



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Churchdown Gloucester

Parish Priest: Father Kevin Hennessey. Tel: 01452-713254

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Sunday 5th March 2017 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Sun 5 Mar	8.30 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 a.m. Mass: Jozef Lesniak (Anniv) & Maria Lesniak (RIP) COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday	DPL: St. Joseph, Stonehouse/ Annunciation , Woodchester
Mon. 6 Mar	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Vocations to the priesthood & consecrated life	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Tues. 7 Mar	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Mike & Veronica Lowe (Ints) Coffee Club after Mass	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Wed. 8 Mar.	7.00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7.30 p.m. Mass: Margaret West-Sadler (Ints)	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Thur. 9 Mar.	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Fri. 10 Mar.	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 7.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Sat. 11 Mar.	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion NO CONFESSIONS	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Sun 12 Mar.	8.30 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 a.m. Mass: Helena Lozano (RIP) 4.00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Benediction COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Frank Eskins (5th), James Hanton (5th), Josef Lesniak (6th), Thomas Wilson (6th), Kathleen Morgan (6th), Frank Ryan (8th), Gerard Welch (9th), Neil Adams (9th), Kathleen D’Gama (9th), Joan Townsend (10th), Michael Gerrard (10th), Sue Goble (10th), Hedwig Baron (11th), William O’Mahoney (11th), Hannah Keal (11th) and Patrick Corish (12th).

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS: Pat Crompton, Consolacion De Dios Blanco, Carol Benson, Wynne McGhee, Terry Poole, Ian Vilanueva, Vicky Dunn, Natalie Edwards, Nigel Lamb, Doreen Baker, Anna Ryder, Keian Andersonn, Brian Phillips, Maria Kent, Edith Cull, Christopher Brown, Thomas Jayaseelan, Gordon Palmer, Michelle Cooke, Caitlin Godden, Jo Beamish, Alex Geddes, Maggie Hansell, Joan Geraghty, Bernadette Metcalf, Martin Thomas, Judi Figgures, Rebecca Lansdown, Angela Woulfe, Peter Kost and Margaret West-Sadler



We welcome everyone who is joining us today, and hope that you find it helpful to spend five minutes of silence and reflection before Mass. We pray together...

St. Joseph, guardian of the Holy Family, you are with us amidst our joys and hope, our grief and anguish, sustain us today in your love. Amen

OFFERTORY COLLECTION for 26th February 2017 amounted to £469 + £350 = £819

Collection for Voluntary Missionary Movement amounted to £279. **Thank you for your generosity**

CAFOD Lent Fast Day is on Friday, 10 March 2017: Florence is a hard-working mother who is devoted to her family. A few years ago, she was only just making enough to feed her family. However, CAFOD’s partner, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary, recognised how determined Florence was to stand on her own two feet and so they gave her 500 tiny fish, tools and training to build a pond and farm fish. By selling some of the fish at market, Florence was able to give her children a future – she was able to send them to school. Please support this Lent Fast Day, to ensure more people like Florence can turn tiny fish into something amazing.

ENVELOPE ATTACHED TO THE BULLETIN FOR YOUR DONATION. ENVELOPES ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX



RECONCILIATION: Celebrating the Father's Mercy		
Thursday 30 th March	Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 5 th April	St. Peter's, Gloucester	7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 11th April	Our Lady's, Churchdown	7.00 p.m.



LENTEN DEVOTIONS AT OUR LADY'S 2017

Stations of the Cross will be at 7.00 p.m. on Fridays.

On Sundays during Lent there will be Evening Prayer & Benediction at 4.00 pm

IN LENT: the word *Alleluia* is not used in the Church's liturgy but is 'saved' for the great Easter Vigil where it is sung again with joy. The *Gloria* is not said during Lent (except on certain Feasts e.g. The Annunciation). There are no flowers in Church during Lent and from the Fifth Sunday of Lent until the Easter Vigil statues and pictures are covered in the Church. The liturgical colour for Lent is Purple or Violet.

6th April: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

13th April: Thursday of the Lord's Supper (**Maundy Thursday**)

14th April: Friday of the Passion of the Lord (**Good Friday**)

15th April: Holy Saturday with Easter Vigil: Service of Light and First Mass of Easter in the evening.

16th April: Solemnity of Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord.



'CHURCHDOWN FESTIVAL' RACE NIGHT: Friday 17th March at 7pm at St Mary's primary school.

Doors open 7pm. Saddle up and take the reins for an evening of racing, food and fun(d) raising. Tickets £10 adult; £5 child and includes a nosebag of Irish stew! Please bring your own drinks.

Tickets available after both masses or from the Parish Office

email churchdown.ourlady@parish.cliftondiocese.com or tel 713254

All profits to go towards HCPT the Pilgrimage Trust (Groups 37&78).

If you are not able to come please consider donating a pudding or cake for the event.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2017: As a Fairtrade parish we will be having a stand with information and Fairtrade goods **TODAY and Sunday 12th March** after both Masses. We are concerned that the developing world may struggle in the post-Brexit world and will need our continued support. Thank you. *Our Lady's Justice and Peace Group.*

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION: Talk on **Tuesday 7 March at 7.45pm**, in the lounge of Sacred Hearts Hall, Moorend Rd, Charlton Kings, Chelt., GL53 9AU. **Bishop Crispian Hollis will speak to us on The Joy of the Gospels, together with Bishop Declan's Letter.** Admission: £3 (members & students free) Stephanie Jamison: 01242 539810.

YOUTH MINISTRY: PARISH TRAINING – Are you a catechists, youth leader or just interested in working with young people in your parish? Come along and engage with our Youth Ministry team to learn more and meet others who are involved. Each evening 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Refreshments provided. See poster in the Narthex.

8th March at Sacred Hearts, Morrend Road, Cheltenham GL53 9AU. To book your place email youth@cliftondiocese.com or phone 0117 902 5594.

PRINKNASH ABBEY ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

Sat March 11th History of Christianity in the British Isles: talk at 10.30am- The Conversion of Ireland.

Sat March 11th Exploring Faith meeting 2-4pm Irish saints and their heritage: St Patrick, St Brigid and St Kevin.

Sat March 18th Retreat day-10.30 am-3pm Discovering St Joseph "The Protector of Mary, Jesus and the Church" day starts with talk in meeting room at 10.30, Mass in Abbey chapel at 12 noon

Sat March 25th Divine mercy devotion celebrating the Annunciation 10.30am -12.15pm:

Community Mass and rosary in the Abbey chapel followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Grotto

CLIFTON YOUTH MINISTRY: LENT REFLECTIONS

"TURNING THE CORNER" – All young people aged 10-18 are invited to join our Youth Ministry team to take time to reflect on Lent and prepare for Easter. **14th March** at St Gregory, Cheltenham, **15th March** at Immaculate Conception, Stroud and **16th March** at St Benet, Kemerton. Each reflection will be from 6.30pm to 8pm, beginning in the church.

"THE COURAGE TO BE AUTHENTIC" – All young adults 18+ are invited to join our youth ministry team to take time to reflect on Lent. Join us for a reflective evening to unpack how we can be truly authentic in our faith as we prepare for Holy week and Easter. **23rd March** at St John, South Parade, Bath and **6th April** at St James Priory, Whitson Street, Bristol. The reflections will start at 6pm in the church. See poster or email youth@cliftondiocese.com

LENT 2017: Bishop Declan invites you to join him during the season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of five venues across the diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage. Poster in the Narthex for more details. Our local service is at St Thomas More, Cheltenham, on **Friday 17th March 2017** at 7pm.



LENTEN LUNCH: Saturday 18th March at 12 noon. The Justice and Peace Group are organizing a Lenten Lunch and they would like to invite members of the Parish and their friends especially those less able to attend. Transport will be arranged. Please contact the Parish Office

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Sat. 18th March, 10am – 1pm at Alexander House, Pennywell Road, Bristol BS5 0TX. A morning for those who work to enable the children in our parishes to hear and reflect upon the Word of God through CLOW. David Wills, Advisor for Adult Formation in the diocese of Arundel and Brighton, will help CLOW leaders to understand how and why we celebrate the Liturgy of the Word with children. All are welcome.

MENTAL WELLBEING: AN INTRODUCTION. Saturday 25th March, 10am – 4pm at Roots Coffee and Community, 69 Alvin Street, Glos. An exciting day where we equip you with knowledge, understanding and some practical skills in the field of mental well-being in a Christian context. £15 earlybird, £20 after 1st March, £12.50 unwaged. Includes lunch. See the poster in the Narthex Tickets must be bought in advance. www.buytickets.at/renewingminds or email renewingminds@mail.com

BORN FOR THIS: THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD. Come and enjoy a powerful Lenten Musical, telling the Easter Story, performed by young people from our Catholic Secondary Schools. **Thursday 30 March** at 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Bath and **Friday 31st March** at 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Swindon. Admission free – Collection to support Youth Ministry. Please see poster in the Narthex for more information.

FAMILIAS FRIENDS' EVENTS 2017: FAMILIAS is again hosting a series of 4 events across England and Wales, each one providing an opportunity to explore Amoris Laetitia, THE JOY OF LOVE: The Challenge of Amoris Laetitia in the Home, Parish and School. Entry: £10 for FAMILIAS Members, Associates and Friends; £20 for all others Booking is essential: nearest event is **Bristol - 17 May** Holy Family Church Southsea Road, Patchway BS34 5BP **Contact:** Anne-Marie Sparrow T: 01275 460288 Email: annemarie.sparrow@cliftondiocese.com Events run from 10.00 for 10.30am until 3.00pm & lunch is provided. EVERYBODY'S WELCOME! See poster in the Narthex for more information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT HOSPITAL STAYS:- Due to a new hospital computer system it is no longer possible to trace the religion of a patient. If you are going in to hospital or if you know of any Catholic who is in hospital at Gloucester or Cheltenham **please either drop a note into the Presbytery or email churchdown.ourladys@parish.cliftondiocese.com** and Elizabeth Thomas, the Parish Administrator, will forward the information to Fr. Frank. If you are able to see Fr. Kevin and receive the Sacrament of the Sick before you go to hospital, please do so. **Many thanks.**



If you would like to make a financial donation directly to the **Foodbank** there are standing order forms available on the table in the Narthex. We can **only collect food donations** here at Church. Please return forms directly to the **Foodbank**.

INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (**RCIA**) is a process which is primarily aimed at people who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith. Please see Fr. Kevin or Jackie Bailey if you would like more information. **Meetings are every Tuesday evening during Term Time.**

FAITH & LIGHT (Gloucester Community) – A Christian Association that brings together people with special needs, their families and friends. **Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month – Next Meeting TODAY** in Our Lady's church hall, Cheltenham Road East, Churchdown. Contact Fr. Kevin by email kevin.hennessey@priest.cliftondiocese.com or on 01452 713254 or Shelley Sullivan on 07808608991 or Shelley1270@gmail.com



BAPTISM: If you are seeking Baptism for your child, at Our Lady's, we prepare parents and Godparents over four sessions. You will be invited to attend Sunday 10:30 Mass followed by an hour's formation session with other families seeking baptism. Sessions are held at St Mary's Primary school. The course is run by catechists who will journey with you during this formation period. **Details of our Baptism Courses during 2017:** * Sunday 23rd April, 30th April, 7th May, 14th May * Sunday 2nd July, 9th July, 16th July, 23rd July * Sunday 24th September, 1st October, 8th October, 15th October. **Please phone or email the Parish Office to register for the course, to arrange a date for the baptism and to obtain a baptism application form.** Telephone: 01452 713254 Email: churchdown.ourladays@parish.cliftondiocese.com

PARISH CRAFT AND NEEDLEWORK GROUP - fortnightly 9am-11am. Next dates: 13th & 27th March. Meet likeminded people in this relaxed, friendly & supportive group to share ideas and gain in confidence in any craft. People of all ages and abilities come for a cuppa & chat whilst working on their own craft. Please bring any materials you may need and a suggested £2.50 donation per session (towards refreshments and up keep of hall) Organiser Natalie Edwards 01452 678565 or e-mail natalie.edwards@hotmail.co.uk



MEDITATION GROUP

Friday's at 1.00pm Our Lady's Church Hall. All Welcome



If you would like to join our **200 CLUB** please contact Paddy on Glos. 309004 or e-mail: the.parish.office



OUR LADY'S SVP GROUP: Monthly meetings for members will be held in the Church Hall at 6.30 p.m. on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH**

May we draw your attention to our blue SVP Collection Box for anyone wishing to contribute to the work of the Society.

Thank you for your donation to our recent second collection, which amounted to £245 – we are most grateful.

And to the person who wishes to remain anonymous, who donated their Lottery win to our Society; your kindness is very much appreciated.

THERE ARE A RANGE OF INEXPENSIVE PUBLICATIONS TO HELP WITH OUR LENT PREPARATIONS FOR EASTER

Bible Alive: £2.50 Walk with Me: £1 My Day by Day: £1 Children's Calendar: Free

VOCATION MATTERS: First Sunday of Lent: "... so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous"

(Romans 5:19): A Sufi mystic is quoted as saying: "The quieter you become, the more you are able to hear".

As Christians, we would not disagree with that. We need to quieten our hearts in order to hear God's voice calling us forward. In fact, obedience is all about listening to God's will. If we listen well, we can discover the path God wants to take us on and be obedient to it. Just as Christ listened to the Father's voice, let us quieten our hearts and hear the Father calling us onto that path which will bring us, and others, life.



formally recognised as a Fairtrade Parish by CAFOD



'Like' our new page on Facebook ~ Our Lady's Churchdown and follow us on Twitter churchdown.ourladays@parish.cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Thomas. Parish Office open Tuesday - Friday 9.15am – 12pm.

Please submit items for the Bulletin to the Presbytery by WEDNESDAY.

If you would like to receive a weekly electronic version of this bulletin please email: churchdown.ourladays@parish.cliftondiocese.com