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**Newsletter for the week commencing 14th February 2021**

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

**Entrance antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

**First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46**

**Psalm 31 Response: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation**

**Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10: 31 – 11: 1**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!**

**Gospel**: **Mark 1: 40-45**

**Communion antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them: they were not disappointed in what they craved.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent.

We will have Masses at 10am and 7pm with the Imposition of Ashes, but things will be a little different this year.  Instead of having the ashes imposed on the forehead with the Sign of the Cross, we will have the ashes sprinkled on our heads as we leave the church at the end of Mass.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Those over 14 years of age should abstain from meat and meat products. Those aged between 18 and 59 who are in good health are expected to abstain and fast.  That means in practice two snacks and a modest meal.

We still have a few days to plan a really good Lent. There are so many graces available if we are generous. Things are difficult these days and that means that we have even more to offer God.

There are many ingredients to making a good Lent and we all have our favourite ways to show our love for God, but I would urge everyone to make a resolution to go to Confession and experience that Joy that comes from receiving absolution.  More details about some opportunities for Confession will follow but, in the meantime, I am always available by appointment and after the morning Mass on Saturday.

Best wishes

Father Behr



*Ecce Homo and Mater Dolorosa Diptych*. 1520. [Aelbrecht Bouts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aelbrecht_Bouts" \o "Aelbrecht Bouts)

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased: David Lloyd-Thomas RIP**

**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:** Vincent Lacki, Alfred Webbe-Wood, Anita Cencio, Peter Murphy, Kathleen Ross-Taylor, Anthony Burke, Ann Thomas, Vincent Burns, Geraldine Walsh, Joan Bidwell, Celia Johnson and Norman Finch.

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| **This week’s services (14th – 20th February), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** | | | |
| **Sunday 14th Feb**  10 am Mass  12 midday EF Mass (Latin) | **Sixth Sunday of the Year (B)**  *People of the parish*  St Valentine, Priest & Martyr | **Thursday 18th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria |
| **Monday 15th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria | **Friday 19th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria  *Celia Johnson (Foundation Mass)* |
| T**uesday 16th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria | **Saturday 20th Feb**  10 am Mass | Feria |
| **Wednesday 17th Feb**  10 am Mass  12 midday EF Mass (Latin)  7 pm Mass | **ASH WEDNESDAY**  A day of fasting and abstinence | **Sunday 21st Feb**  10 am Mass  12 midday EF Mass (Latin) | **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)** |
| **No flowers during Lent** | | | |

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

**Pope Francis’ Mission Intention for February:** We pray for women who are victims of violence, that their voices may be heeded and acted upon by society.

Archbishop John and the Diocesan Spirituality Commission are offering a **Retreat for Lent**, which you can follow in your own home.

Using the link below, you can watch a short video reflection each week, download prayer materials and other resources which can help you make the best use of whatever time and opportunity you may have during your week.

There are also additional materials for use by parish and other groups, either in person or via Zoom/Teams or similar.

**If you are looking for a way to deepen your life of prayer this Lent,** click on <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme> where you can also sign up to receive materials directly to your email.