



ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH
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Fr Albert Ofere
1st Sunday of Lent
26th February 2023

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for March for victims of abuse. We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Sun 26th	(Sat) 6 p.m. 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6 p.m.	Bryan Thanksgiving: L Blundell R.I.P. P & C Lee Int; Fernandes Family Int. R Fernandes Int. V Okafor R.I.P. People of the Parish	
Mon 27th	Lent Feria	B Moran R.I.P.; P D Dias R.I.P.	
Tues 28th	Lent Feria	J Uwechue Int; K Kelly R.I.P. Mr & Mrs Kemakolam	Requiem Mass 11 a.m. T Arano R.I.P.
Wed 1st	St David	7 p.m. Fr Sean Int: K Marcarhas Int	No Confirmation this week
Thurs 2nd	Lent Feria	M Hennessy R.I.P.; H Lazarus R.I.P.	Exposition until 11 a.m. First Communion Parents 7 p.m.
Fri 3rd	Lent Feria	P Uwechue Int Private Int	Stations of the Cross 7 p.m. First Friday Devotion
Sat 4th	Lent Feria	V H Dos Santos R.I.P. <i>Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>	Reconciliation 10.40 a.m.
• Mass Books: Order of the Mass: Page 7 – 1st Sunday of Lent : Prayers and Readings of the day: Page 151			

Co-creators

Jesus is tempted to use creation just for himself.

This can happen with money, other people, the environment and religion. We are called to look after God's creation, not control it.

To be co-workers with God is our call - to focus on people as well as plans, to feel the needs here and abroad.

One view of God is that he looks after the world for good or bad, and we are just the receivers. The other is that we are co-workers in developing the world and God's creation. Jesus was tempted to throw himself away from the world as he knew it, but he did not. He would live by the word of God, and God would care for him as for the parents in the first reading.

'A Christian who doesn't safeguard creation, who doesn't make it flourish, is a Christian who isn't concerned with God's work, that work born of God's love for us' (Pope Francis, 2015).

The temptation to Jesus was to take him off the path of his father. Like him, we are often tempted to use the creation of God just for our benefit. Our call is to be co-creators of the world with God.

*Imagine a garden where everything is beautiful. It is
the 'creation' of a gardener.*

*Then imagine that someone has ruined one corner of it
- notice the difference.*

Apply this to how we treat God's creation.

*May we care for your creation, O Lord, with the love you
have
for creation and for us.*



- **Fr Albert** will be available on Mondays from **6.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.** to see parishioners regarding non urgent matters, including the signing of passports and other forms.

- **FRIDAY IS CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal:** This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world. Envelopes available in the porch

Do You Want to Fast This Lent?

Fast from hurting words
and say kind words,
Fast from sadness
and be filled with gratitude,
Fast from pessimism
and be filled with hope,
Fast from worries
and trust in God,
Fast from pressures
and be prayerful,
Fast from bitterness
and fill your heart with joy,
Fast from selfishness
and be compassionate to others,
Fast from grudges
and be reconciled,
Fast from words and be silent, so you can listen.

MichelleDeRusha.com

--Pope Francis

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023 Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis, are still making daily life harder for all. Price rises last year meant many families faced an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? And this crisis is far from over. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. And for those who can't give financially, your time is a priceless commodity – please see the posters on how you can volunteer in the diocese and help those in need. Please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity

- **Our sincere sympathy and prayers** to the family of Thelma Arano who died last week. Requiem Mass for Thelma will be on Tuesday at 11 a.m. **Also** to the family of Philip Odoi who died recently. Requiem Mass for Phillip will be on Wednesday, 8th March at 1 p.m. May they both rest in peace.

- **Next Baptism** celebration will be on Sunday, 19th March. Preparation session on Wednesday, 15th after evening Mass. All forms must be returned by Sunday 12th March.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.
Body of Christ, save us.
Blood of Christ, inebriate us.
Water from the side of Christ, wash us.
Passion of Christ, strengthen us.
O Good Jesus, hear us.
Within Thy wounds hide us.
Suffer us not to be separated from thee.
From the malicious enemy defend us.
In the hour of our death call us.
And bid us come unto Thee,
That with all Thy saints,
we may praise thee
Forever and ever. AMEN

- **Parish Finances: Offertory: Envelopes** £679
Loose Plate £725 **Contactless** £98 **Building Fund;** £180

- **St Margaret Clitherow School: Foodbank** is open Monday – Friday 12.00 – 1 p.m. The foodbank operates to offer support to all families in need within the parish. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 84503631 or speak to Fr Albert or Mary.