



The Parish of the MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham



DOMINICA VIII PER ANNUM

3rd March 2019

Welcome to Mass today!

If you are new to the area or this church, please make yourself known to one of the priests after Mass. There is tea and coffee available after the Solemn Mass in the Rectory, we hope you'll come through.

In the gospel reading today, we hear that the test of a person is in their conversation! Our words flow from what is in our heart. If we are filled with the love of God then we will judge mercifully. Too often we are negative in our criticism of the petty faults of others forgetting that we too are imperfect. We need to turn to Christ in our weakness, never admitting defeat, knowing that in the Lord we never labour in vain.



Sunday School at the 11.00am Mass is for Children of Primary School age, but will be suspended this week due to the disruption.

The Church is closed now, so there will be no Mass apart from 11am on Sundays. Daily Mass will be available at OL of La Salette, 12.35pm each day; and Sunday Mass here will be at 11am either in Church or across the road in *The Sidings*. Watch for updates.

Mass intentions requested during the closed period will be offered, but elsewhere.

The Safeguarding training day yesterday was a great success. It was good to welcome Helen from the Diocese Safeguarding Office who led us. And thank you to Kate for organising it. Papers are available, see Kate for more info.

Mass Next Sunday *might* be back in Church, or it might not. There will be Mass, but the location is tbc.

Lent begins on Wednesday this week. What's your fast going to be? Decide today. Show God you mean business.

Mass on Ash Wednesday 1.05pm & 6.30pm.

Palm Crosses needed. You can leave them with Lesley. We need them for the ash.

Walk with Me. A booklet of daily reflections in Lent. Take one if you didn't last week.

Mary Ryan, you may have heard, died last Wednesday. She has been poorly for a while, so moved to a nursing home to be near her family. Her Funeral Mass will be here on Monday 19th March at 10.30am. *Lord, have mercy on her.*

In Lent be faithful to what the Church asks. Keep the Eucharistic Fast: do not eat or drink anything for an hour before receiving Holy Communion. Abstinence: no meat on Fridays.

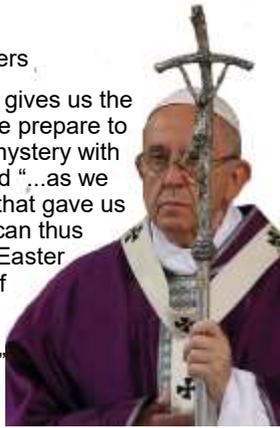
Cardinal George Pell was convicted last week of offensives against minors, charges he denies. This is very much in the news; and so are questions of whether he received a fair trial. There is to be an appeal. Reserve judgement and keep him in your prayers.

As part of the restoration, many of the fixtures and fittings are being replaced and/or restored. Would you like to offer something? It could be in memory of someone, or an anonymous offering in thanksgiving. A list will be available soon.

Blessed John Henry Newman may have performed a miracle in our parish. Ask FrC for more details; join Ryan in giving thanks.

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Each year, the Church, gives us the Lenten season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed "...as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ". We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received – "for in hope we were saved". This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, "the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God". In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent.



over. The sin that lurks in the human heart takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip.

This "eager longing", this expectation of all creation, will be fulfilled in the revelation of the children of God, that is, when Christians and all people enter decisively into the "travail" that conversion entails. All creation is called, with us, to go forth "from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God".

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to "devour" everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. Prayer, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. Almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Dear brothers and sisters. may our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be "set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God". Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus' Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

Franciscus

The celebration of the Paschal Triduum of Christ's passion, death and resurrection, the culmination of the liturgical year, calls us yearly to undertake a journey of preparation, in the knowledge that our being conformed to Christ is a priceless gift of God's mercy. When we live as children of God, redeemed, led by the Holy Spirit and capable of acknowledging and obeying God's law, beginning with the law written on our hearts. . When the love of Christ transfigures the lives of the saints in spirit, body and soul, they give praise to God. Through prayer, contemplation and art, they also include other creatures in that praise, as we see admirably expressed in the "Canticle of the Creatures" by Saint Francis of Assisi. Yet in this world, the harmony generated by redemption is constantly threatened by the negative power of sin and death.

Indeed, when we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures – and ourselves as well – since we begin to think more or less consciously that we can use them as we will.

The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body.

Once God's law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes

Mass on Ash Wednesday
1.05pm & 6.30pm



*Repent of your sin
and return to the Gospel*

Something to read for Lent

Through the Year with Pope Francis: Daily Reflections

The Screwtape Letters; C.S. Lewis

The Gargoyle Code; Fr D Longenecker.

Strange Gods; Elizabeth Scalia

Your Questions, God's Answers;
Peter Kreeft.

A Prayer Journal; Flannery O'Connor

Theology for Beginners; Frank Sheed.

Death on a Friday Afternoon: Meditations on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross; Fr Richard John Neuhaus.

Great Lent: Journey to Pascha;
Fr Alexander Schmeeman,

Something Other Than God: How I Passionately Sought Happiness and Accidentally Found It; Jennifer Fulwiler

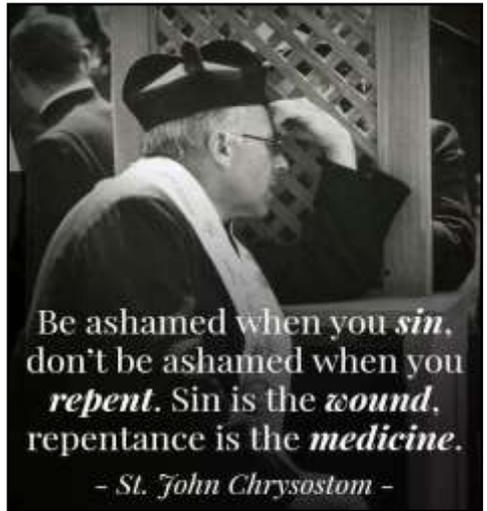
Jesus the Bridegroom: The Greatest Love Story Ever Told; Brand Pitre.

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist; Brant Pitre

Journey to Easter: Spiritual Reflections for the Lenten Season; Benedict XVI

The Lost Princess; George MacDonald.

To be a Pilgrim; Basil Hume



Be ashamed when you *sin*,
don't be ashamed when you
repent. Sin is the *wound*,
repentance is the *medicine*.

- St. John Chrysostom -

Sunday Mass

11am

The Sidings

Whilst the Church is closed Sunday Mass will be across the street in *The Sidings*.

It is right opposed the main door to MPB



Lambeth Council Paid Life Damages

following publication of libellous statements about the wrongful eviction from the Lambeth Country Show in July 2018

Lambeth Council has also publicly apologised for making inaccurate statements about *Life's* application for the event. *Life* offers help and advice on alternatives to abortion.

#You'llNotSeeThatOnTheBBC

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
Today 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am	Parishioners
Mon 4th <i>(St Casimir)</i>		
Tues 5th <i>Shrove Tuesday</i>		
Wed 6th <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	
Thurs 7th <i>(Ss Perpetua & Felicity)</i>		
Fri 8th <i>(St John of God)</i>		
Sat 9th <i>(St Frances of Rome)</i>		
Next Sunday 1st Sunday in Lent	11.00am	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Deuteronomy 26:4-10 Romans 1:8-13 Luke 4:1-13

Sacrament of Confession. by appointment, until church re-opens

Evensong each Thursday suspended until further notice.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament resumes soon each Friday till 15.00 Divine Mercy

Last week: £1,123.05 inc Standing Orders and Card payments

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

Holy Father's Intention for March. *Evangelisation – Christian Communities*

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

Ordinariate Weekly Intercession: Frs Stephen Bould & Jamie Houghton and the Folkestone Group.

For your prayers:

Those in formation for Ministry, Dn John Waters, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

The Sick & Housebound: David, Theresa, Dora, Jo, Geoffrey, Paula, Holly, Mary, Ada, Fr John, Wilma, Ryan, Fr Gerald

Recently Departed: Edwin Barnes *priest*, Mary Ryan

Find us on: Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW *Parish Priest*

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