

OFFERINGS

First Gift Aid £662.19 Loose £374.69
Second (Missions appeal) Gift Aid £31.80 Loose £510.21

Thank you for your generosity.

The second collection this weekend is for the Cabrini Children's Society

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

There are no feasts during the coming week.

The Holy Rosary is said out loud in the Church most mornings at 9.00am (before the weekday mass). If enough parishioners are willing to participate, this could continue throughout Lent. Please support this important initiative for your parish, by coming along to join in. Everyone is welcome *especially those* who would like to pray the Rosary (in English).

PARISH DIARY

Monday 3.30pm First Communion children
7.30pm First Communion parents
Tuesday 7.30pm Confirmation candidates
8.00pm Parish Prayer Group
Wednesday **Ash Wednesday** Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am & 7.30pm
Friday 7.30pm Adult Confirmation Preparation

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Christine Sargent, Grace Gibbs, Simon Leo, Paul & June McMahon, Liam Morrison, Michael Boyle, Breege Collinson, Carmel Morrison, Margaret Curtis, Maureen Allen, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan & Terry Gallagher, Kay Kennedy, Stephanie Patten, John Sewter, Patric Emerson, Ryan Morison, Malini Sithambaram, Harriet Roberts, Anita Bhimani & Dorothy Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES

Charles Hope, Ethel Pyke, Edward Mitchell, Vincenza Marchese, Edwin Reeves, Bridget Fenton, Mary Kathleen Dudley, William Lucas, Bruno Zuffo, Bernard McArdle, Mary West, George Alexander, Thomas McCormack, Charles Waddell, Mervyn Woolger, Ursula Nolan, Julia Turner, Nestor Paralta, Maria Onorato, Michael Whelan, Giovanna Capaldi, Mary Ellen O'Donoghue, John McLaughlin Sim, Josephine Flynn, Kathleen Law, James Brooks, John Connell, Susan Thomas, Rose Pullen .

+++ May they rest in peace +++



Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien
Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

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Please visit our website regularly to keep abreast of important current issues.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK		
Sunday 19th February 2012		
Seventh Sunday of the Year (B)		
Saturday	9.30am	Vincenza Marchese
	6.30pm	Edith & Alfred Knight
Sunday	9.00am	Tina Piccirillo
	10.30am	Victoria Tanousis
Monday	6.30pm	Alice Coll
	9.30am	Ivo Gouvia
Tuesday	9.30am	Tom Naughton
	Wednesday	7.30am
9.30am		Frank Owens
Thursday	7.30pm	In Thanksgiving
	9.30am	John Marriage
Friday	11.00am	Requiem Patrick Howard
	9.30am	Sisk Family RIP
Saturday	7.30pm	Holy Souls
	9.30am	Rose Pereira
Exposition:	6.30pm	Tom McCormick
	Thursday morning from 8.30am-9.30am	
Confessions:	Saturday 10.00-11.00am	
	18.00-18.15pm and at call	
Baptisms:	By previous arrangement	
Marriage:	Six months notice required—Diocesan rule	

Forgiveness was at the heart of Jesus' ministry. And he passed this power on to his apostles when he said to them, 'Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven; whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.' The power to forgive sins in his name is one of the greatest gifts Jesus left to his Church, and is exercised mainly through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

PARISH NOTICES

Lent 2012 There are three masses on **Ash Wednesday** (a day of fasting and abstinence) at 7.30am, 9.30am and 7.30pm. St Agatha's School will come to the 9.30 mass. On the **Fridays** of Lent, there will be two masses, at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

A booklet entitled **Walk with Me** is available this weekend. The theme is "Renewing the Grace of our Baptism". Please take one copy per family. It is free of charge.

CAFOD Lent Give it up Appeal – Fast Day Friday 2 March 2012

The Lent Fast Day is on Friday March 2nd. Envelopes will be distributed next weekend. This Lent, the Government will match pound for pound every donation made to CAFOD. This unique and limited opportunity means we can help even more people to escape poverty and transform their lives.

Central to CAFOD's appeal this Lent will be the plight of those around the world without immediate access to clean drinking water or safe sanitation. 1.4 million children are dying every year from the effects of poor water and sanitation. CAFOD reminds us that diarrhoea is the single biggest killer of children in Africa.

First Holy Communion 2012 The children continue their preparation on Monday February 20th at 3.30pm in the church. There is a meeting for parents the same day at 7.30pm.

Confirmation 2012 The candidates continue their preparation programme at 7.15pm on Tuesday February 21st.

Confirmation preparation for adults will continue on Friday February 24th at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

The Parish Prayer Group which normally meets in the church is meeting in the Presbytery at 8.00pm on Tuesdays during the confirmation programme.

Bible Alive The Lent issue is on sale, price £1.95.

The Pilgrim The current edition of the diocesan newspaper is available at the back of the church, price 50p. Please support this important initiative from the diocese.

Marriage Care For appointments, enquiries or information, FREEPHONE 0800 389 3801, Mondays to Fridays 10.00am to 9.00pm or contact via the internet— www.Marriagecare.org.uk

REFLECTION

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is like the child's dream of a miracle.
Through forgiveness what is broken is made whole again,
What is soiled is made clean, and what is lost is found.
Nothing greater can happen to a human being
that he or she is forgive.
Those who are forgiven are no longer trapped in their past.
They are set free—free to move forward again.
The Lord not only forgives our sins,
but helps us to learn from them.
We learn about our weakness.
We learn about the goodness of God.
And we learn to be compassionate towards other who sin.

Rev F McCarthy S.D.B.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:18–19, 21–22, 24–25

People at the time of Isaiah sinned against God just as we do. In this reading, we hear what God intends to do about it. He could destroy his people, start again—but his love for us is so great that he wants us even in our sinfulness. He speaks of a 'new thing' coming forth, a way of calling us back to him and restoring the balance.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:18–22

Jesus is the 'yes' in our lives; the 'yes' to God's promise of salvation. He has bridged the gap between God and humanity. Jesus has paid our debt, but we are reminded that the Spirit is 'a first instalment'. We are not out of the woods yet. The presence of sin means that we must stay clear of the 'yes and no' mentality and strive to say 'yes' to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1–12

We have all felt at some point that there were obstacles between us and God. The tendency is to give up and go home. If we feel we can't reach God, then what is the point in trying? The people in this Gospel did not go home. Their desire for God's presence was so great that when they couldn't get through the door because of obstacles, they took the roof off over Jesus' head just to get to him. They were expecting Jesus to heal the paralytic of his bodily illness, but what they witnessed was far deeper than that. Jesus healed him of his sins. The physical healing which followed proved that it wasn't just lip service.