

Mass Intentions for week beginning 27th February 2016

Sat 27	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	6.00pm	Pro Populo / Thanksgiving (D'Souza)
Sun 28		10.00am 12noon	Fr Brian Nash RIP (<i>birthday</i>) For Beatrice Oghojafor (<i>birthday</i>)
Mon 29	Lent Feria	10.00am 6.30pm	For Anne Purcell (80th birthday) followed by Novena Prayers Noel Murphy RIP (<i>1962 Missal</i>)
Tue 1/3	ST DAVID OF WALES, BP	10.00am	Kathleen Canacott RIP (<i>anniv.</i>) / Neil Kavia RIP (<i>anniv.</i>)
Wed 2	Lent Feria	10.00am	March Anniversaries RIP
Thur 3	Lent Feria	10.00am	Gilda Pednekar RIP
Fri 4	Lent Feria	10.00am	For Stephen Riedlinger's recovery
Sat 5	Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Sat 5	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY)	6.00pm	Arthur Edwards RIP
Sun 6		10.00am 12noon	Harry Campbell RIP Pro Populo

Confessions this Saturday 5.30 – 5.45pm

Your prayers are asked for the sick and housebound, especially:

Roland & Madeleine Selvini, John Liddard, Jones Bediako-Antwi-Benneh, Leslie Cook, Trevor Barnham, Ann Dunseath, Christopher Johnstone, Josie D'after, Christina Whiting, Anne Purcell, Ken Stanton, Kathleen Simpson, Pamela Allen, Grace Lobendhan, Marcus Prospert, Eoin Oliver, Bob Edgar, Peggy Gajewski, Victor Francis, Sid Parker, Agnes Warren, Mary Evelyn Piotrowski, Derek Pyner, Gerald Rowe, Mary Brock, Ann Divine, Ann O'Donovan, Anthony Fonseca, Margaret McQueen, Paul Westrop, Christine Hall, Maria McLoughlin, John Phillips, Mick Martin, Adriano Agatiello, Kay Fahy, Tony Baldwin, Paul Doyle, Susan Coker, Daniel Sutton, Tony Morton, Bernadette Thomas, Jane Anne Harvey, the Kitteridge Family, Maximilian Peluso, Patricia Theobalds, Jean Salter, Terry Eales, Norah Kelly, the residents of Sherrell House, Belmont Lodge and Pinewood.

Mass Attendance last weekend: 363

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Offertory Collection last weekend: £626.49

THE ASSUMPTION, Hainault, is twinned with the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows, Maria Ratschitz, in the diocese of Dundee, South Africa.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION HAINAULT

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27th / 28th February 2016

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

(HOLY YEAR OF MERCY 2015-2016)

The Holy Father's Lent Message 2016 (Part 3)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

3. The works of mercy

God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbour and to devote ourselves to what the Church's tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. These works remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbours in body and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things will we be judged. For this reason, I expressed my hope that "the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy; this will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty, and to enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God's mercy" (*ibid.*, 15). For in the poor, the flesh of Christ "becomes visible in the flesh of the tortured, the crushed, the scourged, the malnourished, and the exiled... to be acknowledged, touched, and cared for by us" (*ibid.*). It is the unprecedented and scandalous mystery of the extension in time of the suffering of the Innocent Lamb, the burning bush of gratuitous love. Before this love, we can, like Moses, take off our sandals (cf. *Exodus* 3:5), especially when the poor are our brothers or sisters in Christ who are suffering for their faith. In the light of this love, which is strong as death (cf. *Song of Songs* 8:6), the real poor are revealed as those who refuse to see themselves as such. They consider themselves rich, but they are actually the poorest of the poor. This is because they are slaves to sin, which leads

them to use wealth and power not for the service of God and others, but to stifle within their hearts the profound sense that they too are only poor beggars. The greater their power and wealth, the more this blindness and deception can grow. It can even reach the point of being blind to Lazarus begging at their doorstep (cf. *Luke* 16:20-21). Lazarus, the poor man, is a figure of Christ, who through the poor pleads for our conversion. As such, he represents the possibility of conversion which God offers us and which we may well fail to see. Such blindness is often accompanied by the proud illusion of our own omnipotence, which reflects in a sinister way the diabolical “you will be like God” (*Genesis* 3:5) which is the root of all sin. This illusion can likewise take social and political forms, as shown by the totalitarian systems of the twentieth century, and, in our own day, by the ideologies of monopolizing thought and techno-science, which would make God irrelevant and reduce man to raw material to be exploited. This illusion can also be seen in the sinful structures linked to a model of false development based on the idolatry of money, which leads to lack of concern for the fate of the poor on the part of wealthier individuals and societies; they close their doors, refusing even to see the poor.

Franciscus PP.

THE ANGELUS

As is now our custom, the Angelus is said at the beginning of the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 12noon Mass on Sundays. The text of the prayer can be found in the Parish Mass Books on page 2 (opposite the Table of Contents).



TEA & COFFEE are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass every Sunday. Please come along, even if only for a few minutes, to meet and chat with your neighbour.

This Monday:

**10.00am Mass & Novena Prayers
6.30pm Mass (1962 Missal)**

THE MONTLIGEON PRAYER GROUP for the Holy Souls in Purgatory meets this Wednesday for Mass at 10.00am, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayers for the Holy Souls and Benediction. The meeting will end no later than 11 o'clock.

This Sunday:

4.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

This Saturday:

9.00am Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

Next Sunday:

4.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Eucharistic Adoration this Friday

(the First Friday of March)

10.00am Mass

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
ending with Benediction at 11.00am**

Come, let us worship!



LONDON MARATHON – Sunday 24th April 2016: Fr Marek Pabis MS (St Cedd’s, Goodmayes) is looking for sponsors on behalf of the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society. If you would like to help please send a cheque (payable to *Marek Pabis*, marked at the back *London Marathon*) to **The Presbytery, 4, Blythwood Road, Ilford IG3 8SH.**

SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL: if anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important that a priest be informed so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should inform their parish priest and/or the Catholic chaplain of the hospital (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen’s Hospital, 01708 447761; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877*).

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? May I draw your attention to the *Sick Parishioner Care* forms at the back of church. Please take one if you are going to hospital and wish the Catholic chaplain to look after you!

Fr Selvini

MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS: special envelopes are available at the back of church. If you would like a Mass offered on a *particular anniversary*, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better! Thank you for your co-operation.

REFLECTION FOR LENT

Q: *How does one become a saint, and achieve holiness in this life?*

A: the principal means is the sacraments, and above all, the Holy Mass. If one wants to become a saint, one should deepen one’s understanding of, and participation, in the sacramental life of the Church. He should make his life liturgical, in the sense of that holiness that we encounter in its perfection in the Mass – in other words, we encounter Jesus himself and the whole good of our salvation in the Mass. To carry that with us, as the priest says at the end of Mass, “*Go forth, the Mass is ended*”. The focus of our lives should be the Holy Eucharist and then we bring from it that holiness which should permeate every aspect of our lives. Then after this comes the prayer life and the devotional life, by which we live continuously the mystery of the faith that we experience in the Holy Mass. So that would be my number one exhortation.

Raymond Cardinal Burke