

**Women's World Day of Prayer On Friday 7th March at 2pm** As you know by now, we are hosting this annual Service. Many thanks to Pat and Glenys who have worked hard to arrange the various things that need to be in place. Thanks also to the volunteers who will be assisting on the day. The service is open to all! (men and women) and is a time of prayer and reflection on our world.

**Eucharistic Ministers** Many thanks to all those who were able to attend the meeting last week. In light of the feedback and observations I am going to write to all ministers with a few more suggestions. Please await this letter and then feel free to come back to me.

**Eucharistic Ministers & Readers** please make a note in your diaries for **Saturday 17th May**. There is to be a Day of Recollection at Ellesmere led by Fr. Chris Walsh. It is for all ministers of Word and Sacrament for the churches in our Local Pastoral Area. Fr. Chris is one of the priests of the diocese and is an excellent speaker. The details of the day are almost in place and there will be invitations sent out when things are finalised. After having spoken with the other parishes in the LPA we are opening the day up to anybody else who feels they would benefit from such an away-day from the usual Saturday routine.

**CAFOD** The envelopes that were taken last week will be added to the collection we have taken each week for the "Soup Lunch" and will be sent to CAFOD at the end of Lent. If you put your envelope on the plate or drop it into the house some time during the week, I will print the amount raised in next week's newsletter.

**Fairtrade** There will be another chance to stock up with fairly traded goods this week after the morning masses. If you haven't been over to school to see what is available then please call and enjoy a cuppa and chat.

**Stainer, "Crucifixion"** The Pradoc Singers are performing this moving piece in the parish church in West Felton on Good Friday (21st March) starting at 7pm. There is no need for a ticket. There will be a retiring collection. For more information contact 01691 831172.

**Sainsbury's vouchers** It is that time of year again. The school are collecting the vouchers and will be using them to enhance the surroundings in school. Last year we obtained equipment for the playground and sports field. Please put all vouchers into the box at the back of church.

**St. Patrick's Dance.** There will be a Ceilidh at the Cricket Club on Saturday 15th March starting at 7pm. Tickets £5 obtainable from school. Profits to go to the school funds. All welcome! Come along and kick those heels.

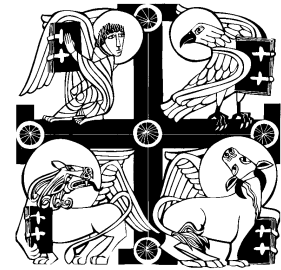
## OUR LADY HELP of CHRISTIANS & St OSWALD

Cae Nef, Upper Brook St. Oswestry. SY11 2TG  
01691 652248

Parish Priest: Fr. Philip McGovern  
philip.mcgovern2@btinternet.com

Deacons: Rev Stephen McKenna. 01691 654983  
Rev Joseph Stefanazzi

Website: [oswestry-catholics.org.uk](http://oswestry-catholics.org.uk)



Glory to you O Christ, you are the Word of God  
I am the light of the world says the Lord. Anyone who follows me will have the light of life!  
Glory to you O Christ, you are the Word of God

Bright sadness is the true message and gift of Lent. Little by little we begin to understand, or rather to feel, that the sadness of Lent is indeed "bright", that a mysterious transformation is about to take place in us. It is as if we were reaching for a place to which the noises and fuss of life, of the street, of all that which usually fills our days, and even nights, have no access, a place where they have no power.

All that which seems so tremendously important to us as to fill our mind, that state of anxiety which has virtually become our second nature, disappears somewhere and we begin to feel free, light and happy.

It is not the noisy and superficial happiness which comes and goes twenty times a day and is so fragile and fugitive; it is a deep happiness which comes, not from a single or particular reason but from the soul having been touched by "another world". And that which it has touched is made up of light, peace and joy of an inexpressible trust.

Alexander Schmemmann



**Newsletter for Sunday 2nd March 2008  
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

## Mass Times and Intentions of Holy Mass

Sundays Year A: Psalter Week Four

<b>Sat</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Parishioners	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>9am</b>	Mothers of the Parish	4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)
		11am	Nathan Clarke	
		3pm	<b>Holy Hour</b>	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Barbara Miller	(Scripture reflection in presbytery)
<b>Tue</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Margaret Holleron	<b>6.15pm</b> Stations of the Cross
<b>Wed</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Ann Poland	
<b>Thu</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Word &amp; Communion</b>	
		<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Silent Exposition.</b>	
<b>Fri</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Station of the Cross</b>	
		<b>12noon</b>	Bob Lorenzo	(Followed by soup in the house)
		<b>2pm</b>	Women's World Day of Prayer	
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>6.30m</b>	Nan Cameron	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>9am</b>	George Lee	5th Sunday of Lent
		11am	Parishioners	



### Lent 2008.

We pray for these your servants who have opened their ears and hearts to your Word. Grant that they may grasp your moment of grace.

Do not let their minds be troubled or their lives tied to earthly desires. Do not let them remain estranged from the hope of your promises or enslaved by a spirit of unbelief. Rather, let them believe in you, whom the Father has established as universal Lord and to whom he has subjected all things.

Let them submit themselves to the Spirit of grace, so that, with hope in their calling, they may join the priestly people and share in the abundant joy of the new Jerusalem, where you live and reign for ever and ever. *R.C.I.A.*

A Christian Lent can never be entirely sad. With the Fourth Sunday the pent up spiritual joy in each member of Christ bursts forth in the anticipation of the Easter joy to come. "Rejoice O Jerusalem and come together all you who love her; rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow" (introit.). This was the day when the Catechumens were decked with roses and when the congregation mutually exchanged roses. Hence the tradition of the "rose" vestment. *Viril Michel.*

Each **Friday**, after the mid-day mass, there will be **soup and bread** in the house. Many thanks to Christie & Ursula for the spicy soup. This week (7th March) we will be having a soup from the kitchen of Jenny. All the Friday's are now covered so thanks again to those who will be feeding us. Proceeds will be going to CAFOD.

Deacon Stephen will be leading Benediction and Holy Hour on Sunday afternoon from 3pm. A time for quiet reflection and preparation for the week ahead.

Deacon Joe is offering to arrange a **Silent Exposition & Benediction** offered for the needs of the parish community and the people of Oswestry. The next one will be on Thursday 6th of March from 7.30pm. This is a time of offering for ourselves and all those whom we carry in our hearts. Everybody is welcome; we all live busy lives so feel free to come along for as long or short a time that suits your needs.

There will be **Stations of the Cross**, lead by various members of the parish. This week it will be on **Friday 7th March** at 11.15am before the mid-day mass.

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 3rd** March after the morning mass. 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

<b>1st Reading</b>	1 Samuel 16:1,6-7
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 22
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Ephesians 5:8-14
<b>Gospel</b>	John 9:1-41

### Next Week

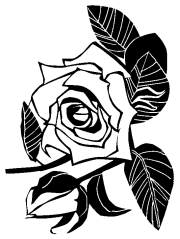
Ezekiel 37:12-14
Psalm 129
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45



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

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

**Anniversaries in March** Arthur Dorricott, James Dobson, Mary Williams, William Fell, Eileen Samuel, Mary Nolan, Joseph Leech, Kathleen Hayes, Margaret Moloney, Ann Winterbottom, Laurence Twomey, Bertram Manser, Henry Power, Richard Duddlestone, Margaret Malin, John Daricott, Emily Owen, Harold Kidner, Mary Shepperd, Luigi Pacifici, Thomas Cornah, Joseph Leonard, Mary Haugh, Catherine Jones, Cyril Meredith, Madeleine Humphreys, David Breen, Cecelia Lee, Margaret Smith, John Maloney, Albert Anderson, Nicholas Murphy, Richard Hourihane, Catherine Todd, Minnie Gebbert, Jeremiah Whooley, Daniel Williams, Cecelia Ross, Theresa Robertson,, James Molloney, Dennis Daly, Charles Hallet, Marguerita Parsons, Mary Rogers, Mary Rogers



Please Pray for

**Offertory Collection** £544.97. Thanks for your generosity.