

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 4 March 2018: 3rd Sunday of Lent (Year B)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Raymond Keown RIP
9.00am	Anne Barlow RIP
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Laszlo Oltay & Roza Oltay RIP

Monday 5 March

7.30am	Aida Maria Dos Santos
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Tuesday 6 March

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Wednesday 7 March

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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Thursday 8 March

7.30am	CMA
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Friday 9 March

7.30am	Catherine Godfrey RIP
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Saturday 10 March

8.00am	Gladwin Vas 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.

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

Thomas Jordan, Louisa Waite, Peter Thorne, 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.

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

COLLECTIONS:

Second Collection today: Cathedral Maintenance

Last week's collections:

Offertory	£514.28	+ Gift-aided	£68.00
CAFOD Lent Fast Day	£552.29	+ Gift-aided	n/a

SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Parish Priest:

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Believing in God (or gods)

We believe in one God, the source of all creation and the sustainer of all that is good.

When we review the Ten Commandments, we usually skip over number one. We don't believe in other gods. It's two through ten that cause problems. We curse and swear. We skip church on Sundays. We disobey. We destroy life. We commit adultery. We steal and we lie. We covet everything about our neighbour's possessions and family. We sin a lot on two through ten. But we believe in one God.

Or do we? Do we substitute other gods? Do we prefer possessions, selfish pleasures and the esteem of others over allegiance to the one God? That first commandment may cut to the heart of all our sin.



1st Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Response: **You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Communion Antiphon: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Today is the Third Sunday of Lent (Year B).

This week:

Church Cleaning:

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

Friday 9 March: Holy Rosary followed by Stations of the Cross

As usual, on Friday evening at 7pm the Holy Rosary is recited in the church. On Fridays during Lent it is followed at 7.30pm by Stations of the Cross.

It has been a Catholic tradition through the centuries to meditate on the Way of the Cross, so that it becomes our way of life, going deeper into the sufferings of Christ, so that we might come out of this spiritual journey with an appreciation of what Christ did for us, and a deeper love for him and for each other.

Also on Friday 9 March: Annual St Greg's Bingo

Eyes down for our Annual St Greg's Bingo. Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00 start. Full bar available, plus Irish coffee. Snacks provided by Year 11 Prom Committee. Come and support our school and win great prizes.

Looking further ahead:

Easter Sunday: Cakes & Second-hand Book Sale

Greyfriars Parish would like to welcome you to a Cakes & Second-hand Book Sale after the 9am and 11am Masses on Easter Sunday. Buy delicious cakes and help raise money to renovate our Parish Hall.

Sunday 8 April: Divine Mercy Sunday

In our parish we will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on 8 April. Jesus promised St Faustina that on Divine Mercy Sunday "the soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins." Please join us on Divine Mercy Sunday. The programme will start at 2pm and finish with the 5.30pm Mass.

Children's Liturgy—Can You Help?

Our parish welcomes the full participation of children in the celebration of the Mass. At the 11am Sunday Mass, children aged three years to pre-communion are invited to assemble in the sacristy, accompanied by some adults, to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word. They return to Mass just before the offertory.

The Children's Liturgy is the Liturgy of the Word for children. The Gospel is proclaimed at a level the children can understand and enjoy, through prayers, drama, and craft. The aim is to make the children's experience of the Church meaningful, helping them to grow in the faith of the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in joining the team, please see Fr Gordon or a co-ordinator of the Children's Liturgy. All volunteers will be CRB-checked.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid donors are asked to collect from the sacristy a set of envelopes for use during

the next financial year. They are clearly labelled. Any donor whose name has been omitted should contact James Martin at jandt08martin@metronet.co.uk.

We have been asked to remind all Gift Aid donors to inform the Parish Gift Aid Organiser, James Martin, of any change of address or tax situation in order that accurate records may be kept. This information is treated as confidential. Such an update may be sent either by email (see above) or by post to the address in the letter accompanying the annual envelope supply.

The Parish is very grateful to every parishioner who has been able to join the Gift Aid scheme, which enhances each gift by 25% without further expenditure as this is recoverable from HM Revenue and Customs.

Any taxpayer who is interested in joining the scheme should contact James Martin as above. The procedure involves only filling in a simple form of declaration.



Catholics Come Home!

During the season of Lent invite someone home—back to the Church.

The old saying is so true: God loves you. He loves you so much that he sent his only-begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die on the Cross and rise again from the dead to redeem you and save you from sin and alienation. And, as Christ himself proclaimed, "I will not leave you orphans" (Jn 14:18). He established a Church, the Catholic Church, with all its imperfections, as the shelter from the storms of this life.

God loves you so much that he will not stop reaching out to you—to bring you home. God is gentle—The choice is yours—Invite someone back to the Church community.

Sit Up

That's it, sit up closer—to the front. Why is it that people want front-row seats at concerts and sporting events but prefer sitting in the back row at Mass? The closer you are to the sanctuary, the better the view you will have to witness heaven visit earth through the power of the Holy Spirit. While you are at it, do not just sit closer to the front, but change seats frequently. Many Catholics seem to gravitate to the same seats or have 'their pew'. Changing seats gives you a different perspective and may help you get to know other parishioners in the community.

An Idea for Lent: why not attend an extra Mass during the week?

"At the Last Supper, with his friends, Jesus breaks the bread and passes the cup round 'for us'. The Son of God offers himself to us; he puts his Body and his Blood into our hands, so as to be with us always, to dwell among us. In the Garden of Olives, and likewise in the trial before Pilate, he puts up no resistance, he gives himself. He is the Suffering Servant, who empties himself, even unto death." (Pope Francis)

Weekday Mass at the Friary: Monday–Friday at 7.30am; Saturday at 8am. Please enter via the main door of the Friary (182 Iffley Road) and follow the sign to the Chapel.