

OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

566 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4AY

Tel: 0121 744 1967

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerardo Fabrizio

Parish Deacon: Rev. Sean Loone

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Charity No. 234216

Email: waysideparishoffice@gmail.com

Web: ourladyofthewaysidechurchshirley.co.uk

24th March 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

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My dear brothers and sisters,

Jesus employs very strong words in the Gospel today. We are called to repentance. We must break free from our slavery to sins and seek to do good. Jesus is very clear with us: if we do not repent, we shall perish. These are words that reflect the tradition of the Old Testament. God loves us intensely and wants our love in return. He wants us to turn away from sin and to turn to Him. The Parable of the Fig Tree is about repentance and mercy. God, in his mercy, gives us ample opportunity to repent and bear fruit. However, if we persist in the refusal of his love, we will indeed perish by our own choice. God does not rejoice in lost souls.

God wants to reclaim our hearts in this time of Lent. When we give our hearts and our whole being to God, good works result in abundance. As monks our sacrifices for Lent in the monastery (yes, we fast, pray, and stint on material things, too!) are less about us, but more about sowing seeds and bearing good fruit for the glory of His kingdom. May this time of Lent draw us deeper into the mystery of God's presence in our world and in our personal lives. May we open our hearts to Him and seek Him with our whole heart and all our being. May this Lent be a time of repentance and love for us.

MASSES DURING THE WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C

(Vigil Mass) Sunday 24 th March	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Margaret Campbell R.I.P Tony and Peggy Dillane	
Monday 25 th	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 26 th	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Dale Scamp
Wednesday 27 th	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Private Intention
Thursday 28 th	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Mary Jane Smith
Friday 29 th	7.00pm 7.30pm	Stations of the Cross Liam Duffy R.I.P	
Saturday 30 th	9.00am	Special Intention + Exposition	Confessions: 11.00am -11.30am

FOURTH 'LAETARE' SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

(Vigil Mass) Sunday 31 st March	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	William Looney R.I.P People of the Parish Jim Higgins R.I.P
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IN MEMORIAM: Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Barnett R.I.P and William Looney R.I.P who died recently. May they rest in peace.

PETER BARNETT R.I.P: Arrangements have now been made regarding Peter Barnett's funeral. A vigil of reception will take place on Monday 1st April at 6pm. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday 2nd April at 12.00pm**. This will be followed with a committal at Robin Hood Crematorium at 1.30pm. It will be lovely to see as many parishioners as possible for Peter's funeral. Following the Requiem, there will be refreshments served in the Scout Hut. We would be most grateful, if parishioners could provide a plate of food for people to share. There are lists at the back of the church indicating the types of food, sandwiches, cakes etc.. that can be brought in on the day. Thank you for your support.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: A huge thank you to everyone for the second collection last week for CAFOD which totalled £1,615.75.

SOLIHULL WELCOME: During Lent, we are encouraged to be generous with almsgiving towards the poor. Solihull Welcome would be grateful if parishioners would kindly donate the following items, which can be left at the back of church. Any tinned vegetables & fruit, dried pasta & rice, tinned tuna & vegetable oil. Also washing powder- which can be decanted into smaller amounts! Thank you.

LENT WALK WITH ME: The Lent booklets are now available at the back of the Church priced £1 each. Calendars are also available.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday evening in Lent at 7.00pm. Please do come along to this wonderful meditation.

EASTER GREETING CAMPAIGN: There are 2 lists, in different colours, of Prisoners of Conscience, who are in desperately in need of your help, to give them hope and encouragement and to let them know that someone cares and that they are not forgotten. Do send to as many as you can, remembering that Our Lord was once a PoC.

TRAINING FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: An exciting day of training for both new and experienced Ministers of Holy Communion is taking place at St. Ambrose Barlow, Hall Green, on Saturday, 30 March, from 10am-4pm. The day will be led by Mgr. McHugh and will include visiting priests. Bring your own lunch but tea/coffee provided.

ON-LINE 3 MINUTE DAILY RETREAT: The Jesuit Fathers provide an excellent resource for prayer and meditation. If you go on-line to: www.loyolapress.com you will see that it provides a three minute daily retreat. This is an excellent way of doing something extra by way of prayer for the season of Lent. Just follow the instructions when accessing the reflection. The meditations provided are accompanied by scripture references and gentle background music.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL MANAGER – LITTLE SAINTS: The Governors at OLV School are looking to appoint a manager to lead and be responsible for the day to day organisation of the new before and after school provision, which will be called 'Little Saints'. The successful candidate will be responsible for providing high standards of care and play opportunities for children in a safe, secure and engaging school environment. Part time – term time only, 22.5 hours per week. Hours: 07.30am-09.00am and 3.00pm-6.00pm term time only. Further details, including an application pack, are available on the school website – www.ol-wayside.solihull.sch.uk (news and events) or by telephone/written requests. Tel. 0121 744 6852 or email: office@ol-wayside.sch.uk placing in the subject box. Closing date: Friday 29th March 2019. Interviews: Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

FRIDAY CLUB will meet on Friday 29th March in the Parish Centre at 1pm. We have not met for some time so hope for a good attendance. New members are welcome so do come and join us. More books and CD's are needed for people to exchange.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES:- Boxes of envelopes for the new tax year are ready for collection this weekend from the Narthex. If your circumstances have changed in the last year (home address or no longer paying tax), let us know so that we can update the records. If you wish to start making offertories using the envelope scheme, or wish to change to standing order or have any questions- Ian, Rex or Michael will be on hand to help you.

FIRST AID: We have a new First Aid kit in Church, kept at the back underneath the balcony. To help us all, there will be a short 10 minute meeting after all Masses Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st March, for all health-care professionals who would be willing to help in a medical emergency. We will also discuss the usefulness of getting an external Automated Defibrillator for the site. If you would like to offer your help or opinion but cannot make any of the meetings, please email the office.

COLLECTION: 17th March 2019. Gift Aid: £296.00. Loose: £449.09. Standing Order: £601.00. TOTAL: £1346.09.
Father O'Mahony Trust: £56.41.

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TODAY'S MASS:

First Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 1-15. I Am has sent me to you.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 102. The Lord is compassion and love.

Second Reading: St. Paul to the Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12. The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Repent says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

The Gospel according to Luke 13: 1-9. Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Communion Antiphon: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Dismissal of the Children

Where two or three are gathered in my name I am there with them, I am there with them, I am there. (repeat)

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