

Mass Intentions

Sun	28	Second Sunday of Lent		
	10.00	Repose of the souls of Rita & Arthur's family & friends	(Mr & Mrs Young)	
	17.00	The People of the Parish		
Mon	1	S. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales	National Feast	
		No Mass		
Tue	2	Weekday of Lent		
	9.00	Jean-Benoit Appadoo RIP	(Jenny Appadoo)	
Wed	3	Weekday of Lent		
	9.00	Joseph Thaddeus – healing	(Josef & Maria)	
	9.30	Stations of the Cross		
Thu	4	Weekday of Lent		
	9.00	Mary Collins	(Legion of Mary)	
Fri	5	Weekday of Lent (Women's World Day of Prayer)		
	9.00	Rome Daniels – Mass of the Angels	(Anne O'Doherty)	
	20.00	Stations of the Cross		
Sat	6	Weekday of Lent		
	9.00	Michelle Solomons – birthday	(Anne O'Doherty)	
Sun	7	Third Sunday of Lent		
	10.00	Somto Joshua Nwaoha – God's blessings	(Hanna & Charles Nwaoha)	
	17.00	The People of the Parish		

Stewards' rota for this week

Sunday 28 February	10.00 – 10.45	Tolu Ayeni, Jenny Appadoo, Kate Echeazu
	17.00 – 17.45	Lionel Sharon, Bernadetta Sharon
Tuesday 2 March	9.00 – 9.30	Anita Lewis
Wednesday 3 March	9.00 – 10.15	Jennifer Alvares
Thursday 4 March	9.00 – 9.30	Marilyn Butler
Friday 5 March	9.00 – 9.30	Jennifer Alvares
	20.00 – 20.30	<i>Please volunteer</i>
Saturday 6 March	9.00 – 9.30	Marilyn Butler, Michael Josef
Sunday 7 March	10.00 – 10.45	Anita Lewis, Antoinette Loroy, Yvonne Obi
	17.00 – 17.45	Pauline Brooke, Marilyn Butler

Remember, you must not socialise after Mass with anyone outside your household or bubble. Please leave the church and grounds/carpark promptly after Mass.



The Catholic Parish and Ordinariate Church of S. John Vianney, Clayhall



Parish Priest: Fr Rob Page

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Brentwood Diocesan Trust charity no 234092

Ordinariate charity no 1141536

Second Sunday of Lent

28 February 2021

Responsorial Psalm

10am: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

5pm: I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

First Reading

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

Second Reading

Romans 8:31-34

Gospel

Mark 9:2-10

Why do we read of the Transfiguration in the middle of Lent ?

What's the Transfiguration doing here in Lent? Why, in the midst of this season of penance, with its sombre purple, does the Church present us with this image of Jesus' garments becoming 'glistening, intensely white as no fuller on earth could bleach them' (Mk 9: 3)? Wouldn't that fit better with the mood of Eastertide, when the earth is bid to 'be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King,' as the deacon sings at the Easter Vigil?

Indeed, many commentators on this episode in the Gospels do interpret it precisely as a vision of the risen Jesus, pointing forward either to his Resurrection, or even to his Second Coming. That still doesn't tell us what this account of it is doing here on the second Sunday of Lent, though. I think, perhaps, that we can find out what the Church is pointing to by looking at the other readings appointed for today, and especially the account of the sacrifice of Isaac in Genesis 22.

In this passage, we hear how Abraham, in obedience to God, is prepared to sacrifice his only son to him: at the last minute, an angel of the Lord stays his hand and, having sacrificed a ram instead, Abraham is told of the reward for his faithfulness: his descendants will be multiplied, and by his offspring shall all the nations on the earth bless themselves (cf. Gen 22:8).



Lent at SJV

Sundays 8pm

A light that shines in silence: let us pray together in our homes

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays 9.30am

Fridays 8pm (*volunteer stewards needed, please come early*)

In person and live-streamed

Weekly Lenten reflections

See website and social media

Continued next page

Parish Finance	
	£
Income (offertory, standing orders, Mass stipends, candles etc.)	1,212.99
Average weekly expenditure	<u>1,605.00</u>
Shortfall	392.01

This sacrifice of an only son should, of course, get us thinking: indeed, the Church has often seen in the figure of Isaac carrying the wood for his own sacrifice (cf. Gen 22:6) a figure of Jesus carrying his cross to Calvary. That sacrifice, of course, was not stopped or swapped at the last minute; only after the last minute, on the third day, did it become clear that this was not a pointless and incomprehensible death (as Isaac's, too, looked like it was going to be) but the glorification of Jesus – that descendant of Abraham in whom all the nations bless themselves (cf. Gal 3:16).

So what is the Transfiguration doing here in Lent? I think that, just as it was for the disciples who saw it before they witnessed all the events of Christ's passion and death, it's a sign of hope – a reminder for us of the goal of our Lenten journey. But the story of the sacrifice of Isaac reminds us that it's important how Jesus came to his risen glory – that seemingly pointless and incomprehensible road to death which we commemorate in this season. And that too is a sign of hope – a sign that God, as he did for Abraham and as he did most of all in Christ, can transform and give meaning to our lives even when they may seem pointless or consist in incomprehensible suffering: Jesus, whom God did not spare but gave up for us all (cf. Rm 8:32), has shared in our humanity, shared in our suffering, shared even in our death, so that in those times of trial we too can hope to share in the glory he revealed to his disciples in his Transfiguration.

And of course, that hope for the future can transform – or, we might say, transfigure – our lives even now, shedding a different light on our difficulties and sorrows, for it enables us to share with St Paul the conviction that, 'If God is for us, who is against us? ... It is God who justifies; who is to condemn?' (Rm 8:31,33).

Holy Week and Easter

Now that the prime minister has published his road-map out of lockdown, it has become a little more clear what will be possible for our

Our Lady's Lamp

Our Lady's blue lamp burns this week for the Anton Paul Sivalingham Family at the request of Preya Senthel.

If you would like the lamp to burn for an intention of yours, please fill in one of the envelopes in the narthex. The suggested donation is £7. Weeks from 28 March are available.

celebration of the events of Holy Week and especially the Triduum. The clergy are awaiting instructions from the dioceses but it seems that we will be able, this year, to keep the liturgical celebrations of the great events of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord but in a fairly cut-down form. So we do need to start to make plans now!

Also if things go well, it is planned to lift all Covid restrictions by 21 June. I do believe that we will need some sort of celebration/event/marker to call all people back to Church. I am open to all ideas, please do not feel shy in making your feelings known! One thing I would put on the table as a plan would be to see what happens when we get to 21 June and give it an extra few weeks to stabilise and then on the first Sunday of August keep our celebration of our patron S. John Vianney with a big festal Mass (maybe with some professional music) and some kind of reception to follow. It would be important to make contact with all of those who we have not physically seen over the period of the pandemic and to make the event as widely known as possible.

Fr Rob

Notices and News

Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession)

Confession is available on Saturday mornings after Mass and at other times by arrangement with Fr Rob.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to sponsor Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for blessings received, please fill in the details on the lists in the narthex. Please clearly print your name and the name(s)/Blessing(s) you would like prayed for or given thanks for. Suggested donation £5 per lily.

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday 28 March

10am Mass
5pm Mass

Maundy Thursday 1 April

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 2 April

3pm Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord
8pm Maria Desolata

Holy Saturday 3 April

8pm Easter Vigil & First Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday 4 April

10am Mass
Crowning of the Image of Our Lady
5pm Mass

Offertory

Please place your offertory donations in the basket near the church entrance/exit doors.

You can also donate online at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=clayhall.

A light that shines in silence – let us pray together

The impact of Covid-19 continues to affect us all in so many ways – many among our families, friends and community have lost their lives and even more endure illness. Added to that are the strains on our wellbeing and livelihoods.

To help us through this unusual and difficult time, as we come together in spirit in our own homes at 8pm every Sunday, we turn off our main lights and place a lighted candle in a front window. Gathering around the flame for five to ten minutes, we stand in silence, reflect on our own thoughts and pray. As the light shines out, we hope that our still small voice may bring hope and peace. Candles, which have been blessed by Fr Rob, are on sale after Mass.

NHS Test and Trace

If you use the NHS COVID-19 app to scan the QR code, you do not need to give us your contact details.

Prayer for life

Right to Life UK asks us to pray this week for the following intention: "We pray for all considering abortion. We pray that the love and

kindness of those around them would support pregnant women everywhere to continue with their pregnancy and find peace and joy in what the future holds. Lord hear us."

Reading at Mass

If you wish to read at any Sunday or Christmas Mass, please ask Sonia before the Mass starts or during the previous week.

Readers must sanitise their hands before and after reading.

Repository

Our repository is too small to enable social distancing. However we do have a selection of cards, gifts and other items. If you wish to buy something, please ask any of the usual repository volunteers, or Barbara Cheah or Sonia.

Mass intentions

If you would like a Mass offered, please complete a Mass request envelope, place the stipend inside and put it in the parish letter box or give it to Sonia. Most Sundays from 16 May are available as well as much earlier weekdays.

Vacancy at Sir William Petre Almshouses, Ingatestone

A vacancy has arisen at the Almshouses situated along the High St in Ingatestone. The Almshouse is a one-bedroom property.

Candidates must be over 50 years old and in need. Preference may be given to Roman Catholics.

Applicants please contact Mike Falcone, Trustee, Ginge Petre Trust, on 07935 959388.

You must wear a face covering in church unless you are exempt.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN.
Please make sure your phone is off or totally silent during Mass.**

Live streaming

Our weekday and Sunday Masses are live-streamed and available on YouTube afterwards. If you have any concerns, please speak to Fr Rob.