

Mass Intentions for week beginning 20th February 2016

Sat 20	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	6.00pm	Jerry Baker RIP (<i>anniv.</i>)
Sun 21		10.00am 12noon	Camilo & Romaldina Vas RIP Pro Populo
Mon 22	THE CHAIR OF ST PETER, APOSTLE	10.00am	For Ken Stanton <i>followed by</i> Novena Prayers William Murphy RIP (<i>1962 Missal</i>)
Tue 23	Lent Feria	6.30pm 8.00am 10.00am	Intentions of Hilda Prestige For Jim O'Brien
Wed 24	Lent Feria	10.00am	For John Molloy
Thur 25	Lent Feria	10.00am	For Bridget O'Brien & Family
Fri 26	Lent Feria	10.00am	Peter Hetherington RIP
Sat 27	Lent Feria	<i>no Rosary / no morning Mass</i>	
Sat 27	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	6.00pm	Pro Populo / Thanksgiving (D'Souza)
Sun 28		10.00am 12noon	Fr Brian Nash RIP (<i>birthday</i>) For Beatrice Oghojafor (<i>birthday</i>)

Confessions this Saturday 5.30 – 5.45pm

Your prayers are asked for the sick and housebound, especially:

Roland & Madeleine Selvini, John Liddard, Jones Bediako-Antwi-Benneh, Leslie Cook, Trevor Barnham, Ann Dunseath, Christopher Johnstone, Josie D'after, Christina Whiting, Anne Purcell, Ken Stanton, Kathleen Simpson, Pamela Allen, Grace Lobendhan, Marcus Prospert, Eoin Oliver, Bob Edgar, Peggy Gajewski, Victor Francis, Sid Parker, Agnes Warren, Mary Evelyn Piotrowski, Derek Pyner, Gerald Rowe, Mary Brock, Ann Divine, Ann O'Donovan, Anthony Fonseca, Margaret McQueen, Paul Westrop, Christine Hall, Maria McLoughlin, John Phillips, Mick Martin, Adriano Agatiello, Kay Fahy, Tony Baldwin, Paul Doyle, Susan Coker, Daniel Sutton, Tony Morton, Bernadette Thomas, Jane Anne Harvey, the Kitteridge Family, Maximilian Peluso, Patricia Theobalds, Jean Salter, Terry Eales, Norah Kelly, the residents of Sherrell House, Belmont Lodge and Pinewood.

Mass Attendance last weekend: 349

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Offertory Collection last weekend: £663.29

THE ASSUMPTION, Hainault, is twinned with the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows, Maria Ratschitz, in the diocese of Dundee, South Africa.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION HAINAULT

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20th / 21st February 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

(HOLY YEAR OF MERCY 2015-2016)

The Holy Father's Lent Message 2016 (Part 2)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

2. God's covenant with humanity: a history of mercy

The mystery of divine mercy is revealed in the history of the covenant between God and his people Israel. God shows himself ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat his people with deep tenderness and compassion, especially at those tragic moments when infidelity ruptures the bond of the covenant, which then needs to be ratified more firmly in justice and truth. Here is a true love story, in which God plays the role of the betrayed father and husband, while Israel plays the unfaithful child and bride. These domestic images – as in the case of Hosea (cf. *Hosea* 1-2) – show to what extent God wishes to bind himself to his people.

This love story culminates in the incarnation of God's Son. In Christ, the Father pours forth his boundless mercy even to making him "mercy incarnate" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 8). As a man, Jesus of Nazareth is a true son of Israel; he embodies that perfect hearing required of every Jew by the *Shema*, which today too is the heart of God's covenant with Israel: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might" (*Deuteronomy* 6:4-5). As the Son of God, he is the Bridegroom who does everything to win over the love of his bride, to whom he is bound by an unconditional love which becomes visible in the eternal wedding feast.

This is the very heart of the apostolic *kerygma*, in which divine mercy holds a central and fundamental place. It is “the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ who died and rose from the dead” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 36), that first proclamation which “we must hear again and again in different ways, the one which we must announce one way or another throughout the process of catechesis, at every level and moment” (*ibid.*, 164). Mercy “expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 21), thus restoring his relationship with him. In Jesus crucified, God shows his desire to draw near to sinners, however far they may have strayed from him. In this way he hopes to soften the hardened heart of his Bride.

Franciscus PP.

THE ANGELUS

As is now our custom, the Angelus is said at the beginning of the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 12noon Mass on Sundays. The text of the prayer can be found in the Parish Mass Books on page 2 (opposite the Table of Contents).



TEA & COFFEE are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass every Sunday. Please come along, even if only for a few minutes, to meet and chat with your neighbour.

This Monday:

**10.00am Mass & Novena Prayers
6.30pm Mass (1962 Missal)**

This Sunday:

4.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

This Saturday:

no Rosary / no morning Mass

Next Sunday:

4.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

LENT FAST DAY was last Friday. CAFOD envelopes should be returned this weekend with your offering.

EXTRACTS FROM BISHOP MOTH’S PASTORAL LETTER FOR LENT

We are called to be disciples of Christ, to be open to the Holy Spirit that our lives may witness to the life of the Saviour. The Lord calls us to be his people and to be instruments of His love for others. Our response to His call to us requires that we accept the gift of the Father’s Mercy - a gift that is given freely - and take this way of conversion. In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has reminded us of the necessity of this way:

“The season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy.”

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an encounter, par excellence, with the mercy of our loving Father whose desire is that all be reconciled in His Son. In today’s Gospel we find Jesus, in his humanity, rejecting all that would keep Him from doing the will of His Father. We are called to follow Jesus; to turn our backs on all that would keep us from Him and walk in His way. This is the way that will lead us to be merciful ourselves and to bring the gift of his love and life to all around us. Through our celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we ‘confess’ - acknowledge and praise - the holiness of God and his mercy towards us.

This Sacrament is not for ourselves as individuals alone. Receiving the Mercy of God reconciles us with our brothers and sisters. Receiving forgiveness for our sins enables us to take our place as disciples of the Lord and to play our part in the Mission of the Church. Preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will always involve a recognition of our own weakness and the need that we have for Mercy.

+ Richard, Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL: if anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important that a priest be informed so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should inform their parish priest and/or the Catholic chaplain of the hospital (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen’s Hospital, 01708 447761; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877*).

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? May I draw your attention to the *Sick Parishioner Care* forms at the back of church. Please take one if you are going to hospital and wish the Catholic chaplain to look after you!

Fr Selvini

MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS: special envelopes are available at the back of church. If you would like a Mass offered on a *particular anniversary*, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better! Thank you for your co-operation.

Good Practice In Church

Please remember that Mass begins with the Sign of the Cross and ends with the Blessing. Please be on time for Mass – it greatly disturbs others if you are pushing into benches late. The Penitential Rite at the Beginning of Mass is an important preparation for a worthy participation in Mass.

The church porch can easily become a playground for children or a meeting place for people to talk during Mass. The porch is a part of the church and as such should be a quiet place where people can also follow the Mass.

Would parents please not bring food and drink into the church for their children – it is not a place for a picnic. And do not chew gum in church especially if you are to receive Holy Communion. Remember: we should fast an hour before receiving the Blessed Sacrament.