


Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea

 Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Southend on Sea



St John Fisher
Prittlewell

 St. John Fisher Catholic Church, Prittlewell

Parish Priest: Fr Graham Smith

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 23rd February 2020 – Seventh Sunday of the Year (A)

Dear friends

Jesus was often radical in what he said. Take our Gospel today; Jesus said to his disciples: 'offer the wicked man no resistance. If a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies.

What are we to make of these demanding demands? Jesus is telling us to be different. He is saying those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth.

The key in the final verse of our Gospel today is that we are to be perfect as our heavenly father is perfect. We are not to be perfect as in doing everything correctly, that is, as in being absolutely morally correct. We are to be perfect as in striving to reach the completeness we are called to in the Kingdom of Heaven. Attempting to love our enemies is part of striving for that completeness.

Fr Graham

Lent 2020

Stations of the Cross During Lent

There will be ample opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross in our parish during Lent. They will be on Friday (straight after the 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart), on Saturday (straight after 9.00am Mass at St John Fisher) and on most Sundays at 4.00pm (at Sacred Heart unless otherwise stated) On Sunday 8th March the community from St Luke's Anglican Church will join us for Stations of the Cross at St John Fisher at 4.00pm. On Sunday 15th March, we will join the community of St Luke's Anglican Church (St Luke's Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS2 4AB) at 4.00pm for an ecumenical celebration of this devotion.

Confession During Lent

Please make a special effort to go to Confession during Lent. Confessions are available at St John Fisher after the Saturday morning Mass and at Sacred Heart on Saturday mornings from 10.00am to 10.45am. Additionally, confession will be available for half an hour before each of the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

There will not be a Deanery Reconciliation Service during Lent.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

Exposition will continue to be held at Sacred Heart on Thursday evenings straight after the 6.30pm Mass. During Lent it will also be held at St John Fisher, straight after the Wednesday 10.00am Mass.

Deanery Lent Talks - Four Gospels - One Jesus... In the year of 'The God who speaks'.

At St Saint Peter's, Eastwood Road North, Leigh on Sea SS9 4BX. All presentations begin at 8.00pm and conclude with Night Prayer and Benediction. Confession will be available. Tea and Coffee available along with a with Lenten Bookstall.

Wednesday 4th March - The Gospel according to Mark. – Fr Paul Fox

Wednesday 11th March - The Gospel according to Matthew - Fr Gerry Drummond

Wednesday 25th March - The Gospel according to Luke –Fr Eduard Fartan

Wednesday 1st April - The Gospel according to John - Fr Graham Smith

Ash Wednesday

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. Mass will be at Sacred Heart at 9.30am (with the children and staff from Sacred Heart School) and at St John Fisher at 7.30pm. There will be a Polish Mass at Sacred Heart at 7.00pm (preceded by confession in Polish from 6.30pm).

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday – Days of Fast and Abstinence

Two days in the year – Ash Wednesday (26th February this year) and Good Friday – are given a special penitential character by the Church's tradition of "fast and abstinence" on these days.

"Abstinence" means that we do not eat meat on these days (this is the same traditional penance that is encouraged for every Friday of the year). Vegetarians could consider cutting out dairy products or some treats as a way of taking part in the spirit of abstinence. Abstinence from meat on Fridays is expected of every adult Catholic (age 14+).

"Fasting" means that we eat only one main meal, although it is acceptable to have one or two light snacks to replace the other main meals that are not eaten. The practice of fasting on these two days is expected of every adult Catholic (age 18-58) who does not have a medical need to eat more. These disciplines remind us of the special nature of Good Friday and Ash Wednesday and they unite our prayers and fasting with other Catholics throughout the world.

33 Days to Morning Glory – Prayer Retreat and Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary - 29th March 2020

Apologies to anyone who did not get a booklet last weekend – unfortunately we have not been able to get any more copies. However, you can keep up with the Retreat by watching EWTN at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46h_ijZURP8&list=PL_9yaNCbB144_PNF04PG8q8YRQHTe4Jfy&utm_source=Behold2020&utm_campaign=25ec80895c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_02_13_06_44&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d5aa7295bf-25ec80895c-335364922. You may also like to look at the "Behold 2020" Facebook page which includes some useful information and updates.

There will be a Deanery Celebration of the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary at 3.00pm on Sunday 29th March at St Peter's, Eastwood Road North, Leigh on Sea SS9 4BX. It will consist of A Liturgy of Marian Hymns, Readings, Homily & Benediction – Refreshments served afterwards.

Sacred Heart Winter Night Shelter

Thank you for all of your donations. We now need donations of new t shirts and boxer shorts in size small and medium. Every blessing, Liam Rand.

Collections of items		
HARP	29 th February and 1 st March	Tea, coffee and sugar
Foodbank	22 nd – 23 rd February	Long life puddings and tinned meat pies/meat meals
Night Shelter	New T shirts and boxer shorts in sizes small and medium	

Sacred Heart Breakfast Club – Saturday 7th March

Come and enjoy Breakfast (cereal, full cooked breakfast, toast and marmalade, tea or coffee) and discover more about MENCAP and their passion for changing the world for everyone with a learning disability. All proceeds will go to this amazing charity. Breakfast starts at 10 am and the speech at 11.15 am. Adults £5 and children £2.50. Tickets available after Mass from Paul Nicholson or Karen.

Bible Study Group

The Bible Timeline study programme takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins will show you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and give you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven throughout Scripture. The Bible Timeline will teach you how to read and understand the Bible and introduce you to the wonderful narrative of the Bible in a way that will transform your life. Please join us in the hall at St. John Fisher, starting with tea and cake at 2.00pm on the following dates.

Friday 28 th February	Friday 27 th March	Friday 15 th May	Friday 22 nd May	Friday 26 th June
Friday 13 th March	Friday 3 rd April	Friday 24 th April	Friday 12 th June	

***** Around the Deanery, Diocese and Beyond *****

World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 6th March

At 10.30am at St Helen's Church, 27 Milton Road, Westcliff SS0 7JP.

Headteacher Vacancy at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Required from September 2020. Application packs are available from Miss Nikita Parr on 01702 606762 or nparr@assisicatholictrust.com. Full details of the post are also available on the school's website www.shs-southend.co.uk. Candidates are encouraged to visit the school and visits can be arranged through Joy Robertson on 01702 534 546 or email finance@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk. The closing date is 4th March at 12pm with formal interviews taking place on 13th March 2020

Director of Youth Ministry Vacancy Diocese of Brentwood

This role will help to deepen and strengthen our ever growing and vibrant youth ministry, at Walsingham House at Abbotswick and supporting parishes across the Diocese. Start in September 2020. Salary £40,000. Closing date = 16th March. Details at www.bcys.net/jobs or call Fr Dominic on 01277 373959.

Assistant Manager Vacancy, Walsingham House at Abbotswick

We are looking to recruit someone who has retreat centre experience, to live and work at Walsingham House, to lead retreat programmes and to help with the training and formation of our volunteer team. Start in mid-August 2020. Salary £16,926. Closing date = 2nd March 2020. Details at www.bcys.net/jobs.

Opportunity to Visit the New Havens Hospice in Prittlewell

From 2nd – 15th March, tours of the new Fair Havens in Prittlewell are available, with the chance to meet some of the team with refreshments available afterwards. These visits must be booked online at www.havenshospices.org.uk/nfhtours or by calling 01702 220 305.

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 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).

Money

Offertory – Sunday 16th February 2020

£1092.42

Patrick Monahan RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Monahan who died on 15th February. His funeral service will be on Monday 9th March at 2.40pm at Southend Crematorium.

Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, including; Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfossina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Margaret and Tom Cullen, June Deighton, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Patrick Doherty, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Danielle Honeyands, Katrina Honeyands, Paul, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Teresa Igoe, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Peter Murphy, Sheila Norris, Fr Liam O'Driscoll, David Raglan, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Christine Sach, Maria Scinto, Penny Stiles, Jenny Warren and Sally Wray.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Bridget Holliday, Eve Brennan, Mary (Pat) Ramsey, Peter Murphy, Nellie Carpenter, Lesley Googe, Josephine Liggitt, Canon Aloysius Roche, James Pywell, Walter Ford, William Harty, Mgr Jules Van Meenen, Mary Gallagher, Thomas Butler, Ernest Tobias, Joseph Bellini, Ethel Inge, Winifred Britton, Fr David Chapman, Norbert Donbavand, Thomas Tweedie, Ann Christmas, Roberto Bonora, Fr John Wall, Angela James, Hilda Frampton, Valerie Hunt and Keith McBrearty.

23rd February 2020 – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Divine Office Week 4)

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Psalm: 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 response v8

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

- 1 My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the lord and never forget his blessings.
- 2 It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills
Who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.
- 3 The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.
- 4 As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Next weekend: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Psalm 50:3-6, 12-14, 17 response cf v3, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

Masses and Services		Daily 33 Day Retreat Prayer	Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 22 nd February	First Mass of Sunday	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Prepare me to give myself fully to living out this true and solid devotion.</i>	5.30pm Mass <i>Rosemary Hawkes (nee Pilbeam) RIP</i>	
Sunday 23 rd February	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Give me the grace to reject Satan and follow Christ more closely.</i>	(9.00am Polish Mass) 11.00am Mass <i>Huguette Ewing RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Hector Wallace</i>	9.00am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 24 th February	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me to give myself to Jesus through Mary.</i>	9.30am Mass <i>Edith Wakefield RIP</i>	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 25 th February	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me be generous in giving all I have to Mary.</i>		
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me to give great glory to God by giving all I have to Mary.</i>	9.30am Mass <i>Pam Dobson RIP</i> Straight after Mass - Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group – <i>in the hall.</i> (6.30pm Confession in Polish 7.00m Polish Mass)	7.30pm Mass <i>Pauline Godfrey (nee Irwin) RIP</i>
Thursday 27 th February	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me to praise you for such a quick, easy and secure path to holiness.</i>	6.30m Mass followed by Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. <i>Maria Cassiana Pereira and Carmen Pereira RIP</i>	10.00am Mass
Friday 28 th February	Friday after Ash Wednesday	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Make me pure in body and spirit and help me to die to myself.</i>	9.30am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross <i>Bertha McCarthy RIP</i>	1.30pm Mass 2.00pm Bible Study Group (in the hall)
Saturday 29 th February	The Chair of St Peter	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Unveil for me the meaning of the Immaculate Conception.</i>	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross <i>Fr Michael Teader RIP</i>
Saturday 29 th February	First Mass of Sunday		5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 1 st March	First Sunday of Lent (A)	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Unveil for me the meaning of the Immaculate Conception.</i>	(9.00am Polish Mass) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Martin Murphy</i> (3.00pm – Rite of Election for our Converts at Brentwood Cathedral) 4.00pm Stations of the Cross	8.30am Confessions 9.00am Mass <i>Keith McBrearty RIP</i>