

Parish of Our Lady and St David, Cwmbran

(Registered Charity No. 242380)



Parish Priest: Canon John Griffiths Tel: 01633 482346

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SUNDAY 8th MARCH 2015

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

PSALTER WEEK 3

First Scrutiny

The Gospel of the third Sunday is the remarkable conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman by the well, the theme is water - which gives life, which cleanses, which is so necessary. This reading forms part of the catechesis given before Baptism at Easter: the candidates who would go into the water are invited to reflect on what that means. But more necessary than the water which gives life is the water which gives eternal life - the water of baptism, the water flowing from Jesus' side on the cross. Even if your Church does not have any candidates preparing for Baptism, we will all renew our baptismal promises at Easter: we should take this opportunity to reflect on what baptism has given us, and what God has done for us in this gift

1st Reading : Exodus 17: 3-7

2nd Reading: Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

Gospel Reading: John 4: 5-42

Lenten Devotions

Stations of the Cross:

St David's: Thurs at 10.00am

Our Lady's: Fridays at 9.30am

Psalm

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice! "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me though they say my work.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St David's : Tuesday 10.00am -11.30am

Our Lady's: Friday 9.30am-5.00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Lady's: 12noon -12.30pm

St David's: 3.45pm-4.15pm

Your giving to your Parish: many thanks

Gift Aid	£451.38
Non Gift Aid	£685.45
Gift Aid Standing Order	£121.73
Total giving this week	£1258.56
Mass Count: 451	
CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY	£1211.46

PARISH LITURGY AND DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK

Morning Prayer: Tues and Thurs 9.10am

Evening Prayer: Fri 4.40pm

Saturday	4.30pm	St David's	Kathleen Rabaiotti (B.Fam)	3rd Sunday of Lent Year A
	6.00pm	Our Lady's	Danny Aherne (M&JH)	
Sunday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Fred and Violet Faulkner (PT)	
	11.15am	St David's	The People of the Parish	
Monday	11.15am	St David's	Funeral Mass for Catherine Price	
Tuesday	9.30am	St David's	Catherine and John Williams (VL)	
	4.00pm	Our Lady's	Vigil for Gerry Harper	
Wednesday	12noon	Our Lady's	Funeral Mass for Gerry Harper	
Thursday	9.30am	St David's	Olwyn Szymanski (OW)	
Friday	11.30am	St David's	Funeral Mass for Lewis John Deidun	
Saturday	4.30pm	St David's	Mary and Fred Strutt (MM)	4th Sunday of Lent Year A
	6.00pm	Our Lady's	Hywel Jenkins (CG)	
Sunday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Rose and Jack Clifford (MW)	
	11.15am	St David's	Ints. Jean and Cliff Price (60 th Wedding Anniversary)	

DEANERY LENTEN MASS: MONDAY 16TH MARCH. PLEASE SIGN THE LIST IN THE CHURCH PORCH FOR A SEAT ON THE COACH

**TEA,
COFFEE,
BISCUITS
and a
CHAT in
St Anne's
room
after
9.30am
Mass
today
and
every
Sunday**

Parish Diary this Week

Tues	10.00am	St David's: Divine Mercy Group
	6.30pm	SVP
Wed	2.00pm	Our Lady's: UCM
Thurs	10.00am	St David's: Choir Practice
	10.00am	St David's: Stations of the Cross
	4.30pm	Our Lady's: Choir Practice
	7.00pm	Our Lady's: RCIA Course's
Fri	9.30am	Our Lady's: Stations of the Cross

Catechesis

First Confession and Holy Communion Programme.

The course continues on Monday 9th March at 5pm in St Anne's room at Our Lady's. **It is expected that parents bring their children to a weekend Mass.**

Lent Bible Studies 2015

This year's theme is **"When Love Speaks"** "words from the Cross.

All studies at 11am at Cwmbran URC except for 13th March which will be at Our Lady's.

Lunch after each study, Soup and a Roll 12noon at The Salvation and Army, Wesley Street. See poster for details

Deanery Lenten Mass

The Lenten Mass for the our Deanery will be celebrated on Monday 16th March at Our Lady's and St Michael Church in Abergavenny at 7pm. The principal celebrant will be Archbishop George Stack. **If you want to reserve a seat on the coach please put your name and contact number on the list in the porch by Thursday 12th March**

General Election 2015

The Bishops of have written a joint Letter to all Catholics in England and Wales encouraging us to participate and vote in the election and offering some key issues and questions for reflection on where candidates stand. Copies are available and can be obtained with other information from the Bishops' Conference website www.catholicnews.org.uk and in the porches of both churches.

St David's Church: Missio Red Boxes

The Red Boxes are due to be emptied. Please leave them in the Piety stall.

Week of Prayer & Awareness for Dementia:

12th March to 19th March 2015

The Annual Archdiocesan Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick for Dementia Suffers and their Carers, will be celebrated on Thursday 19th March at 12:00 Noon in All Hallows Church, Miskin, CF72 8PG. Please come together and pray for all who experience the effects of Dementia.

The Missionary Society of St Columban

We have received a letter from the Society thanking us for our generous response to Fr Jim Fleming's appeal.

The Call, the Journey and the Mission

Ahead of the forthcoming Ordinary Synod on the Family in October 2015, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has asked us to reflect with 'true spiritual discernment' on the themes relating to marriage and family life. We are asked to join together as a group to pray and reflect on this theme. Meetings will be held on Thursday 12th March at 7pm in St Non's room, St David's and Wednesday 18th March at 7pm in St Anne's room at OLA

HOLY COMMUNION

If you are sitting by someone who is unable to walk to the sanctuary to receive Holy Communion please stand to indicate where they are for a Eucharistic Minister to bring Holy Communion to them.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

There are four periods or stages of RCIA these are Inquiry, Formation, Enlightenment, and Mystagogia.

The Scrutinies: Rites of Healing

These *"are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful, in the hearts of the elect; to bring out then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good."*

(RCIA Par128)

The Scrutinies are the means by which our hearts of stone are replaced by hearts of flesh. Perhaps they could be better called "Rites of Healing" or "long, careful look at our lives." In these rites our personal demons (of inadequacy, possessiveness, helplessness, boredom, indifference, jealousy, etc.) are exorcised: we are set free! They are intended to take place on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent but can also be celebrated on suitable weekdays for pastoral reasons

The structure is same for each:

- 1. Proclamation of the word**
- 2. Silent prayer after the Gospel**
- 3. Intercession of the Elect**
- 4. Healing: exorcism of demons-**
 - a) president's prayer**
 - b) laying of hands on individual in silence.**
 - c) president's prayer with extension of hands over all the congregation.**

These rites lay bare the human heart – of everyone, not just the elect. Conversion is always a possibility and an invitation. What Jesus did in the lives of the Samaritan woman, the man born blind, and Lazarus he now accomplishes in our lives through these rites. Trust them!

Parish Directory

PAC Chairman: Mrs. Paddy Landers 01633 868352
Mrs S McCool, Head Teacher, Our Lady of the Angels School Tel: 484673

Mrs J Bates, Head Teacher, St David's School Tel: 482580
SVP: Dave Stroud 01633 838542

"Apart from the Cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven.

St Rose of Lima(1586-1617)