



ST. BERNARD'S PARISH BULLETIN

11th March 2012

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

"Day of prayer for candidates for the Sacraments"

MASS: page 7 / Mass Page 154 / Creed 11/ Euch Prayer 1

Hymns: 234, 133, 696, 529

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THIS WEEK IN CHURCH

Sunday	11 th March	Third Sunday of Lent Stations of the Cross	10.00am 6.00pm 4.00pm	Mass
Monday	12 th March	Mass of Lent	9.00am	Mass
Tuesday	13 th March	Mass of Lent	6.00-7.00pm 7.00pm	Exposition & Confessions Mass
Wednesday	14 th March	Mass of Lent Children's Reconciliation	9.00am 9.45am	Mass
Thursday	15 th March	Mass of Lent School Mass	9.00am	Mass
Friday	16 th March	Early Mass of Lent Requiem: Joe Sheen " An hour with the Lord"	6.30am 10.00am 6.30-7.30pm	Mass Exposition and confessions
Saturday	17 th March	Feast: St. Patrick	12 noon 11.00-12 noon	Mass Exposition and confessions Mass
Sunday	18 th March Mother's Day	Fourth Sunday Of Lent Laetare Sunday Stations of the Cross	10.00am 6.00pm 4.00pm	Mass

Holy Father's Intentions for March:

- Contribution of Women. That the whole world may recognise the contribution of women to the development of society.
- Persecuted Christians. That the Holy Spirit may grant perseverance to those who suffer discrimination, or death for the name of Christ, particularly in Asia.

MY dear people, Lent moves on and it is possible that you are making the most of it or just about to begin! Whatever it is if we look into the picture of the Prodigal Son you will notice the embrace of the Father for the returning son.

We know only too well what he has been up to, and his resentful brother has made plain he does not approve and has obviously kept a record of his brothers misdemeanours, but the Father is able to see far beyond that. Perhaps he reflects on his own youth, his own life, perhaps he sees in the Son more of himself than he would care to admit, but whatever life has dealt him he can only see his son who was lost and is now found. The story spells out to us the love and compassion that God has for each and every one of us. Sometimes we can be despondent because every time we reflect on our faults they always seem to be the same, I hardly appear to be making any progress. Perhaps we set the bar too high, perhaps our way of changing is far too stringent and demanding. Like an injured athlete we need to build up to the moment when we rediscover form: so give yourself little victories, build up gently trusting in the Lord's understanding. When the prodigal son was going through his options when the worst of times came upon him, it took him a while to realise the best and only place to go was home, he worked out the script, and hardly had the chance to get his words out before his father gathered him up in welcome. That is a fair description of what the Sacrament of Reconciliation is like: this Lent you may be working out your options but in the end "there is no place like home" Welcome! God Bless mjk.

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND WALES: at Masses this weekend, we receive a Letter from Archbishops Vincent Nichols and Peter Smith on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It is a statement of our Catholic faith about marriage and issued in the light of the forthcoming consultation by the Government on changing the legal definition of marriage. In the light of this letter, you are asked to consider signing the Coalition for Marriage's online petition which can be found at www.C4M.org.uk. It reads: **"I support the legal definition of marriage which is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. I oppose any attempt to redefine it."**

The Archbishops also say that after Easter there will be a more detailed leaflet on the Government's consultation itself, for distribution in parishes, to assist Catholics in making their own response to the consultation.

Lenten Alms: the box to collect your sacrifices is in front of the picture of the Prodigal Son, and this year will go towards the work of Cornerstone and the Morning Star Hostel.



LENT 2012: BIBLE STUDY continues this Wednesday 14th March and then 21st, and 28th in the Parish Hall. Commencing at 7.30pm; this year they will be led by Pastor John Owen: we had a great session last week why not turn the telly off and come and learn and enjoy?

Rosary: after Mass, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday thanks to the Legion for taking on this responsibility.

CONFESSIONS; don't miss out on the extra Confession times; don't leave it till the last minute.

+ I offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Joe Sheen, who has died aged 98, may he rest in the peace of the Lord. +

Masses received this week; Don Swaddle, Alfred & Louis Carvel, Elizabeth Roberts, Peter Gallagher, Katherine Kenrick, Mary Fitzpatrick, Kate Curtin, Lilian Mulhern, Mulhern Family, Pat Jones, Vicki Connell, Theresa Nutter, Verity Fairclough, Brian Nuttall, Monica Charnock, Mary Duffy, Mary Sexton, George Diamond, Bridie Marron, Mary McDonnell.

Sick; please commend to your prayers the sick and housebound of the Parish especially, Bishop Terence Brain, John O'Brien, Alan O'Donnell, Fr. Vincent Cavey, Tullio Biasetti, Lannis Agnew, Vicki Connell, Theresa Nutter, Verity Fairclough, Brian Nuttall, Monica Charnock, Anthony Callaghan, Pat Preston, Eileen Connor, Christopher Makin, Clare Keane, Marguerita Jones, Nora Adams, Mary Philbin, Ciera Hulbert, Ellen Leech, Adam Cooke, Antonio Puro, Sr. Susan Whitehead, Kitty McIntyre,

The Sacrament of Baptism: if you have a child for baptism, please let us know ASAP, so we can make the usual arrangements. Our next meeting for Baptism will Tuesday 3rd April in the Presbytery at 7.30pm. I welcome into the family of God, Ronan Martin Mulhern who was recently baptised.

Getting married this year? Thank you to all who have been in contact over the last few weeks: the list of those getting married here this year can be seen on the board at the back of Church. If you are planning to get married next year and have not seen Father yet, please give him a call.

Special Anniversaries: If you are celebrating a special wedding anniversary during the year, 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th please let Father know as during the year we will be having a special celebration.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: new boxes of envelopes are ready for collection at the back of Church today: Please collect as soon as possible. Thank you.

Social and entertainment Group; if you are interested in helping in putting together the Parish Diary and helping out with our events and have suggestion then please do come along to our first get together on THIS Monday 12th March in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

- **YOUNG AT HEART** - Mondays - Parish Hall 1.00pm to 3.00pm
- **LEGION OF MARY** - Parish Hall - Tuesdays - 7.45pm
- **DIVINE MERCY** - Sacristy - Thursdays - 7.30pm.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: if you are interested in becoming a Catholic or knowing more about our faith Thursday March 14th 2-3pm in the Presbytery.

APF & Mill Hill Missions (Red Boxes) collectors book are now ready for collection in the Parish Hall.

St. Vincent's Charity shop in Copson Street, Withington needs volunteers in two hourly slots. It is open Monday to Saturday from 10.00am until 4.30pm. If you would like to volunteer either call in the shop or telephone the manager Jesse on 434 9076.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD, the charitable arm of the diocese, is looking for runners to join Team Caritas in the Great Manchester 10K Run on 20th May. If you're interested in helping raise vital funds for disadvantaged people in your diocese, please contact Mary, the Fundraising Officer, on 0161 817 2252 or fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk

ST JOSEPH'S VICTORIA PARK, PAST PUPILS MASS & RE-UNION, St. Margaret Mary's, New Moston, Saturday 17th March at 3.00pm

CAFOD: Many thanks for your tremendous support of our **Lent Fast Weekend**. The **LiveSimply** lunch, tombola & bric-a-brac raised an amazing £387 and the envelopes £654, totalling £1041 which the **UK Government** will **double** so enabling many people to gain access to **clean water**. **Well done** and many thanks to all those who helped.

The **Barlow RC High School** is launching a competition to name their Sports Centre Facilities. The winner will receive two tickets to a future Manchester City Football Game at the Etihad Stadium. The closing date is Friday 30th March and entries should be emailed to k.carr@barlowrc.manchester.sch.uk

MINISTRY OF THE WORD - MASS READERS FOR MARCH					
TIME	READER 1	READER 2	PRAYERS		
10.00am	George Hughes	Pat Jones	Christine Robinson		
6.00pm	John Press	Shelagh Bridge	Caroline Fahy		
If you are unavailable anytime, please arrange a stand in or contact Tony Black 445 1788					
PARISH MINISTRIES GROUPS					
		Offertory	Eucharistic Ministers Sunday 10.00am	Counting	Tea /Coffee
This week	11 th March	5	2	5	4
Next week	18 th March	6	3	6	5
		Eucharistic Ministers Sunday 6.00pm	Eucharistic Ministers Weekdays	Cleaning	Eucharistic Ministers Tuesday 7.00pm
This week	11 th March	2a	3	2	4
Next week	18 th March	3a	4	3	5
Signed Mass Cards can be obtained from Bridie Close, 44 Shawbrook Rd, during the week or on Sundays from the Bookstall (back of Church) or the Piety Stall (Parish Hall). Items for the Bulletin can be left at the Presbytery or emailed to anniteresa@hotmail.com by Thursday for inclusion the following Sunday.					

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

Manchester Royal Infirmary - Fr. D. Egan tel: 276 4247 (MRI) and 224 1895 (home).

The Christie - Fr. M. O'Brien - tel: 446 3097

Wythenshawe Hospital - Fr Saji Kuriakose and Sr Bernadette - tel: 291 2297

Alternatively ask the ward staff to inform the Chaplain.