

RCIA I am pleased to tell you that there will be a couple of families who will be welcomed into the Church at Easter! Each one of us has a unique journey that brings us into community with each other. For most of us it began when we were baptised into the Catholic Church. For others it comes at the end of a time of exploration and reflection.

Please remember these families in your prayers over the weeks of Lent.

Baptism We welcome Chelsea Chavez into the Church. Chelsea was baptised here last week with many of her family and friends from many parts of the world. We remember Danilo and Genevieve, her mum and dad in our prayers.

If anyone is thinking about having their child baptised then contact me. Deacon Joe is preparing a short programme of catechesis that I will expect each family to undertake before the date of the Baptism is finalised. It is important that parents fully understand what they are undertaking on behalf of their children. It is not just a day for photos and a party!

Fairtrade Thanks again to Sarah for all the work she, and her team, do throughout the year. It is a great undertaking and if you think you might have time to offer some help then please contact Sarah or me.

Children's Mass Wow! What a tremendous turn out last Sunday. Thanks to those who were here and also to those who prepared the children to read with clarity and understanding. It seems that it might be a more popular time for parents and young families.

Church cleaning The team will be gathering again on Friday 15th at 10am to give the church a Lenten polish!

Brass restoration. I hope you have enjoyed seeing the brass come to life again! The last piece, (the decorative grill around the top of the tabernacle) is now back in place. The next piece we might have restored is the beautiful brass crucifix over the tabernacle. However I will say more about it later.

Say No More! A rock group, are playing at The Ironworks on 22nd Feb. Bethan, one of our mums at school, is running the London Marathon in April and is hoping to raise £1,500 in sponsorship for the charity *Hearing Dogs*. Bethan works as a speech therapist and can be contacted on 680836 for more details.

Fr. Lucas passes on his thanks for the sheets and towels that you have given him for the hospital out in the Cameroon's. He is taking them out this week while he returns home to sort out some legal paperwork. However he will still be able to make use of any more spare items in the future. Leave them at the back of church.

The RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Charity . Reg no 234025

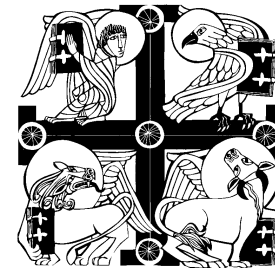
OUR LADY HELP of CHRISTIANS & St OSWALD

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*Praise to you O Christ! King of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God
Praise to you O Christ! King of eternal glory!*

This is the day of new beginnings,
Time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing
Laying to rest the pain that's gone

For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
Can make for a world of difference,
As faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
Step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointments, guilt and grieving
Seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive and goes before us
To show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
Our God is making all things new.

In faith we'll gather round the table
To taste and share what love can do.
This is the day of new beginnings;
Our God is making all things new.

Brian Wren



**Newsletter for Sunday 10th February 2008
First Sunday of Lent**

Mass Times and Intentions of Holy Mass

Sundays Year A: Psalter Week One

Sat	9th	6.30pm	Parishioners	Presentation of the Lord
Sun	10th	9am	Vi Brooker	1st Sunday of Lent
		11am	Philip Puchala	
		3pm	Holy Hour	
Mon	11th	9.30am	Freda Jones	(Scripture reflection in presbytery)
Tue	12th	7pm	No Mass	
Wed	13th	9.30am	Word & Communion	
Thu	14th	9.30am	Yvonne Abbat	St. Cyril & St. Methodius
Fri	15th	12noon	George Gadd	(Followed by soup in the house)
Sat	16th	6.30m	In Thanksgiving (C.N.)	
Sun	17th	9am	Parishioners	2nd Sunday of Lent
		11am	Josephine & William Blake	



Lent 2008.

The idea that Easter should be preceded by a time of preparation won acceptance in the fourth century, and a period of forty days was favoured because this duration of time had been sanctified by Scripture. These forty days of fasting were counted from the Easter Triduum, that is, beginning from Maundy Thursday and going backwards. This established our present First Sunday as the beginning. As a matter of fact this Sunday is still designated in the Liturgy as “the beginning of Lent” by reference to the prayers of the Mass. It is in this Mass that we also find the first mention of the number “forty” which occurs again in the masses during the week. And it is on this Sunday that the Divine Office begins in its Lenten order. Lent starts today and not on Ash Wednesday!

Josef Jungmann

I hope that we will all enjoy our Lenten journey. It is the same call as last year; repentance, fasting and giving alms. Each one of us has to choose that path that will be suited for us. In order to help us make choices I have arranged some fixtures for the six weeks and some variables.

Each **Friday**, after the mid-day mass, there will be **soup and bread** in the house. This week (15th) we will be having a soup from “North of the Border!” Thanks also to the other three groups who volunteered their culinary skills. There is still one place left for 13th March!

Deacon Joe is offering to arrange a **Silent Exposition & Benediction** offered for the needs of the parish community. Thursday 21st of Feb and 6th of March from 7.30pm. It will be an opportunity to take time-out and prepare for the journey to Easter

There will be **Stations of the Cross**, lead by various members of the parish. These will be on different days and at different times in order for many parishioners to attend.

There are copies of the Lent edition of **My Day by Day** that proved successful during the season of Advent. The booklet contains all the readings of mass for Lent and fits inside the pocket for use when a few moments spare time present itself.

Sr. Jo will be continuing with an hour of prayer and reflection **At Your Word Lord** in the convent each Friday evening. The theme this Lent is to **Touch!** If you have not been able to get there then it might be an excellent season to start.

Each week there will be an **informal gathering** in the presbytery to look at some of the scriptures that we hear during the Sunday's of Lent. This week it will be on Monday (11th) after the morning mass and will be in the house. All welcome.

There will be a **Reconciliation Service** on Tuesday 18th March at 7pm. If anybody would prefer to celebrate the sacrament of forgiveness “face to face” then please contact me and make an appointment.

Lent is the traditional time when we “give something up”. This is always a good thing to do. But please read the list above and see if there is something extra you could do to help prepare to celebrate the Risen Lord at Easter



Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading Genesis 2:7-9
Psalm Psalm 50
2nd Reading Romans 5:12-19
Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

Next Week

Genesis 12:1-4
 Psalm 32
 Timothy 1:8-10
 Matthew 17:1-9

Sacrament of Reconciliation By appointment. Please contact Fr. Philip.

Those who are sick: Brian Mongan, Jack Owen, Ann Lovell, Sheila Barker, Alan Tucker, George Lee, Evelyn Lloyd-Williams, Barbara McDougal, Irene Cranage, Fr. Frank McManus, Sr. Patricia, Joyce Williams, Liam Lynch, Annie Bough, Bob Davies, James Tomley, James McDougall, Richard Burman, Gerald Jones, Joanna Gidge, Kathleen Bebb, Rev John Warnock,

Anniversaries in February Bernard Leonard, Francis Duffy, Martin Burke, Evelyn Kelly, Martha Matthews, Muriel Howard, Mary Jones, Robert Williams, Florence Mullins, Victor Ellis, Louisa Fahey, Fredrick Adams, Helen Ruane, Eric Edgar, Angela Breen, William Berryman, Cornelius Walker, Marjorie Freeman Arthur Kilner, John Feeley, Miriam Holder, Michael Rowell, Daisy Hodges, Mary Parson, Martha Lloyd, Catherine Mahoney, Thomas Casey, Thomas Jones, David Charles, Elizabeth Jones, Mary Noonan, Mary Coadey, Mary Johnson, Lily Mills, Kathleen Hartnell, Margaret Hughes, Edith Warnick Vincent O’Neil, Sarah Smith, Esther Edwards, Catherine Wilson, Elizabeth Tearle, John Mullins, Samuel Dilley, Jessie Hawkins, Andrew Brooke, Reginald Smith, Kathleen Osborne, Ellen Pike



Offertory Collection Collection announced next week.

Please Pray for