



ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH

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Fr Albert Ofere
3rd Sunday of Lent
12th March 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 12th	(Sat) 6 p.m. 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6 p.m.	St Anthony & Divine Mercy Thanksgiving R O'Meara R.I.P.; D D'Souza R.I.P. A McCaffrey R.I.P.; S & M Tiernan Int M Mangan R.I.P.; People of the Parish	
Mon 13th	Lent Feria	P Enright R.I.P. Special Int	
Tues 14th	Lent Feria	R Pini R.I.P.	
Wed 15th	Lent Feria	7 p.m. N Rachel R.I.P.; P Gaile Int	Confirmation after evening Mass
Thurs 16th	Lent Feria	B McNicholas R.I.P.	Exposition until 11 a.m. First Communion Children 6 p.m.
Fri 17th	St Patrick's Day	S McCarrick R.I.P.; Gonsalves Int. C Okafor Int	Stations of the Cross 7 p.m.
Sat 18th	Lent Feria	W Gaynor R.I.P. <i>Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>	Reconciliation 10.40 a.m.
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The well is deep

A famous picture has the Samaritan woman looking into the well and seeing there her image - and the image of Jesus. In the depths of the well of her life is the presence of Jesus.

In the depths of the well, when we are in love, pain, death, decision, joy, we find God. God is near when we are near to ourselves, even in shame and sin. We thirst for meaning in life, for knowing we are totally loved, for community and companionship - and God offers all this.

This is the offering of God - the living water is the Holy Spirit. We thirst for inclusion - the disciples in this story did not want Jesus talking to a woman. So much of the religion of the time separated people. In the depths of the well we are all equal.

We find the mercy of God in the well. As we go into the depths of prayer and ourselves we are open to mercy. We may put conditions on God's mercy - naming our sins, or numbering them. At the bottom of the well is the water of mercy.

Of the mercy of God, Pope Francis says that 'there is no sin or crime of any kind that can erase from the mind or heart of God even one of the children he has created' (November 2013).



- **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.

- Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. Last week's collection came to £1184. Your generous donations, rooted in love, will support families around the world grow in strength to fight the climate crisis. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk/give

- **New Planned Giving Envelopes will be available in the next couple weeks. If you don't already have a box, please let us know and we will prepare one for you. New Year begins 9th April**

- **Novena to St Joseph** will continue until his feast day which will be on Monday 20th March. (Transferred from Sunday 19th) Novena available on our website.

- **Date for your Diary: Lenten Service of Reconciliation is on Tuesday, 28th March at 7 p.m. Visiting priests available for confession.**

- **Next Baptism** celebration will be next Sunday, 19th March. Preparation session on Wednesday, 15th after evening Mass. All forms must be returned by this weekend.
- **Baptism for April** will be on Sunday 23rd after the 11 a.m. Mass

- **GOOD NEWS:** The Diocese has given its approval to our Parish Hall Refurbishment Project. The work will be carried out in two phases. There will be a meeting to update parishioners on phase one after Easter. A big thank you to parishioners who continue to support the Building Fund.



Friday, Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Parish Finances:
Offertory: Envelopes £602
Loose Plate £830
Contactless £80
Building Fund; £331
Thank you for your continued support.

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

- **Mrs Mary Haneef:** Mrs Haneef retired on Friday from St Margaret Clitherow School where she has worked for over twenty-nine years. During those years she has worked in several roles, but for the past twenty years she has been School Secretary and P A to the Headteacher. We thank her for her commitment and loyalty to our school community. We wish her every blessing and happiness as she begins the next chapter of her life.

- **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.