

Masses and Intentions

First Week of Lent

Saturday 9th March 10:00 Our Lady & St Anne
Saturday after Ash Wednesday

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday 9th March 17:30 People of the parish
 Sunday 10th March 10:00 Zachary Shabaz-Surina
 18:30 Bridie O'Sullivan RIP
 (10th anniversary)

Monday 11th March 09:15 Fr Patrick's intentions
Lent feria

Tuesday 12th March 09:15 Repose of holy souls
Lent feria

Wednesday 13th March 09:15 Repose of holy souls
Lent feria

Thursday 14th March 08:00 Repose of holy souls
Lent feria

Friday 15th March 12:30 Waleria Dubaj RIP
Lent feria

Saturday 16th March 10:00 Health/blessings Alojzia &
Lent feria Jan Grestiakova

Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday 16th March 17:30 Repose of holy souls
 Sunday 17th March 10:00 Justin O'Neill
 18:30 People of the parish

Confessions:	Saturday	10.30 - 11.30 16.45 - 17.15
Exposition & Benediction:	Saturday	10.30 - 11.00
Evening prayer, Rosary:	Saturday	16.45

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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First Sunday of Lent, 10 March 2019

“If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved.”

Romans 10, 9

THE SEASON OF LENT

The parish Lent Course on The Creed commences on Monday 11 March at 19.30hrs in the Cenacle with an exploration of the history of the Creed.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent at 12 noon.

CAFOD CAFOD's Family Fast Day

this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world. Drought, floods and storms are having a devastating impact on our global family. Like Mahinur from Bangladesh. She makes a living from fishing but a drought last year killed all the fish, and she's struggling to support her disabled husband and son. On **Friday 15 March**, can you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Mahinur? Put your donation in the envelope attached to the newsletter and bring it back next weekend to put in the collection.

PANCAKES! Thank you for all those who helped to make and to eat the pancakes. Together a fantastic total of £100 was raised which will be sent on to CAFOD.

BINGO

There will be an evening of bingo in the Cenacle on Friday 15th March at 19.30. Everybody welcome.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid £152.39 Loose £527.13
Standing Orders £484.00

EASTER FLOWER FUND

There will be a box at the back of the church throughout Lent to gather contributions for the Easter flower fund. Many thanks in advance for your support.

CONFIRMATION FOR THOSE PREPARING WITH FR PATRICK

The first meeting for those wanting to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation (if they are not preparing in school) will be at 16.30hrs on Wednesday 13th March. Parents will need to stay with their children.

LATIN MASS SOCIETY

The Latin Mass society will be celebrating Mass here on Saturday 16th March at 11.30am. Exposition will finish at 11.00.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission to Royal Berkshire Hospital all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Communion or see a Priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led".
Hospital Chaplain - Fr JP Lyttle
Mobile: 07391 896559 / RBH: 0118 322 7105

READING HALF MARATHON

This will be run on Sunday 17th March. If you are running, good luck. If you are not, Reading is not the place to visit that day ☺

First Sunday of Lent (Year C – Luke): Our Lenten resolutions, while not exactly flagging at this early stage, are already being put to the test five days into the penitential season. It is thoughtful of the Church to put the story of Jesus' temptations before us each year on the first Sunday of the new season. This is not just a concession to our feeble humanity and our personal susceptibility to temptation put to a particular test during Lent. It is intended to make us think not only about Jesus and his struggle but to help us to realise that the history of God's people from Adam and Eve to the present day involves a similar story. The essence of the temptation of Jesus was the idea that he could go it alone, that he could be entirely self-sufficient. Jesus resisted this because he recognised his complete dependence on the Father. He knew that he needed to be nourished by God's word and that his true identity lay in seeking to do his Father's will. When Satan succeeds in convincing us that we have it in our power to save ourselves then we are on the path to self-destruction. Lent is a time for us to humbly take God's hand and to walk the path of faith and love that leads to Easter. Through our parish Lent Course we can deepen our knowledge of what it is in faith we believe.

First Reading (OT): Deuteronomy 26, 4 – 10: Deuteronomy recounts the events of the Exodus and the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai, and it is done in the form of Moses' last will and testament. The text for today is taken from that part when Moses is instructing the people how they should offer thanksgiving to God after their first harvest in the Promised Land which they are about to enter. The short ritual which he asks them to perform makes it abundantly clear that the Israelites are to derive their identity from their covenant relationship with God. This is the God who guided their ancestors from the time of Abraham and Joseph and who freed them from their misery, toil and oppression in Egypt. It is this same God who has brought them to this land whose fruits they are about to enjoy. The people, for their part, are to show their fidelity to God by living as he has asked them, walking the ways of justice and mercy that are enshrined in the Torah (the Law of Israel).

Second Reading (NT): Romans 10, 8 – 13: Something which caused Paul great anxiety during his life was the fact that his own people (i.e. the Jews) had not accepted Jesus as Saviour. In this extract from his letter to the early Christians of Rome, Paul readily admits that his former co-religionists have great fervour but he argues it is misplaced. He is of the view that, instead of trusting themselves to the saving justice of God, they have instead created a justice based on their own observance of the Law. He argues however that the OT prepares the way for faith in Jesus but that rigorous observance of it may get in the way of following Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 4, 1 – 13: Luke introduces the Spirit into his temptation story. It was the Spirit which drove Jesus into the desert and it was inspiration from the Spirit that helped him resist the temptations. Perhaps, especially during Lent, as we are tempted, we too might turn to the Spirit to assist us.

The readings for today's Masses are to be found in Parish Mass Book : pp 153-155