

OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

566 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4AY

Tel: 0121 744 1967

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerardo Fabrizio

Parish Deacon: Rev. Sean Loone

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1st March 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments

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My dear brothers and sisters,

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted. Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness. As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

MASSES DURING THE WEEK

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A

(Vigil Mass) Sunday 1 st March	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Preece Family Intentions Peter McCreech R.I.P	
Monday 2 nd	9.15am	(8.55am The Rosary)	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 3 rd	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Billy Burke R.I.P
Wednesday 4 th	9.15am	(8.55am The Rosary)	Frank Wilson R.I.P
Thursday 5 th	9.15am	(8.55am Morning Prayer)	Andrew Creaton & family
Friday 6 th	7.00pm 7.30pm	Stations of the Cross Michael Grady	
Saturday 7 th	9.00am	Edward & Mary O'Donovan R.I.P + Exposition	Confessions Today 11.00am- 11.30am

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A

(Vigil Mass) Sunday 8 th March	5.30pm 9.00am 11.00am	Vincent Canny R.I.P Peter Barnett R.I.P People of the Parish
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SECOND COLLECTION. A second collection will be taken this weekend for the Cathedral Maintenance Fund. Thank you for generosity.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: Friday 6th March is CAFOD Family Fast Day. Envelopes are available this weekend. Please remember to fill in the slip on the back of the envelope if you pay tax, as CAFOD is able to reclaim Gift Aid. A second collection will be taken next weekend. Thank you.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday, 6th March, at 10.30am at Shirley Methodist Church. All Welcome.

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

FRIDAY MASS + STATIONS OF THE CROSS: During the season of Lent, the celebration of Mass will revert to 7.30pm. This will be preceded with Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm. Please do come along to this wonderful meditation. There will be no morning mass.

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.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, Ireland, 20th April 2020. £599.00 per person. Single suppl £100.00. Flight with 10kg bag, 4 nights' Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner. All excursions included. Lunches on days out. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages ATOL T7613.

PARISH WEBSITE – NEW PAGE: We now have a new page on our parish website with links to the on-line versions of various Catholic Press organisations: The Tablet, The Catholic Times, Independent Catholic News, Osservatore Romano (English edition) and The Columban Missionaries (Far East Magazine).

FAIR TRADE CAKE SALE

Many thanks to everyone who helped with a very successful cake sale last Sunday by baking, donating, buying and hopefully enjoying the fruits of our labour. The total raised was £314.25, of which £25.00 has been donated to the Scouts for the use of the hall. The raffle for a basket of Fair Trade goodies donated by the Co-op was won by Gail Weston. Congratulations!

CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION: Thomas Bragg & Sons would like to thank everyone who brought in and helped to promote their annual Christmas Collection. 301,084 cards were collected in total which will make a huge difference for St. Giles Hospice. 30 trees have now been planted at Temple Fields Natural Burial Ground. Thank you for your support.

NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH – 10-18 MARCH 2020: Will take place at St. Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and at Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to Novena Director, St. Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email novenamhm@gmail.com

JOB VACANCIES (Maternity cover) – Administration Assistant and Finance Assistant. The Columban Missionaries invites applications for the part-time, temporary (maternity cover) roles of Administration Assistant and Finance Assistant. Based in the Columban Mission Office at St. Columban's in Solihull, the roles will support the work of Columban Mission in Britain and internationally. For more information and to apply tel: 01564 772 096 or email: hr@columbans.co.uk. Deadline: Sunday 8th March.

COLLECTION: 23rd February – Gift Aid: £338.21 . Loose: £423.06. Standing Order: £613.00. **TOTAL: £1,374.27.**

Father O'Mahony Trust: £55.42.

TODAY'S MASS:

First Reading : Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 The creation and sin of our first parents.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: St. Paul to the Romans 5: 12-19. However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Alleluia!**

The Gospel according Matthew 4: 1-11. Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

Communion Antiphon: one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Dismissal of the Children

'Lord, send your blessing down, down upon your children, that they may hear your word, hear your word with gladness.
Lord, send your blessing down, down upon your people, that we may hear your word, hear your word with gladness.'