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**Newsletter for the week commencing 7th February 2021**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

**Entrance antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.**

**First Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7**

**Psalm 146 Response: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

**Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!**

**Gospel**: **Mark 1: 29-39**

**Communion antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

**Father Behr writes:**

**Dear Parishioners,**

We celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes on Thursday 11 February.

The miraculous apparitions of Our Lady of Lourdes to Saint Bernadette are known worldwide. Many miracles of the healing of pilgrims to the shrine have been authenticated by the Church and many of us have visited the shrine and have found peace.

On 25th March 1858, the day of the sixteenth apparition, Bernadette asked the 'Lady' her name. The 'Lady' replied in the local dialect: 'Que soy era Immaculada Counceptiou', meaning 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. The Immaculate Conception is 'Mary is conceived without sin, by the merits of the Cross of Christ' (definition of the dogma promulgated in 1854).

Bernadette immediately went to see the Parish priest, Fr Peyramale, to give him the name of the 'Lady'. The priest was amazed and realised it was the Mother of God who was appearing in the Grotto. (Bernadette would have been totally unfamiliar with the above dogma). Later, Mgr Laurence, Bishop of Tarbes, authenticated this revelation.

Our Lady called for 'Penance, penance, penance!' Which reminds us that **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 17 February.**

[https://www.lourdes-france.org/en/apparitions/](about:blank)

Although we are not able to go on pilgrimage together to Lourdes at this time it is possible to arrange for a candle to be lit for your intentions at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes.  Perhaps you know someone who is sick or going through a tough time. You could send them a link to tell them that you have had a candle lit for them and that you are thinking of them.

If you follow this link you can make a donation from as little as €3 and have a candle lit for someone you care about and support the Shrine.  [https://www.lourdes-france.org/en/cierge-en-ligne/](about:blank)

— **O my Mother,** **offer me** to **Jesus**. **O my Mother**, **take my heart** and **hide** it in the **heart** of **Jesus**. — St. Bernadette Soubirous ...

Best wishes, Father Behruz Rafat

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased**:

**Those ill or infirm:** David Green, Charlotte Elliot (daughter of Maureen Davidson), Jennifer Jorden, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant,

Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those self-isolating or suffering from COVID-19.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Michael Cahill, Norma Dayborn, Anne Page, Louise McLaughlin, Charles Broughton, Teresa Naish, Charles Lawrence, Alice Todd, Irene le Forestiere, Eva Lamden and Nighean Lloyd-Thomas.

There will be a **second collection next weekend** for **Poor Parishes**.

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| **This week’s services (7th – 13th February), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** | | | |
| **Sunday 7th Feb**  10 am Mass  12 midday EF Latin Mass | **Fifth Sunday of the Year**  *For the people of the parish* | **Thursday 11th Feb**  10 am Mass | Our Lady of Lourdes  *World day for the sick.* |
| **Monday 8th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria  *Trevor Leney RIP* | **Friday 12th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria  *Seamus McCann RIP* |
| **Tuesday 9th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria  *Noel Breen RIP* | **Saturday 13th Feb**  10 am Mass | The Blessed Virgin Mary |
| **Wednesday 10th Feb**  10 am Service of the Word and Holy Communion | St Scholastica | **Sunday 14th Feb**  10 am Mass  12 midday EF Latin Mass | **Sixth Sunday of the Year (B)** |
| **Flowers for 14th Feb – Breeda Ferguson** | | | |

**THE PARISH WEBSITE**

We have a very good parish website, which can help keep you up to date with details of services and parish activities. The site is updated daily with the latest arrangements for going to church - see the “Getting Back to Church!” page - and news of upcoming events. In normal times it would have what activities are taking place in our Parish Centre, too. You can get on the site at [www.standrewstenterden.org](about:blank).

If you wish to add your own news or new events which would be of interest to parishioners, please contact Fr Behr or Roger Styles at [raj@styles.myzen.co.uk](mailto:raj@styles.myzen.co.uk).

**40 Days of Prayer…**

We hope you have found the 40 days of prayer a fulfilling initiative.

As we come near to the end of this, Churches Together in Tenterden and our own Parish would be keen to know whether you found it helpful.

We would also like to know what you might like to have to follow it.

Our Town and the surrounding area will be slowly emerging into a post pandemic world with huge unemployment and social and spiritual need.

What would you like us to be doing to translate our Christian faith into practical action?

What would nourish your faith to strengthen your Christian Pilgrimage?

Examples could include online services, Zoom services, meditations during Lent on the Stations of the Cross/ the Way to Calvary, regular Evening Prayer via Zoom

**Please email us with your thoughts,**

Fr Behr and Deacon Jolyon.