

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 11 March 2018: 4th Sunday of Lent (Year B)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Donal Farrell RIP
9.00am	Sr Margaret Mulkern RIP
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Kevin & Margaret's intention

Monday 12 March

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 13 March

7.30am	Patrick Downes RIP
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Wednesday 14 March

7.30am	Laurentino Da Silva
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Thursday 15 March

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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Friday 16 March

7.30am	Eufrasia Nidia Nunes Da Fonseca
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Saturday 17 March	<i>St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland</i>	Franciscan Missionaries of Mary RIP
8.00am		

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:

Philip Cauchard, Harris Henry Sunder, Constance Milmore, Mary Connell, Michael Creedon, John Campbell, Florence Barrett, Thomas Feeney & Sardar Masih.

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

COLLECTIONS:

No Second Collection today. Next week: Diocesan Schools Fund

Last week's collections:

Offertory	£320.90	+ Gift-aided	£107.00
Cathedral Maintenance	£118.55	+ Gift-aided	£20.00

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



Free at Last

God's chosen people had a lot of time to think over the question and to find an answer. What did we do to deserve this? They realized that they and their leaders had been unfaithful to the covenant and insincere in their worship. They believed that God was punishing them. But what did God do?

In time, God spoke to Cyrus, king of Persia, and commanded the ruler to free the people. They left their captivity, returned to Jerusalem, rebuilt the Temple and dedicated themselves anew to the sacred covenant.

How has God forgiven you and set you free? What did you do to show your thanks?



1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

Response: **O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!**

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ! God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son: everyone who believes in him has eternal life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

Sunday 11 March 2018: 4th Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B): Laetare Sunday

The introductory word of today's Entrance Antiphon is *Laetare*: 'Rejoice, O Jerusalem!' As it is mid-Lent Sunday, rose vestments may be worn, and flowers may adorn the altar. Laetare Sunday is meant to give us hope and encouragement as we slowly progress towards the Paschal (Easter) feast.

Mother's Day

For at least three centuries Mothering Sunday has been an occasion for family reunions. Its roots go back to before the Reformation, when families went together to worship at their parish church. Later, when it was the practice for boys and girls to leave their homes and serve as apprentices, they were always given a holiday on Mothering Sunday, so that they could visit their mothers, taking gifts of wild flowers gathered on the wayside and made into posies. On that day the rigid Lenten rules of eating were relaxed and the family enjoyed a special meal, with perhaps a fruity Simnel cake for tea. In France the cakes were impressed with the figure of Christ or the Virgin Mary and were known as 'Bread of Our Lord'.

Today, as in years past, it is still a mother's special day, and it is nice that families still like, whenever possible, to return home to express their gratitude for her love and care.

God Bless you all! Happy Mother's Day!

This week:

Church Cleaning:

This week is the turn of Group C: Margaret Madden & family, & Michael. Thank you.

Wednesday 14 March: Padre Pio Mass

The Padre Pio Mass will be celebrated this Wednesday 14 March at 7pm in the Friary Chapel, with Rosary, Mass, prayer and intercession to St Padre Pio. All are welcome to join us. Please come to the main door of the Friary, 182 Iffley Road.

"Lord, just for today let the eyes of my heart never stray from your face." (St Padre Pio)

Friday 16 March: Holy Rosary at 7pm

Every Friday evening at 7pm the Holy Rosary is recited in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Also on Fridays during Lent: Stations of the Cross

As we journey through Lent, the parish is invited to attend the *Stations of the Cross* on Friday evening at 7pm.

Is the Way of the Cross the way of every person's life? Doesn't every life have suffering, falls, hurts, rejections, condemnations, death, burial—and resurrection?

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.

Saturday 17 March: St Patrick. Bishop, Patron of Ireland

St Patrick (385–461) was born into a Christian Romano-British family. His first encounter with Ireland was as a slave after he was captured by Irish raiders at the age of sixteen and taken there. After escaping, he studied in Gaul and was ordained a priest, then a bishop. He returned to Ireland and preached the Gospel there, evangelizing the people and converting many to Christ.

Looking 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: The Feast of Mercy—Divine Mercy Sunday

St Faustina's diary contains at least fourteen passages in which Our Lord is requesting that a *Feast of Mercy* be officially established and solemnly celebrated in his Church on the Sunday after Easter each year.

He declared: "This Feast emerged from the very depths of my mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my mercies... It is my desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for souls. On that day the very depths of my tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces on those who approach the fountain of my mercy."

In our parish we will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on 8 April, starting at 2pm, with blessing of the Divine Mercy picture, devotions, chaplet and confession, finishing with Mass at 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

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.

Why not Come to a Weekday Morning Mass during Lent?

Mass is celebrated on every weekday morning (Monday–Friday at 7.30am & Saturday at 8am) in the Friary Chapel. For morning Mass, please enter via the main door of the Friary at 182 Iffley Road. Once in the porch, follow the sign to the Chapel.