

St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter

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PARISH HALL LETS: Contact Elizabeth Patten on wembley3@rcdow.org.uk.

OFFICE: By Appointment.

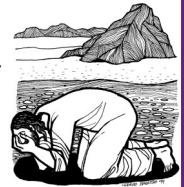


FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

18TH FEBRUARY, 2024

THEME: Repent and Believe the Good News

As we begin Lent, the urgent message addressed to us today is: "Repent! Have a change of heart, be converted!" But who likes to change one's habits, one's mentality, one's lifestyle? We'd rather be left alone and go our old ways. Even Jesus was driven by the Spirit to the desert to be tempted there, to see with clear eyes who he was and what was his task and how people and events would try to turn him away from his mission. But Jesus was stronger than temptation and sin. May his Spirit convert us to be what we are called to be and to do what we have to do as Christians. May he help us to overcome our temptations and make us stronger than sin.



MEDITATE: As Lent begins, the whole Church begins a period of spiritual renewal leading to Easter.

ACT: Make a list of spiritual priorities for this season, and keep it somewhere you will see it often. Ask yourself at the end of each day: "Have my actions reflected these priorities?"

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

This Lent, your donation to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.



DEMENTIA CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Do you care for someone who is living with Dementia (incl. Alzheimer's)? We next meet in the Parish Hall on **Monday 19th February between 1.00 - 3.00pm**. COME AND BE SUPPORTED. For further information please contact Frank Arrojo on 07867 903917 (email frankj.arrojo@gmail.com).

Online meeting: Thursday 29th February between 4.00 – 6.00pm

SEASON OF LENT - OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

"We Dare To Say"

For us Christians, Lent is a time of grace, conversion, renewal and healing. During this season, the Church calls us to fasting and abstinence; to works of self-denial; to personal and communal worship, and to reach out to those who are less fortunate than us. The aim is to help us examine the way we live, to look beyond the surface, and see once more God's presence in the world. Thank you for your support, and have a good Lent.



Stations of the Cross: Weekdays [except Thursdays and Saturdays] at 9.00am. Friday evening at 6.30pm followed by Mass at 7.00pm.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass. During the exposition we will follow the booklet "We Dare To Say" There will be Benediction at 11.00am.

Rite of Penance: Every Saturday between 4.30pm and 5.00pm.

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION WITH ABSOLUTION

Friday 22nd March at 7.00pm.

ST. LAURENCE'S LARDER: Please leave your donations in the boxes provided by the Lady Chapel. Thank you for your donations.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Tuesday 27th February at 11.00am. Followed by soup and rolls.

[This Mass is for everyone especially the sick and the elderly

There will be **NO** 9.30am Mass]

Fr. Anthony is at the moment visiting the sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is in need of a visit please see Fr. Anthony or contact the Parish Office. [If in hospital, please contact the hospital chaplain].

CARDINAL'S LENTEN ALMS APPEAL 2024

All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese, such as: the evangelization and formation among young people; promotion and strengthening of marriage and family life and our service within society - Caritas Westminster. Cardinal Vincent has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the appeal, with whatever they can afford. Donation box and envelopes are available on the display by the Blessed Sacrament. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. [Please do **not** use the Card Readers in Church]. Thank you for your generosity.



PLEASE SUPPORT THE
CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL
www.CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk

PRO-LIFE AMENDMENT

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Collect a postcard today from the back of the Church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment.

SAVE THE DAY

ST. PATRICK'S DAY: BACON & CABBAGE: SUNDAY 10th MARCH



Doors open at 12.30pm. Food will be served from 12.45pm – 2.00pm. After lunch there will be entertainment by George Harte, and a raffle with some fantastic prizes. Tickets: Adults: £10, Family [2 Adults & 2 Children]: £30. Children need to be accompanied by parent/guardian for the duration of the event. Tickets on sale after Mass.

In aid of the Church Refurbishment Fund.

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY

The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by Cardinal Vincent on **Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm** for couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you qualify, please contact the Parish Office not later than the weekend 6th/7th April.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For the terminally ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.



REPOSITORY

Easter cards, St. Patrick's and Mother's Day cards and religious goods on sale from next Tuesday. Also, as we are in the **Year of Prayer** a wide selection of Prayer reading material, perhaps Lent is an appropriate time to start.

If you require a religious object or a particular card please ask a Repository Helper. You are welcome to browse. We kindly request to ensure that children do not damage Repository items. Damaged goods will need to be paid for. Payments can be made by card reader – pick Repository and follow the prompts.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults [RCIA]

The next session will take place on **Wednesday 21st February at 7.00pm** in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

The next session for parents and children will be on **Saturday 2nd March** at 10.30am in the Parish Hall.

CHURCH CLEANING

The Church closes for cleaning after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesdays, if you have any spare time please come along and join us.

This is also a good way of meeting others in our parish.

LITURGY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT - Psalter Week 1

[All services can be followed online: <https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3>

[Sunday 11.30am Mass is recorded]

Sunday 18th February: First of Lent, Year B: [10.00/11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 9.8-15; Psalm: 24; 2nd Reading: 1Peter 3.18-22; Gospel: Mark 1.12-15. **Intention:** 10.00am: Mary Foster [RIP, A]
11.30am: Bill Gaynor [RIP, A]

Monday 19th February: Lent Feria: [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Leviticus 19.1-2,11-18; Psalm: 18; Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46. **Intention:** Madeline Sydes [RIP].

Tuesday 20th February: Lent Feria: [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 55.10-11; Psalm: 33; Gospel: Matthew 6.7-15. **Intention:** Arthur Murphy [RIP]

Wednesday 21st February: Lent Feria: [9.30am Readings: 1st Reading: Jonah 3.1-10; Psalm: 50; Gospel: Luke 11.29-32. **Intention:** Monica Drosso [RIP]. **Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reflection and Benediction at 11.00am.**

Thursday 22nd February: NO SERVICE

Friday 23rd February: Lent Feria: [9.30am/7.00pm] Readings: 1st Reading: Ezekiel 18.21-28; Psalm: 129; Gospel: Matthew 5. 20-26.

Intention: 9.30am: Mary and Patrick McGovern [RIP]

6.30pm: Meditative Stations of the Cross.

7.00pm: Moira Bolger [RIP]

Saturday 24th February: Second of Lent, Year B: [5.30pm] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 22.1-2,9-13,15-18; Psalm: 115; 2nd Reading: Romans 8.31-34; Gospel: Mark 9.2-10. **Intention:** Kathleen Fitzgerald [RIP, A]

Sunday 25th February: Second of Lent, Year B: [10.00/11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 22.1-2,9-13,15-18; Psalm: 115; 2nd Reading: Romans 8.31-34; Gospel: Mark 9.2-10. **Intention:**

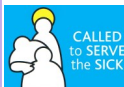
10.00am: Mary and Richard Govan [RIP, A]

11.30am: People of the Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

We keep in our thoughts and prayers: Martin Geary, Susan Bradley, Helga Ojinmah, Mary Owen, Margaret Beeby, Radwan Naffa, Kathryn McGinnis, Sheila O'Hara, and Yves Remedios. We remember also those in Kenbrook, Birchwood Grange and Brook House.

May the Lord Jesus bless, console and strengthen all the sick, and may Mary, health of the sick, intercede for them.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

[based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori]