

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 19 February 2017: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Anita de Araujo RIP
9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Jacinto Rodrigues RIP & Lihér Michael RIP
5.30pm	Bernard McLoughlin

Monday 20 February

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 21 February

7.30am	St Anthony's Guild
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Wednesday 22 February

7.30am	Mrs E. Rocket RIP
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Thursday 23 February

7.30am	Vocations
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Friday 24 February

7.30am	Pious Union
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Saturday 25 February

8.00am	Br Loarne's intentions
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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11.30am-12 noon; 5.30-6.25pm

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick.

Please pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:

Denis O'Riordan, Nora Noonan, Veronica Penson, Mary Walsh, Catherine Tracey, John Bint, Trudy Cox, , Antonia Soave, William Hawkes, William O'Brien, Mary Brolly, Joseph McEntee & Mary Neal.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS

No Second Collection today

Last week's collection:

<i>Offertory</i>	£422.65	<i>Gift Aid</i>	£85.00
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SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Parish Priest:

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Loving our Enemies

Christ urges us to love our enemies. This was a complete surprise to the people of his time. It was completely contrary to the Law of Retaliation as found in the Old Testament. This New Law of Retaliation puts a completely different slant, a Christian stamp, on love.

Christ explains why this love of our enemies is so important. He says it is a proof that we are sons and daughters of our heavenly Father, who lets the sun shine and the rain fall on both the good and the bad, the just and the unjust.

Loving our friends, loving those whom we naturally love, loving those who do good to us, is a very easy thing. It proves nothing about our Christian attitude. Tax collectors and pagans do the same to each other. Christ does not say that love of those who are dear to us is not real love. But the real proof is in the love of those whom we find repulsive, those who always seem to hurt us, those who never show any appreciation. It is here that we show that our love is firmly based on God.



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

Response: **The Lord is compassion and love.**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

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.

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!

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.

Today, 19 February, is the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A).

No second collection today.

This Week:

Church Cleaners:

This week is the turn of Group B: Sam and John. Thank you.

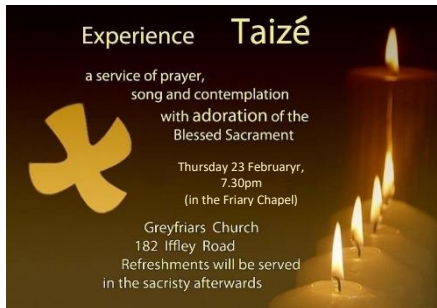
Wednesday 22 February: The Chair of St Peter. Feast.

In the ancient world, chairs were a symbol of authority. Roman magistrates sat in distinctive chairs when performing their public functions. Teachers invariably sat in a chair when teaching their students. The Church took over this symbolism. Even today, the supreme symbol of the bishop's role as primary teacher of the faith in his diocese is his episcopal chair (in Latin, *cathedra*) or throne. The building that houses this chair is his 'cathedral'. When we celebrate the feast of the Chair of Peter, we are really celebrating Christ's bestowal of supreme teaching authority in the Church on St Peter and on his successors as Bishop of Rome.

Thursday 23 February: St Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

The records of Polycarp's death (the *Acts of Polycarp*) are among the earliest reliable accounts of the death of a Christian martyr. Polycarp, a bishop of Smyrna, was a revered leader in the Church during the first half of the second century. A companion of both John the Apostle and Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp was stabbed to death in the year 155 after a failed attempt to burn him alive.

Also on Thursday 23 February: Taizé Prayer



On the last Thursday of each month you are invited to attend a Taizé prayer service at 7.30pm in the Chapel. Taizé-style worship centres on singing, prayer, and readings from Scripture. 'The exchange with God becomes real for us in prayer; by his Holy Spirit God comes to dwell with us. By his Word and by the Sacraments, Christ gives himself to us. In return, we can surrender everything to him.'

Friday 24 February (and every Friday): Holy Rosary at 7pm

On Friday evenings, come rain, snow or fine weather, the Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm. All are invited to attend.

'Some people are so foolish that they think that they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary.' (St Padre Pio)

Looking Ahead:

Lent

Lent is almost upon us. We celebrate Ash Wednesday on 1 March, when we as a community receive the *Ashes*, thus entering into the time established for the

purification of our souls. Let's take advantage of the grace available us during the forthcoming season of Lent. 'Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart.'

Receive God's Mercy

'Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands. For every penitent, it will be a source of true interior peace.' (Pope Francis)

When was the last time you received the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Plan on receiving the sacrament and experience the grandeur of God's mercy.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is celebrated on Saturdays from 11.30am to 12 noon & from 5.30pm to 6.25pm, or on call or see a priest after Mass.

What was Jesus like?

How did Jesus look? What kind of personality did he have?

The Bible doesn't say, but it gives clues. Crowds flocked to Jesus. Children liked him. People formed deep friendships with him.

These clues suggest that Jesus was attractive and personable. The important thing, though, is not Jesus' personality but his relationship with us, and what he wants to do through us.

What is my relationship with Jesus—right now?

What might he want to do through me in the days ahead?



Morning Mass during the Week

Daily Mass is celebrated during the week at the Friary (Monday–Friday at 7.30am & on Saturday at 8am). Please enter the Chapel via the main door of the Friary. Once you are in the porch, follow the sign to the Chapel.

Gift Aid Scheme

As a member of this parish, if you pay tax, be it in wages, salary or pensions, it is easy to increase the value of your weekly donation to the parish collection at no additional cost to yourself. So if you haven't yet signed up for the **Gift Aid Envelopes**, please consider the **Gift Aid Scheme**. Collect a form from the back of the church or contact James Martin at jandt08martin@metronet.co.uk.

NB. If you are already a member of the scheme, please collect your new envelopes from the sacristy.

Register as a New Parishioner

Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church! If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member, please complete a registration form, which can be found at the back of the church.

We look forward to getting to know you better. May the Lord bless you and your family.