p.m. All money raised will go to the nuns in Kindu, Congo, who have established a priory and a health centre on the edge of the inhospitable equatorial forest. Please make up tables of eight or come along and we will seat you with some friendly faces. Five tables have already been reserved. If you would like to reserve one please let Jack and Margaret Brittain know on 01245 267603. Tickets cost £5 on the door. Raffle prizes gratefully accepted.

FAIRTRADE STALL: The Justice and Peace group are asking all chocolate lovers to come to a coffee morning in the church after the 9.30 a.m. Mass on Sunday March 1st. It's Fairtrade Fortnight so please come along and support the Chelmsford City Fairtrade Campaign which is bringing a stall full of chocolate as well as tea, coffee and biscuits in time for Easter. The chocolate comes from the cocoa growers of west Africa, almost all of whom live in poverty. By supporting this stall you will be helping the growers, particularly the women, to earn a living income. Come and try some hot chocolate as well.

EVENING PRAYER: Please note that there will not be evening prayer next Tuesday 25th February.

MICHAEL TOOLAN RIP: A Requiem Mass for Michael will be held on Wednesday 4th March here at the Blessed Sacrament at 9.15am.

CHARLIE SMYTH RIP: Charlie's body will be received into church on Wednesday 11th March at 4.30pm and his funeral Mass will be at 10am on Thursday 12th March followed by interment at Chelmsford cemetery. May he rest in peace.

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available for collection from the back of the church after all the Sunday Masses this weekend. Please take the box marked with your name.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: Organiser for February and March is Lal Mangalam 07960 213530.

FOODBANK: Person responsible for February is Jacqui and Roy Barnaby.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Sunday 16th February 2020: Envelopes: £498.72, Loose Plate: £306.14, Bankers Order: £291.52 Total £1096.19. Racial Justice: £253.72. Thank you for your generosity.

LENT TALKS 2020

"The Gospel and the Good Life" – Fr Thomas Skeats OP – Wednesday 4th March
 "The Gospel and the Gift of Life" – Clare McCullough – Wednesday 11th March
 "The Gospel and Married & Family Life" – Dr Charles O'Connell – Wednesday 18th March
 "The Gospel and Eternal Life" – Bishop Michael Campbell (retired Bishop of Lancaster) – Wednesday 25th March
 All the talks take place at 7.30 p.m. at Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford (preceded by Exposition and Confessions from 6.30pm). Everyone welcome.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR TRAVELLERS: Following on from Racial Justice Sunday, there will be a special meeting on Tuesday 10th March at 7.30 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay for anyone who is interested in assisting with the Sacramental Preparation of Traveller children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please contact Father Dan Mason, the National Catholic Chaplain for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers on 01277 624891.

POUSTINIA PROJECT. As we prepare to celebrate the Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry, the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham hopes to find benefactors who can support their 'Poustinia' project. With there being an ever-greater need for silence in today's world, many people are searching for space to enter into the silence of their hearts and listen to 'the still small voice of God' I Kings 19:12. As a community of men and women in different states of life, we accompany people so they can live in the joy and freedom of Mary's 'Fiat' or 'Yes'. We are hoping that a parish, a group of parishioners or individuals may contribute to this project. We need to raise £100,000 to build two shepherd's huts and develop prayer gardens around them at our convent, House of the Divine Will. If you know of anyone who can help please give them our contact details and ask to speak with Sr Camilla COLW (info@walsinghamcommunity.org or 01328 801018).

ENGLAND, THE DOWRY OF MARY - REDEDICATION 2020 - SUNDAY 29TH MARCH. It has been agreed with the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales that the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary will take place on the Sunday following the feast of the Annunciation 2020. More information about this can be found on the website: www.behold2020.com. To prepare for this, we will start saying together the prayer written by Cardinal Wiseman, known as the "Prayer for England," after all Masses from Friday 21st February to Sunday 29th March.

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our most gentle Queen and Mother, look down in mercy upon England, Thy Dowry, and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in Thee. By Thee it was that Jesus, our Saviour and our Hope was given unto the world; and He has given Thee to us that we might hope still more. Plead for us Thy children whom Thou didst receive and accept at the foot of the Cross, O sorrowful Mother. Intercede for our separated brethren, that with us in the One True Fold they may be united to the Chief Shepherd, the Vicar of Thy Son. Pray for us all, dear Mother, that, by faith, fruitful in good works, we may all deserve to see and praise God together with Thee, in our heavenly home. Amen.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday 22nd February 2020

6.00pm Mass John Petherick RIP (Petherick & McDonnell Families)

Sunday 23rd February 2020

9.30am Mass People of the Parish
 11.30am Mass Dr. Edmund Patrick Solomon RIP (E. Solomon)

Monday 24th February 2020

NO MASS

Tuesday 25th February 2020

6.30pm Mass Mike Toolan RIP (J & J Sporle)
 Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday 26th February 2020—Ash Wednesday

9.15am Mass Katherine White RIP (E. Bullock)
 8.00pm Mass People of the Parish

Thursday 27th February 2020

9.15am Mass Pat Benjamin RIP (P. Akhurst, Margo & Noreen)
 Adoration & Benediction

Friday 28th February 2020

9.15am Mass Barbara Monaghan RIP (J. & C. Diamond)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday 29th February 2020

6.00pm Mass People of the Parish

Sunday 1st March 2020

9.30am Mass Clive Secluna RIP (A. & J. Donachie)
 11.30am Mass Fr Ivor RIP (Fr Paul & Chelmsford Ordinariate)

Anniversaries - We pray for Violet Corry, James Hayes, William Culliton, Annie O'Donnell, Lawrence Birchall, Vera Lyon, John Parsons, Peter Huish, John Toublic, Margaret Lawrence, Baby Emma Victoria Sedgwick, Thomas Kerr Milligan, Fr Clifford Beecroft, Mgr. Canon Jules van Meenen, Fr David Chapman, and Fr John Wall. May they rejoice forever with all the saints in God's Kingdom.

CONFESSIONS	5.00pm	Saturday or see Fr Paul after Mass on Sunday
HOLY ROSARY	5.30pm	Saturday
MORNING PRAYER	9.00am 8.50am	Weekdays except Monday, Tuesday & Saturday Sundays
EVENING PRAYER WITH THE COMMUNITY	5.30pm	Every evening except Tuesday and Saturday in the side chapel. Includes music, psalms and intercessions.
MUSTARD SEED GROUP	7.30pm	Prayer group - First Sunday of every month
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	8.00pm	Every Monday in side chapel except bank holidays