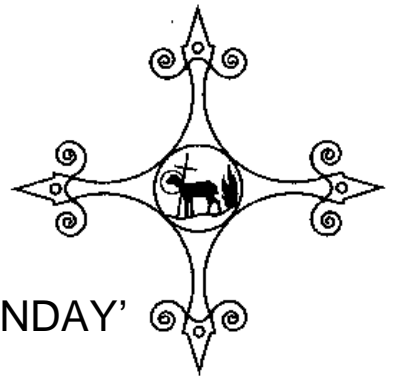




SAINT HELEN'S PARISH 4th SUNDAY of LENT



Season of Lent + Easter
'LAETARE' SUNDAY – 'MOTHERING SUNDAY'
11th March 2018

You are God's Work of Art - by Grace

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Fidelity or infidelity? Belief or ridicule? Salvation or destruction. Light or dark. The choices are clear, and so are the consequences. But though forgetting God leads to disaster, God does not abandon us to our own devices: Through grace we are healed, God's Love on the cross raises us too:

Maundy Thursday	Mass of Our Lord's Supper	7.30pm
Good Friday	Celebration of Our Lord's Passion	3.00pm
Holy Saturday	The Easter Vigil and Paschal Mass	8.30pm
Easter Sunday	Morning Mass of the Resurrection	10.30am

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (*Psalter: Week 4*)

Chronicles 36: 14 – 16, 19 – 23.

The wrath and mercy of God are revealed in the exile and in the release of his people.

Response: Psalm 136.

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there //
we hung up our harps.

For it was there they asked us, //
our captors for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.

O how could we sing //
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither,

O let my tongue //
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys.

Ephesians 2: 4 – 10.

You who were dead through your sins have been saved through grace.

Acclamation for the Gospel:

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory (x2)
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;
Everyone who believes in him has eternal life.
Praise to you

John 3: 14– 21.

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.

Prayer of the Faithful: R/. Lord, bring us to life.



MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 10 th March	6.30pm	4th Sunday of LENT (2 nd Scrutiny) For the People of the Parish	
Sun 11 th March	10.30am	4th Sunday of LENT (2 nd Scrutiny) Maher + Power Families (GJ)	
Mon 12 th March	6.45pm 7.00pm	Evening Prayer of the Church Pam Cronin (DC)	
Tues 13 th March	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Reverend Jimmy Thomas	
Wed 14 th March	3.00 – 4.00pm 7.00pm	Adoration: 2 to 4 pm only. The Sacrament of Reconciliation Deanery Station Mass; Saint Illtyd, Dowlais	
Thurs 15 th March	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Thanksgiving (VT)	
Fri 16 th March	6.30am 7.00pm	Way of the Cross (in Saint Catherine) Francis Kelly, Intention	
Sat 17 th March	5.45 – 6.15pm 6.30pm	SAINT PATRICK , Bishop The Sacrament of Reconciliation 5th Sunday of LENT (3 rd Scrutiny) For the People of the Parish	
Sun 18 th March	10.30am	5th Sunday of LENT (3 rd Scrutiny) Marie Bird (GM)	

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 5.45pm to 6.15pm, or at any time by arrangement with the priest.
This **Wednesdays** from 3 till 4pm.

CELEBRATING STEPS ALONG THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

A CHILD FOR BAPTISM? The Parish **PREPARATION for BAPTISM** concludes this **Tuesday** evening. If you have missed this series, please take the (green) form 'Your Child and Baptism' available in the porch, fill it in and return it to book in to the next Preparation.



Preparing for COMMUNION: The Parents and Children preparing for Communion come together this Tuesday, 13th March, 6.30pm in the Hall, to review chapters 5, draw portraits, and bake bread to break.



JOINING THE CHURCH AS AN ADULT: To learn more about the Catholic Faith, please come along to the Hall every second Thursday at 7.30pm for '**Catholicism, an introduction**'. The next gathering will be Thursday 22nd March. Come and see.

MARRIAGE At least **6 months notice (preferably 12 months)** must be given, by Church law. **Before making any arrangements please see the priest to avoid any disappointments.** Once you have booked the date for the ceremony, you also need to ring Marriage Care on 0800 389 3801 to book into their preparation.

Bereaved? BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT provides a safe place to enable you to come to terms with your grief. One-to-one and group support available. For details contact 02920 863450.

MAKE HOLY WEEK: There are Lists for Volunteers for the various ministries and roles needed for our celebration of the Paschal Mystery through Holy week on the notice board in the porch: Please see what part you can play to make the celebration complete.

The MINISTERS of COMMUNION are asked to pick up their Availability forms today and return them next week.

HAPPY 'MOTHERS DAY' on this 'LAETARE (Rejoice) SUNDAY'



"SCRUTINY": A HARD LENTEN LOOK, at ourselves. The 'Scrutinies' on the three middle Sundays of Lent are first of all for those preparing to be Baptised at Easter, and to enter into and be Confirmed in the Communion of the Risen Christ in his Body the Church. But like God's People who needed to be rescued from regular relapses, we too lapse and need to be challenged and to change. So **The Scrutinies** give us all a chance to look closely at our life of faith, and a call to catch hold of Christ's offer of reconciliation and renewal. At Mass this weekend we will celebrate **THE SECOND SCRUTINY.**

FAIR TRADE: On Sunday morning Father John Joseph from Kerala will celebrate Mass with us and speak of his involvement with Fair Trade in India, and how it relates to what we do here. There will be a selection of Fairly Traded goods on sale in the Hall after Mass.

Another **FUNERAL PLANNING SURGERY** this Monday, 2pm in the Small Meeting Room; open to all.



THE FAMILIES PREPARING FOR COMMUNION meet again this Tuesday evening, 6.30pm in the Hall.

THE DEANERY STATION MASS this Lent will be in Saint Illtyd, Dowlais on Wednesday 14th March, at 7pm, a chance to gather with our fellow Catholics and our Bishop in our local area. There will be confessors available for the hour before. Please sign up **today** on the list in the porch for a place on the bus.



"LENT: What's that all about?" Fridays 9.00am In Saint Helen's School. This Friday, 16th March: **God? – How to Know him.**

This Week's Friday LENT LUNCH will be in **Van Road Church** (12 – 1pm), and is due to be served by volunteers from Saint Helen's Parish. Can you help? Please contact Berenice on 20 861930, jwilliams@talktalk.net. Thank you.

The Ecumenical FAIRTRADE FASHION Show planned for last Saturday has moved to **Next Saturday, 17th March, 7pm**, at Mount Carmel, Pontygwindy Road. Free entry, to see good clothes and other fairly traded goods, and a chance to buy or order.

Alive in Christ - Keeping our faith alive in everyday life. What do the scriptures show us about how to be fully alive in the Lord? How can we live that out every day? On Saturday 24th March Sarah Beresford will explore the scriptures with us to help us be truly alive in Christ. In Saint Philip Evans church. CF23 9UL, 10 till 3. Free, no need to book. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided but please bring your own packed lunch. For more information visit www.catholic-bible-school.org/south-wales-events/Mar18 or email catholicbibleschooluk@gmail.com

SCHOOL CLERK (ADMIN ASSISTANT) VACANCY: Mrs Macfarlane is retiring in July this year after 19 years in our school office. Our Governors will be advertising the post on the CCBC Website. The vacancy is part time, term time only, fixed term (1 year initially), salary: £6787.30 - £7690.90) To apply please contact the school for an application form.

PARISH PRAYER LIST: In our prayers we are asked to pray for all who are sick or housebound, and those who care for them, including:

Pamela Griffiths	Teresa Meade	Sheila Harris	Gerry Phenis	Graham Jenkins
Sandra Bray	Jean Kerrigan	Lloyd Jones	John Maguire	Cecelia Mawby
Pat Emanuelli	Dorothy Warmsley	Isobel Cummins	Pauline Richards	David Mabey
Valerie Donovan	Paul Costigan	Margaret Jones	Carol Morrissey	Claris Howell
Tess Thomas	Grace Donovan	Mary Camwell	Wilson Brown	David Warmsley
Martyn Western	Maureen Yemm	Bill Morrissey.		

SAINT HELEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – THIS WEEK:

Date	Time	Event
Mon 12 th March	9.30am 2.00pm 7.30pm	Parents & Toddlers Funeral Planning Surgery S.V.P. (s.m.r.)
Tues 13 th March	10.30am 6.30pm	Music Appreciation Communion Preparation
Wed 14 th March	9.30am 7.00pm	Parents & Toddlers W.I.
Thurs 15 th March	2.00pm – 4.00pm 6.00pm	Sunshine Club Night Shelter
Fri 16 th March	12.00 – 1.00pm 1.00pm – 3.00pm	Lenten Lunch (Van Road) History Group
Sat 17 th March	9.30am – 12.30pm	Dance
Sun 18 th March	11.30am	Tea, Coffee, & Biscuits



OFFERTORY COLLECTION	4 th March 2018
Gift Aid Weekly	£ 30.00
Non Gift Aid Weekly	£ 33.00
Gift Aid Standing Orders	£ 502.04
Non Gift Aid Standing Orders	£ 65.00
Loose	£ 132.81
TOTAL	£ 762.85 <i>Many thanks for braving the snow</i>

Snow stopped play for the **BONUS BALL** last weekend! **DOUBLE YOUR LUCK THIS WEEKEND?**

A.P.F. (red) MISSION BOXES are emptied during March. Please bring yours to church as soon as possible. Thank you. *Not got one? Please see Ann Head in the porch.*

CHRISTIAN PRAYER.

Section Two: **The Lord's Prayer: 'Our Father'** Article 3: **The Seven Petitions.**
VII. 'But Deliver Us From Evil'

(2851) In this petition, evil is not an abstraction, but refers to a person, Satan, the Evil One, the angel who opposes God. The devil (dia-bolos) is the one who 'throws himself across' God's plan and his work of salvation accomplished in Christ.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992

"There are three things, brethren, three, through which faith stands firm, devotion abides, and virtue endures: Prayer, Fasting, and Mercy. What prayer knocks for upon a door, fasting successfully begs and mercy receives. Prayer, Fasting, and Mercy: these three are a unit. They give life to one another. For fasting is the soul of prayer, and mercy is the life of fasting.

"Therefore let prayer, fasting and mercy be one petition for us before God. Let them be one legal aid on our behalf. Let them be a threefold prayer for us."

From the sermons of Saint Peter Chrysologus

Parish Directory

Priest: Revd. John Kelly 20883192;

Chair of Parish Council: Graham Taylor 20860919

Church Student: Elliot Hanson: 20883192;

Safeguarding Officer: 20864112

SVP: 20866838

Bereavement support: 20 863450

Cafod: 20861930

Marriage Care: appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

Music: Brett Pugh 07971848734.

Hall: 20883192

Piety shop: Norma Bromily 20862998

Saint Helen's School: 20852532

Cardinal Newman School: 01443 494110

Newsletter items: 20883192

Calendar Additions: calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

Parish@sthelenscaerphilly.com

www.sthelenscaerphilly.com

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

