

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 5 March 2017: 1st Sunday of Lent (Year A)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Mary Brolly RIP
9.00am	Sr Anne Laing Brooks RIP
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Lizzie & Johnny's intention: family & friends

Monday 6 March

7.30am	Giusepina Rawles
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Tuesday 7 March

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Wednesday 8 March

7.30am	Vocations
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Thursday 9 March

7.30am	Private intentions for family & friends
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Friday 10 March

7.30am	Br Loarne
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Saturday 11 March

8.00am	Mrs Brealey RIP
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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:

Vera Mary Sheridan, Monica Hackett, Conchita Connell, Jane Harraway, Henry Parr, John Riordan, Brenda Thorpe, Edith Butt, Ellen Waite, Harold Hancock, Elsie Fisher, Margaret Trinder & Philip Cauchard.

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

COLLECTIONS

Today's Second Collection: Cathedral Maintenance

Last week's collection:

Offertory	£538.10	<i>Gift Aid</i>	£101.50
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SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1SB

Parish Priest:

Fr Gordon Pesterfield, OFM Cap.

Tel. No.: 01865 256750 (parish office)

email: ofmcaparish@gmail.com

Website: greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com



Grace Triumphs over Sin

One person can do a lot of damage. As we begin Lent we remember the story of Adam and the origins of human sin. One person can say and do things that hurt. Such things hurt another person. They also hurt the person who commits the offence. One person's offence may tarnish others, the family, their profession, even the church. One person can do a lot of damage.

The season of Lent is a perfect time to make a good examination of conscience and to bring our sin to the sacrament of reconciliation. But there is more to Lent than sin. There is grace.

St Paul told the Romans that death came into the world through one person's transgression, but 'How much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ?'

One person can do a lot of good. By the death and rising of Christ, sinners are made righteous. Jesus brings life to the world, and to you.



1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Response: **Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Today, 5 March, is the 1st Sunday of Lent (Year A).

There will be a second collection today for the maintenance of the cathedral.

This Week:

Church Cleaners:

This week is the turn of Group D: Norbert & Leonel. Thank you.

Wednesday 8 March: Padre Pio Prayer Group

The Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting is on Wednesday 8 March at 7pm in the Friary Chapel. With Mass, Rosary and prayer of intercession to Padre Pio. Please come and join us.

‘Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God’s heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips but with your heart; in fact, on certain occasions you should speak to him only with your heart.’ (St Padre Pio)

Friday 10 March: Holy Rosary at 7pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm

We should all try to make the Stations of the Cross.

The devotion of the Stations of the Cross is Franciscan in origin. When his early followers asked St Francis to teach them about prayer, he told them that all the lessons they would ever need in prayer could be read on the Cross of the Lord. From this developed the devotion we know today, which consists of meditation and prayer around fourteen of the incidents in the Passion and Death of Jesus.

We meet on Friday evenings during Lent in the church at 7.30pm.

Friday is also CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Thank you for your generous donations last October to CAFOD. *The Lent collection will be next Sunday, following the Fast Day on Friday 10 March.* This time CAFOD is publicising a fish farming project in Zambia as an example of how people in poor countries can be helped to improve their lives. Please take an envelope after Mass and, if you are a taxpayer, complete the Gift Aid form so that Cafod can claim the tax back. Then return the envelope next week in the collection. Thank you!

NB. Fair Trade Fortnight runs from 27th February to 12th March.

This annual event helps us to be aware of where our food comes from and the people who produce it. Please consider buying Fair Trade tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate, and bananas to ensure that the growers and pickers are paid a fair amount for their work. It doesn’t cost much more but makes a big difference to the producers.

Also on Friday 10 March (5.30pm in the Aula at Blackfriars, St Giles)

Rev. Dr Richard Conrad OP will speak on ‘Fra Angelico on Humanising Grace’.

Also on Friday: Annual St Greg’s Bingo

At St Gregory the Great Catholic School, Cricket Road, Oxford OX4 3DR.

Doors open 6.30pm for 7 o’clock start. Full bar available plus Irish coffee and cakes.

During Lent:

Walk with Me Lenten Booklet

Written in a simple and accessible style, this booklet provides daily scriptural readings and devotions for our Lenten journey. £1 from the back of the church.

Liturgy during Lent

During the season of Lent, the *Gloria* is not sung or said except on the solemnities of St Joseph (20 March) and the Annunciation of the Lord (25 March).

The *Alleluia* is also not sung or said during the Lenten liturgies. Purple is the colour of the season, and the altar and sanctuary should not be decorated with flowers. This serves to emphasize the penitential character of the Lenten season.

Receive God’s Mercy

‘Heaven and earth may change, but God’s mercy will never be exhausted.’ (St Faustina)

‘Who is there like you, the God who removes guilt and pardons sin?’ (Micah 7:18)

‘God is a loving Father who always pardons, who has that heart of mercy for us all.’ (Pope Francis)

During the Lenten season receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is celebrated on Saturdays (11.30am-12 noon, and 5.30pm-6.25pm) in the church, or on call. Or see a priest after Mass.

A Good Lent

A good Lent can really make you miserable. You give up things you enjoy. You do without excesses. You practise charity to people you’d rather ignore. You cut back on sweets or caffeine or alcohol. Or meat. Or dairy. You break your routine and the results are usually the same. Within 48 hours after Lent begins, you get grumpy.

But a good Lent can really make you happy. You find out what your cravings are. You strongly put them aside because your craving for God is deeper. God responds to your search and rewards you with a closer union. You end the season more comfortable at prayer, more giving to others, less attached to material things.

It’s a great season, but don’t enter it half-heartedly. Be courageous!



Annual Richard Harries Lecture

On Monday 13 March at 7.30pm at the Church of St Michael at the North Gate in Cornmarket, under the auspices of the Oxford Council of Christians and Jews, the annual Richard Harries Lecture will be given by John Bowers QC (Principal of Brasenose College) on the subject of *Human Rights and Religious Freedoms*.

Blackfriars Lent Talks (selected Fridays in Lent)

There will be further Blackfriars Lent Talks on Friday 17 March (Rev. Dr Peter Hunter OP on ‘Caravaggio’s Call of Matthew’) and Friday 24 March (Rev. Dr Richard Conrad on ‘From Passion to Pentecost’) at 5.30pm in the Aula at Blackfriars, St Giles, Oxford.