

DIARY

SAT	1 st Mass of Sunday at 5.30 pm.
SUN	<u>SUNDAY 2 LENT</u> Mass at 9.30 am, followed by refreshments in the hall. Mass of Anointing of the Sick & Housebound at 2.30 pm followed by refreshments.
MON	Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am. Mothers' Prayers in the hall, 10.30 am
WED	Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am, followed by refreshments and Breaking Open and Sharing the Word. Liturgy Group meeting at 7.30 pm.
THU	Adoration 10 am – 7 pm.
FRI	Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am. Prayer Group, hall, 7.30 pm.
SAT	Sacrament of Reconciliation, 11-11.30 am. 1 st Mass of Sunday, (3 Lent) at 5.30 pm.

Sundays Year B; Psalter Week 2 + Lent readings etc.

MASS COMMEMORATIONS: Sat(24): Aubrey Gaughan RIP; **Wed:** Sheila Ward; **Sat(3):** Joe Farussia RIP.

READINGS

Reading 1: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18.

Psalm (115) Refrain: ***I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

Reading 2: Romans 8: 31-34.

Gospel Reading: Mark 9: 2-10.

Please pray for the following who are sick: Mr Frank Manning, Mr Richard Eades, Mrs R. Menghini, Mrs Bridie Liddle, Mrs Jonasz, Fr Lloyd, Zofia Clarke, Vilma D'Souza, Don d'Cruz, Mrs Audrey Tickner, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, Charlie Canavan, Ann O'Mahony, John Porter, Don Mackenzie, Faith Wheat, Mrs Rebecca Matthews, Gail Ballinger, Eric Conn, Joyce Alford, Chris Bate, John Doyle, David Coghlan, Helen Krause, David Gompels, Derek Dyer, Michael Lees, Elizabeth Travers, Nuala Barron, June Carey, Tom & Claire Hunter, Mrs Marian Frawley.

Richard Eades is very ill at present – please keep him and Margaret in your prayers; also Eric Conn.

Welcome to The Parish of St Anthony of Padua



Parish Priest: Fr Richard Northey

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SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 2018

Dear Friends,

You will no doubt have heard that Billy Graham died on Wednesday. May he rest in peace, in the presence of the Lord whom he loved and was proud to proclaim.

For many of us, what he did may not have been “our style”. But whatever his style, he did what he believed to be right – and indeed, what *we Catholics* also believe to be right! He was never ashamed to witness to Christ – and it is *what being a Christian means*, to be a witness to Christ! We do not all have to do it in the same way he did; but we are all bound in our own way to bear witness to Christ. We do not belong to him, we cannot hope to participate in his salvation if we imagine that we are in some way excused from the solemn duty of having to make him known in some way or other even if our way of doing so may be very different from that of Billy Graham.

I have shared with many of you before how I once as a student had to take part in a survey in a particular parish knocking on doors to ask what faith the householder belonged to (this is the sort of job students for the priesthood were typically given in those days!) and one person at one house – for some reason I suspected he was a Catholic – angrily told me that it was no business of anybody else's what faith he belonged to! Well, if he *was* a Christian, and 45 years ago most people in Birmingham nominally were, then he couldn't have been more wrong! Because if he was a Christian, then it was precisely his business to share it! Not all of us are good at preaching or public speaking, and so would not be able to share their faith in the way Billy Graham did; but if they are not, then they must find other ways of sharing the Christian faith; because *everybody* has a right to have heard the basic Christian Gospel, even if they do not decide personally to follow it.

In the love of Christ,

Richard Northey

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £173.38

THIS WEEKEND: Retiring collection of CAFOD Lent Fast proceeds.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS: Monday, 10.30 am in the hall.

BREAKING OPEN & SHARING THE WORD: Sharing on next Sunday's Gospel. Wednesdays, after Mass & refreshments.

LITURGY GROUP: Meeting Wednesday 7.30 pm, hall.

ADORATION: Thursday, 10 am – 7 pm.

PRAYER GROUP: Friday, 7.30 pm in the hall.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 23rd February: CAFOD Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23rd February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity. With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat. This Lent your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong. Spare envelopes available at the back of church. Please give generously.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please let Fr. Richard know of anyone who is sick, elderly or housebound who would like to be visited and receive Holy Communion.

RUH BATH RC CHAPLAINCY: Mandy Baker – 07775895814, email: mandybaker@live.co.uk please contact Mandy if you have a relative or friend in hospital.

LENT GROUPS: These will continue on the appropriate days this week.

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK & THE HOUSEBOUND: *this* Sunday, 25 February at 2.30 pm. Afterwards there will be refreshments in the hall. Do come and take part if you can, even if you are not receiving the Sacrament of Anointing. The Sacraments are part of the public worship of the Church, and we should come to meet and pray for and support our brothers and sisters who do need the Sacrament.

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH every third Thursday at 9:30 am in church before Adoration begins. Prayer intentions: for God's guidance, a smooth transition and for a new parish priest and thanksgiving to God for our parish priest. All are warmly welcome to join in at church or home if you can.

LIFTS TO/FROM MASS: Anyone willing to offer lifts to/from Mass when required, please let Mary Harris know.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER March 2nd 10.30am at the United Church. This year the service has been written by the women of Suriname and will be led by Good News Church. The theme is "All God's Creation is very good" and is on environmental issues.

DEANERY LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: This will be on Tuesday, 6 March, 7 pm, at St. John's Trowbridge. This will replace the individual parish ones. Do take this opportunity of celebrating Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. Several priests of the deanery will be available for individual celebrations of the Sacrament.

SUMMER CAMPS: The annual Clifton Diocese Summer Camps have launched for 2018 and bookings are now being taken. This year, the camps have moved to a new location at the Viney Hill Adventure Centre in the Forest of Dean and are being held between 13-17 August (ages 7-11) and 20-24 August (ages 12-16). The camps promise to be a week full of fun, faith and friendship. If you are interested in finding out more, or to book a place for your child, please visit <http://livingyourfaith.co.uk> or email livingyourfaith@hotmail.co.uk.

PARKING: a) Could those parking on the corner of the car park please pull in tightly? It can be difficult for other cars to get past. b) As Christians, consideration of our neighbours is of primary importance. If you park in the street, please take care not to block our neighbours' parking areas, or park on yellow lines. If our church car park is full, there is a nearby public car park; please try to avoid upsetting our neighbours.

MELKSHAM FOODBANK: (www.melkshamfoodbank.org.uk). They are most in need of potatoes (instant), peas (canned), carrots (canned), sugar, pasta. They no longer use boxes – thank you to those who have donated boxes, but please do not leave them in the church porch any more. Does anyone know anyone who is going through a difficult time and might be in need of the help of the Foodbank?

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: for unaccompanied children are during Mass.

DRIVERS: Please drive with leaving the car park, so that adults – may not be put at

NEWSLETTER: Any please send to the presbytery front of the newsletter.



safety reasons, not allowed in the church hall

great care when entering or the lives of children – and risk.

information, articles, etc, at the address supplied on the