

LACY OUTSIDE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Sun 3rd April 2022 – at the Rosmini Centre, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, LE7 4SJ. Calling **ALL YOUNG PEOPLE**, families and friends – come and share some time with us taking a **“Journey with Jesus”** as we make the Stations of the Cross outside in the grounds of the Rosmini Centre, commencing at 1.30 p.m. This will be followed by a Celebration of Mass and light refreshments. With LACY support and help we are hoping that young people will lead the Stations and feel they can be involved in the Celebration of Mass through Music and readings. Let us know if you can be with us and would like to be involved. Contact paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudiacoxon@googlemail.com.

FR CHRIS'S THOUGHTS FOR SUNDAY: Our Bishop recently reminded us of our 3 aims of encountering Our Lord, growing as disciples and as missionary disciples sharing our faith. We are now in this season of grace which is Lent through which we can become better followers of Jesus: i.e. holier Christians! As we heard last Sunday the call is to model ourselves on the Teacher who is Our Lord. We have 40 days when we can grow as disciples. We seek to grow closer to our Lord and in doing so to love those around us more selflessly. This is easy to say and indeed to desire, but we can be sure it won't be plain sailing! This first Sunday of lent reminds us of that as we come face to face with temptation. Jesus desires some time with his father to prepare for his mission and is himself tempted by the Devil. There is no doubt that he is going to do the same to us and test our resolutions. The last thing he wants is for us to come closer to our Lord and be better disciples, to leave behind our mediocrity. So we should expect a struggle as happened to our Lord. And of course, we have inner demons of our own weakness which we call concupiscence. When we try to control our appetites or desires, they seem to flare up with a will of their own seemingly. Our passion for food and drink for comfort, our laziness, the desire to satisfy our emotions, a certain listlessness. They can be unruly because we don't discipline them enough in everyday life. And when we give more time to prayer a mind seems to wander so easily and so often we struggle to concentrate at all. The devil uses these difficulties to tempt us to give up by saying so we're no good that we are hopeless and incapable of carrying out our resolutions and so indeed we are unworthy. He is the cunning deceiver as we know right from the beginning (Gen 3). We mustn't listen to him. The great encouragement for us today is the mystery of the temptations of our Lord in the desert. It seems amazing to say but our Lord himself was tempted; we can hardly believe it. It is a mystery beyond our understanding, yet it is true, a fact: we accept it and try and enter into the truth of it which can give us great comfort and help in our own temptations. I repeat our Lord was tempted. Through his fasting he suffered weakness of the flesh. His fasting was a means to come closer to his father. Thus the devil tempts him with some nice hot fresh bread we could say. Satisfy yourself he says. But Jesus replies: *man does not live on bread alone. This phrase could be a meditative mantra for us because it is key. We can repeat this to ourselves over and over again as we struggle with our disordered desires for food and drink and comfort and emotional satisfaction. Jesus knew that and we ask him to teach us that truth that he too knew and experienced in his temptations. So too in the desire for glory and earthly possessions: Our avarice for possessions is a deceiving and temporary comfort. For Jesus it was a temptation to avoid the way of the cross the father had chosen for him. We too prefer the easy satisfactions and comforts. Then the final temptation of putting God to the test. The temptation to take the easy way the way of presumption that no matter what I do or don't do, God will take care of everything and sort it out. It is presuming on his mercy we effectively put God to the test. It is a product of pride and is spiritually suicidal.* Certainly as we seek to be better disciples we will find temptations and indeed traps from the devil but we rejoice that Jesus himself has had these same temptations and he has conquered: he lived them for us and we live them in him and he in us. He is just close to us in our struggles and we share in the mystery of his victory over temptation.



Our Lady of Victories

Market Harborough

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 Parish Gift Aid Organiser: giftaid@olvic.com
 Parish Pastoral Council Members: see photos on notice board

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6th March 2022
 First Week of Lent
 Psalter Week 4

Times of Services

Sunday: 1st of Lent

Sat. 6.00pm: Mass: Gerry White
 9.00am Mass: Mercia Bibb RIP
 11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish

Monday: Lenten Feria

9.00am Mass: Flint family (Int C)

Tuesday: Lenten Feria

10am Mass: George Cotter RIP (Wilson)

Wednesday: Lenten Feria

11.00am: Funeral Of Angela Butlin RIP

Thursday: Lenten Feria

10.00am Mass: November Dead List (followed by Coffee)

7.00pm: Holy Hour

Friday: Lenten Feria

7.00pm: Stations of the Cross
 7.30pm: Martin & Michael Ridge RIP (Sisters)

Saturday: Lenten Feria

6.00pm Mass: Father Hugh Doherty RIP

Sunday: 2nd of Lent

9.00am Mass: Paul Beardsmore Birthday (Goddard)
 11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there.

CONFESSIONS
 11am &
 5.15 -5.45pm
 Saturdays

*We continue to pray for the People of Ukraine and offer sacrifices for them.
 May Our Lady Queen of peace intercede for Us*

PLEASE NOTE: Booking is no longer needed for Masses. However, please sanitise as you enter the church and we highly encourage all to wear masks. Please to not come to Mass if you have any symptoms of a viral infection

FR CHRIS WRITES: Dear All, I hope Lent has began well for you. Please see the various opportunities we have in this Newsletter. Last week we had Vespers at the Cathedral to celebrate the Synod so far. We now have the draft Diocesan response available. This weekend we are celebrating the Rite of Enrolment for our First Communion children at all the Masses. Please pray for them and their families. Also this weekend we have our CAFOD talk for our family Fast day on Friday. We continue to pray for the Ukraine. We will perhaps have a collection after the CAFOD family Fast day to support the people of the Ukraine though The World wide network of the Church: Caritas. See [Grapevine](#) Which gives information about supporting .



WALK WITH BOOKLETS: These have a meditation for each day to bolster your prayer. Also available are Activity booklets and a calendar for children.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 7.00pm on Fridays. Normally followed by Mass

HOLY HOUR WITH BENEDICTION Thursdays 7.00pm – 8.00pm with a couple of meditations on next Sundays readings. This is an opportunity for the most powerful prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, Our Bishop and the Holy Father have called us to adoration before the Blessed Sacrament especially at this time of the Synod and seeking to come out of COVID, Many graces are received before the Blessed Sacrament. Some Lent Resources can be found at: <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/preparing-for-lent-and-easteride/lent-and-easteride-resources/>

The diocesan draft **RESPONSE TO THE SYNOD** is (published this weekend / available at the back of church / on the parish website). Please take some time to read it, and send any further responses or reflections, by Saturday 19th March, directly to the Diocesan Co-ordinators: Fr David Cain (david.cain@dioceseofnottingham.uk) or Joe Hopkins, Adult Formation Director for Mission (joe.hopkins@dioceseofnottingham.uk) Also the **Deanery summary** will be on our [Website](#) shortly. These will both help us to discern as we go. Also see: [Synod \(dioceseofnottingham.uk\)](http://Synod(dioceseofnottingham.uk))

This Friday March 11th is **FAMILY FAST DAY** Family Fast Day, we remember that there are many people who need our love and support all around the world. Children experiencing malnutrition like Amie's daughter Lombeh did in Sierra Leone or as we are seeing now in Ukraine, families affected by conflict. Your small act of love can make big things happen. Donations to CAFOD this Lent will reach families around the world, enabling local experts to provide support to families in times of need or conflict. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent



The funeral of **Angela Butlin** will be on Wednesday 9th March 11.00am. **Christopher Roberts** died on Ash Wednesday. His funeral will be on Thursday 17th March 10.30am May they both rest in peace.

PARISH WELCOMING: . We need more people especially for Sun Morning and in particular for the 9.00am Mass. We are drawing a rota together. Please do consider helping out in this ministry to welcome Parishioners new and old. Feel free to contact either of us if you would just like to chat about it. Many thanks, Beatrice ([01858 465492](tel:01858465492)) and Theresa ([07748 591398](tel:07748591398)) or email tootskendrick@sky.com

Once again Hand made **Reusable Face masks for Sale:** in Church £2.50 towards Church funds. We have raised £56.50 so far. Thank you.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH: United Lent reflections 2022 Into the desert: A Lenten journey towards deeper faith Every Friday lunchtime (12.30 to 1.00) during Lent there will be a short service and reflection led by lay people from different churches. Every one is invited to join them. This year these meetings will be held on Zoom. The log-in details are the same for each service. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86087703786?pwd=NC9CdFhFR0ptVi9DRWFvdVdmY3VHUT09> Meeting ID: 860 8770 3786; Passcode: LENT22 Telephone Passcode: 761448. These are available from Fr Chris by email. **Friday 11 March – led by Harborough Anglican Team Deuteronomy 8:1-5; Exodus 16:1-16: The desert of provision: being sustained by God in hardship and suffering. Friday 18 March – led by Harborough Community Church Exodus 13:20-22 The desert of guidance: discovering God's way for our journey through life**

PUBLIC PRAYING OF THE ROSARY at Our Lady's Statue outside in front of the church. 4.30-5pm every Sunday. As Catholics we pray the Rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in society, for peace, and freedom. We pray for the people, for the rulers, and for the kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ in society. At the same time always for the freedom of the Church, for the clergy, for the bishops, for the Pope, and in reparation for the sins committed against God Almighty and His Holy Mother. For more details contact Maureen Douglas 07966 515115

MEMORIAL FOR FR OWEN: A Memorial for Fr Owen has been discussed The most popular suggestion is a stained window being the Statue of Our Lady . Please let Fr Chris know.

COVID 19 AND MASS:

- You no longer need to book for mass.
- Masks are strongly advised for the sake of other people if though no longer a legal requirement. **Do not come if displaying any viral symptoms**
- We will maintain alternate benches. However there will be no limits to numbers on a bench though we wish to have a system which acknowledges people's wish to maintain distances. When entering a bench, if you wish to maintain a distance from those following you, please place your Mass/hymn books as far from you as you wish, to indicate your preferred gap. If someone is already in the bench, then watch out for where they have put their books.

		Sat. 6.00 pm	Sunday, 9.00 am	11.00 a.m.
Readers	March 5/6	E. Andrews	S Acton	M. Douglas
	March 12/13	J. Rowland	D. Chappell	M. Lewin

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREATS – The Diocese is organising a retreat for women on Saturday 12th March (at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Nottingham) and a retreat for men on 19th March (at the Briars in Crich). The women's retreat will be led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and will be focused on 'Make the tent you live in larger; lengthen its ropes and strengthen the pegs!' how we live out our faith in all areas of our lives and the people we interact with. The men's retreat will be led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and will take as its theme: 'Friendship with Christ & Friendship in Christ' exploring how we can grow in friendship and fraternity. Please email adult.formaton@dioceseofnottingham.uk for more information and to book your place.