



~ Rooted in Christ, the Word of God, to evangelise and serve ~

Sunday 11th March 2018

Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare)

St Francis of Assisi RC Church
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Other useful contacts: John Edney - Tel.01275 854372 / Doreen Wyatt - Tel. 01275 851591

CONFESSIONS - Sunday 5.30 to 5.50pm and Wednesday 6 to 6.30pm

Entrance antiphon*:
Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Psalms R/:
O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

Acclamation:
Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Communion antiphon*:
The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

* Not said if sung Mass

NOTICES

Offertory

Our offertory collection last week amounted to £216.70 plus £735 by Standing Order. Many thanks.

Diocesan Prayer Link

St Augustine of Canterbury, Matson. English Martyrs, Tuffley.

Cleaning Rota

Team A

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 1pm-1.50pm and Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 6.45pm.

Newsletter items to elaine@josephfrancis.org.uk no later than 10am
Wednesday mornings.

To receive an electronic copy of this newsletter email newsletter@josephfrancis.co.uk with the subject line "Subscribe".

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Cycle: B (1) Liturgy of the hours: Ps4

	Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
StF	11am 6pm	No Mass	9am Morning Prayer 2pm Rosary	7pm	9-15am	9am Praying the Sunday readings	
StJ	6pm (Sat vigil) 9am		5-30pm		-	10am	No Mass

Lent

There were two remarkable moments in the story of the Old Testament where God saved his people; one was in the escape from Egypt – we'll keep that for the Easter Vigil. The other was the end of their second exile, this time in Babylon, which we hear of today. Of course there was an even greater moment when God saved his people: the work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God – and we hear Jesus tell Nicodemus about that today. So today's theme is "salvation": but to understand "being saved", we must ask "What from?" Saved from slavery, from exile, from human enemies – these are all clear. But the last and greatest salvation brought by Jesus is harder to understand: saved from sin and death. These threaten us as much as any other enemy, and our salvation in Jesus is as real as any other.

Extract from Laudato Si

The rejection of every form of self-centredness and self-absorption are essential if we truly wish to care for our brothers and sisters and for the natural environment...

Year of Mission

This theme of Covenant continues but it's an infidelity that we read of today... a broken Covenant and a broken relationship. Whilst everything seems to be tumbling down and in ruins, the prophet speaks of one simple thing: God's fidelity. That's his over-riding message. Even though God's people may be unfaithful and rebellious, God is always faithful. Even though God's people abandon him, God never abandons his people. What Jeremiah looks forward to is a future... and it is filled with hope. In our Year of Mission as we seek to be faithful disciples of the Lord, are we those prophets and proclaimers of hope? Do we allow what might seem chaotic, broken and crumbling around us to cause us to despair or do we allow our environment to see the hand of God at work leading us to a future that is touched by hope? God doesn't give up on his people and we can be those instruments of his presence through the signs of hope we offer. God so loved the world, we are reminded in our second reading... that's the hope we give.

PRAYER BOARD

Please remember in your prayers the following who are sick/housebound:

Theresa Parkes, Christine Broderick, Tony Madden, Kathleen McGhee, Shirley McKiernon, Nancy Evans and Josef Leduchowicz.

Anniversaries: 11th March, James D Blain, 1991. Betty Brooke, 2016; 13th March, Gloria Veronica Mansfield, 2015; 14th March, Minnie Wicks, 1981. Frank William Thomas Armstrong, 2015; 15th March, William Arthur Brooks, 2000; 17th March, Margaret Watts. Patrick McGurk, 1993. Winifred Reid, 2001.

Stations of the Cross

These are being held every Sunday in Lent at 5pm.

Passover Meal

Our Passover Meal will take place during Holy Week on Tuesday 27 March at 6:30 for 7pm start. Tickets will cost £8 for adults and £4 for primary school children, and a vegetarian option will be available to order. You can reserve your place by signing up on the clipboard after the Sunday Masses in Lent.

Statue of St Francis

We are now in the final stages of commissioning our new statue of St Francis. As previously advised, there will be a Spanish evening held at Nailsea school on Saturday, 28 April and all funds raised from this event will be put towards the cost of the statue. Students of "Fiesta Flamenca" will be performing traditional flamenco dances, along with music played by professional musicians. The bar will be open from 7pm with the show starting at 7:30pm. Tickets are £15 and will be on sale after both masses on Sunday, 18 March. If you want any further information regarding the statue, please speak to Fr Tom.

"Strictly Come Flamenco!"

Why not come and experience an evening of Spanish flamenco music and dance at Nailsea School on Saturday 28 April. The bar will open from 7pm with the show starting at 7:30pm. Tickets are £15 and will be on sale after both masses on Sunday 18 March. ALL funds raised from this event will be put towards

the new statue of St Francis for the Church. If you are unable to come, but would like to donate the cost of a ticket towards the statue, then you are more than welcome to do so. Fr Tom looks forward to selling as many tickets as possible on 18 March!

Defibrillator Training

If you would like to learn how to use our defibrillator please add your name and telephone number to the list in the porch. The session will be on Wednesday 21st March after the 7pm Mass.

Backwell Lent Lunches

Every Wednesday in Lent (not holy week) come and have a simple lunch of bread, soup and cheese at St Andrew's starting about 12:00. Each year there is a collection to support a different charity. This year proceeds will go to the local foodbank.

The Women's World Day of Prayer, Backwell

This was postponed last Friday due to snow. The Service, which has been prepared by the women of Suriname, is now being held on Friday 16/03 at West Town Methodist Church Backwell, 6:00- 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome and refreshments are being served afterwards.

Backwell Prayer Watch

Postponed Backwell Prayer Watch this Thursday (15th March). Meeting at Backwell Baptist Church, starting at 7.45 with refreshments and home baked cakes and will finish at 9.30 prompt. Chris Elliott 463269

Nailsea Concert Orchestra

They will be performing at Nailsea Methodist Church, Silver Street, Nailsea, Saturday 17th March at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 (£10 concessions/£2.50 for under 18s) can be bought in advance from Nailsea Music Shop or at the door on the night. This concert will be in support of Nailsea Community Trust. The programme includes Prokofiev's classical musical tale of Peter and the Wolf, narrated by John Telfer from the Archers, Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens and the Harry Potter Symphonic Suite.

The orchestra will also be holding an open rehearsal at Nailsea Methodist Church for young families between 3-4pm on the day of the concert. Families are invited to hear a play-through of Peter and the Wolf. Admission is free with donations in aid of Nailsea Community Trust. Tickets will be on sale for the evening performance.

Come to the St Patrick's Day Big Easter Clean

Sat 17th March 2018 9.30 - 12.00 noon.
Feel free to wear something green on the day!

We'll be jigging and a-reeling the morning through,
Making the church look sparkling new,
There'll be coffee, tea and soda bread too,
We'll have such fun - so come along, do.