## PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way

3.03.2024

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## The Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Nora McGinn RIP
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup>	•	The Parish
•		10.30 am	Intention of Anne Niven
		3.00 pm	Holy Hour
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Bryan Smith
·		12.30 pm	REQUIEM FOR MERCEDES FULGONY RIP
Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Paul Tomkins RIP
•		7.00 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Mary Lindzt RIP
Thursday	29 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Intention of Phil O'Carroll
Friday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am	Pamela Cassell-Gerard RIP
-		10.00 am	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am	INVITED Lent Course
		6.00 pm	Deceased Members of the Slattery & Bailey Families
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.15 am	The Parish
		10.30 am	Intention of Ella Doll
		3.00pm	Holy Hour



**SATURDAY:** Reconciliation: 10.15 - 10.45 am and 5.15 - 5:45 pm

<u>TODAY'S READINGS:</u> Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10 **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13

COLLECTIONS: Church: £488 Digital Collection: £55 Thank you for your generosity.

The second collection today is for your CAFOD Fast Day Offerings. If you are a tax-payer please fill in the Gift Aid form and place it in the special Fast Day envelope together with your offering

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: David Lancaster, Mary Jackson, Jim Simpson, Camilla Jane, Sophie Abbott, Michelle Diett, Helen Gillespie, Harold Forrest, Maria Brooks, Sarah Johnstone, Tony Kearney, Ella Doll, Paul Curd, Lola Samengo-Meehan, Maureen House, Joan Wand, Samuel Bezants, Thomas Boylan, Terry Stanley, Glenn, Helena & Vittorio Villa, Lena, Ken Harvey, Sienna Coates, Brian Caplin, Valerie Halley, Pat Duggan, Tony Grana, Sister Raymond, John Smith, Ian Threlfall, Lelia Murray, Mary Murphy, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

- **2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY** and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Joseph Shepherd, Noreen Sumner, Sheila Szymuda, Eileen Fusciardi, Ron Watson, Cecelia Boakes, Mary Hancy, Ted Leach, Emilio Santangelo, Marion Kurkowski, Frederick Wolford, Mary Eldred, Thomas Peeney, Mary Allder.

  May they rest in peace and rise in glory.
- 3. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held on Friday 1st March at 2.30pm.
- **4. ST VALENTINE'S EVENING 'DO'** raised £783.50 for the Parish Project in Kalingalinga. Many thanks to all who helped to make it such an enjoyable evening.
- <u>5. ROSARY FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND</u> will be prayed on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 5.00pm. Please put the date in your diary and make a special effort to come and pray for peace.
- **6. CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY LENT APPEAL:** This Lent your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help hardworking people like the fishermen 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 that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

- <u>7. MANY, MANY THANKS</u> to all those who contributed to my\_'Special birthday surprise birthday present'. It certainly was a complete surprise and I am sure that all the children whose sight will be restored by Sightsavers will also be delighted by your kindness.
- **8. ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT 'HOOLEY'** in aid of our Parish Project, will take place **on** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm in the Barn. Irish Step Dancers, three course traditional Irish Supper Bacon & Cabbage Homemade desserts, Irish Coffee, Bar, a Sing-a-long and Raffle. Come and enjoy an evening of fun, good food music and dance. Donations of Raffle prizes would be appreciated. Tickets on sale after all Masses **this** weekend: Adults £10.00, Children £5.00
- <u>9. WHEN DID YOU LAST VISIT THE REPOSITORY?</u> We now have a selection of Mother's Day, St Patrick and Easter cards in the shop together with the beautiful handmaid cards, the money from which, goes to the Parish Project in Kalingalinga.
- 10. LENTEN ALMS BOX is the Box on the wall just inside the front porch. The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. In this case, the money collected is sent to nuns in enclosed orders.
- 11. THE BIG WALK CHALLENGE is being taken up by Charles Hutchin. The Challenge is to walk 200 Kms (about 124 miles) ... 5km on each of the 40 days of Lent. If you wish to support his efforts, please donate to CAFOD by searching "Charles Hutchin" on the "Just Giving" website.
- 12. MARY'S MEALS COLLECTION POINT is one of the small boxes under the notice board to the right in the Front Porch. It now costs £19.15 to feed one child for a year! Your donations will always be much appreciated.
- 13. TURNING TIDES: Everyday items are always needed: Coffee, Sugar, Long-life Milk, Carton juice large and small, Ketchup, Brown sauce, Marmalade, Jam, Cooking Oil, Hot Chocolate, Tinned Ham, Corned Beef, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat and Vegetarian Meals. Many thanks to all who are able to help.

**FATHER LIAM SAYS: The Season of Lent comes to an end at Sunset on Holy Thursday,** which this year will be on 28th March. For the Jews sunset marked the end of the day and the sun sets at different times. The Last Supper was celebrated after sunset so in Jewish reckoning the Last Supper and the death of Christ took place on the same day. This is significant because it emphasises the connection between Christ's death on the cross and the Sacrifice of the Mass. It is one and the same Sacrifice of Christ.

With sunset on Holy Thursday, not only a new day begins but also a new Liturgical Season. This new Season is called the Sacred Triduum because in the space of three days we celebrate the great events of the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, Christ's death on the Cross and his glorious Resurrection. When the Church gathers to celebrate these great events, they are viewed as one. They are all linked together. It is assumed that we all participate in the totality of the Great Three Days. So, when we gather on Maundy Thursday Evening we make the Sign of the Cross, followed by the greeting and a hymn. At the end of this Mass there is no blessing and we depart in silence. When we start the commemoration of the Passion on Good Friday afternoon - the only day of the year when the Eucharist is not celebrated - we gather in silence. There is no opening hymn or greeting and we fall on our knees as we begin our contemplation of the immensity of Christ's love for us. We continue, as it were, where we left off the night before. At the end of the service, where the Gospel of the Passion is read and the Cross is venerated and Holy Communion is offered to us, we depart in silence without a final hymn or blessing. When we gather again in darkness we meet around a fire ablaze in the Car Park, there is no opening hymn or greeting nor do we begin with the Sign of the Cross. It is envisaged that we are taking part in the final act of one great Liturgy. Liturgy literally means the 'work of the people'. So, it is assumed, that we are there to participate. Many people have never been to the Easter Vigil Mass. It starts later and lasts longer than other Saturday evening Masses and, of course, some people are away from here at Easter. But, if possible, do try to take part in it.

Having gathered around the fire the Easter Candle is lit and carried into the dark church as we start our celebration of the Christian Passover. The Jewish Passover celebrated how the people of Israel were led out of slavery in Egypt. At night they were guided as they journeyed through the wilderness by the pillar of light. Christ, represented by the Easter Candle, is our pillar of light. We are led by him on our pilgrimage to our Father's House. As we follow him our candles are lit from the Easter Candle, so the church is soon ablaze with the lights we all carry. The Easter Candle is enthroned in the middle of the church and the Cantor sings of God's saving work for the Israel of old and now, through Christ, for all God's family. The scripture readings, at greater length than usual, continue to proclaim that same message. Our Vigil liturgy emphasises our sharing in Christ's Risen life through our baptism. Water is blessed and we renew our baptismal commitment.

The Easter Vigil culminates in the celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass is always a festival of thanks for that is what the word Eucharist means. We praise God with greater joy than ever on Easter night. It is an interesting fact that in the early Church the only occasion on which the Gloria was sung was at the Easter Vigil. Shortly afterwards this was extended to Sunday Masses as Sundays were regarded as 'little Easters'. However, as you know, we don't have the Gloria on the Sundays of Lent and Advent. This is to emphasise the joy of Easter and Christmas that Lent and Advent are leading up to. For the same reason we keep flowers to a minimum in Advent and Easter.