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**Newsletter for the week commencing 27th February 2022**

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

**Entrance antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.**

**First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7**

**Psalm 91 Response: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

**Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15: 54-58**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45**

**Communion antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent.

Why do we have ashes on Ash Wednesday?

The priest marks the foreheads of the faithful with ashes in the form of a cross.

While he is imposing the ashes he says ‘Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return. ‘

This highly symbolic gesture reminds us that we are all going to die one day, that death is inevitable and this knowledge helps us to become more aware of our dependence on God.

Ash Wednesday is *the* day to resolve to make this Lent the best Lent of our lives.

It is a day of fasting and abstinence. Those who are aged 18-59 must fast and abstain from meat.  All those aged 14 onwards must abstain from meat.

We have Mass at 10am and 7.30pm. There is also a Traditional Latin Mass at 12 noon.

If you have been thinking of returning to Mass this is a good opportunity now that it is safe.  Those who feel the need can continue to wear masks.

Best Wishes

Father Behr

**Legacy donation from Mrs Kay Ockenden RIP.**

We have received a cheque for £2,000 from the estate of Mrs Kay Ockenden.  We are grateful to the Ockenden family and we will have a special Mass for the Ockenden family soon.

If you would like to help, give our parish a financial future, please consider leaving a legacy in your will.

We would not have been able to refurbish our parish church without the legacy from Maureen McGarry RIP.

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:**

**Those ill or infirm:** Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Charles & Nellie Lawrence, Clifford, Marjorie Frain, Delia Pearson, Pat Baker, Jim Maloney, Mary Bridgeman, Irene Lacka, Mary Jackson, Brian McGinty and John Wolfe.

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| **This week’s services (26th February – 5th March),** **Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 26th Feb**10am Mass10.30 -11am Confession6pm Vigil Mass | Feria*Msgr Canon Cyril Murtagh RIP**Patricia Fleming RIP* | **Thursday 3rd March**9am-10am Adoration10am Mass | Feria*In thanksgiving (Lawrence)* |
| **Sunday 27th Feb**10am Mass12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  | **8th Sunday in Ordinary Time***People of the Parish* | **Friday 4th March**10am Mass10.30 – 11.30am Adoration | St Casimir*Allen Davis RIP (Sheila Davis)* |
| **Monday 28th Feb**10am Mass | Feria *Aidan McCann* | **Saturday 5th March**10am Mass6pm Vigil Mass | Feria*Rev. Canon Kevin Rae RIP**Cinzia & Family* |
| T**uesday 1st March**10am Mass | St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales*Anna, Kris & Families* | **Sunday 6th March**10am Mass12 midday Traditional Latin Mass  | **First Sunday of Lent***People of the Parish* |
| **Wednesday 2nd March**10am Mass12 midday Traditional Latin Mass 7.30pm Mass | **Ash Wednesday***Private Intention**Rev. Father Peter Burrows RIP* |  |  |
| **No flowers during Lent** |
| **Readers: Saturday 4th March: Fahy family / Sunday 5th March: Kathleen Bishop** |

**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Clergy Support Fund Second Collection**

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People.

In 2021, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 71 retired priests, at a cost of £1.25 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese.

Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers.

Thank you!

• Donate Online: <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>

• QR Code (see above) 

• Telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: **020 7960 2504**

• Cash / Cheque – please use the Clergy Support Fund envelopes at the back of church.

**There will be a second collection THIS weekend (26th/27th February) for this very important fund.**

**Up-to-date guidance from the diocese on covid.**

No social distancing is needed. We no longer need to book for Mass.

The wearing of masks is now optional.  Please be careful and respect the needs of others.  If you have any questions, please speak to me or Jolyon.  As always if you have a cough or a fever it is better to stay home.

**Parish Centre**

Do remember that our wonderful parish centre is available for Birthday parties and other special occasions on Saturday from 11am to 5pm at £14 per hour.  The facilities are really excellent and the location includes free parking.

**Lourdes is Coming to Kent.**

The relics of St Bernadette will be at Aylesford from Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October. It is believed that this is the only venue in Kent that will be hosting the relics.

**Sycamore**

The Sycamore course continues on Tuesday after Mass.  This Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday so we will have **pancakes** after Mass.

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**Parish Garden**

Liz and David Green took responsibility for the gardening at St Andrew's toward the end of last year.  They share my aspiration of creating a cutting garden to provide flowers for use in the church.  There is already a good selection of foliage shrubs in the garden but a lack of flowers to cut.

Over the past few weeks Liz and David have concentrated on clearing brambles, trimming shrubs and creating raised beds. However, they desperately need help turning flower beds and clearing weeds.

On Saturday 5th and Saturday 12 March Liz and David are offering bacon rolls and a hot drink to any parishioners willing to come and help them between 9.30 to 12.30.  All you need is a pair of wellies, a spade and/or fork, gardening gloves and bags of energy!  If you are willing to commit a few hours on either or both Saturdays please contact David on 07727 607458.

**World Day of Prayer**

The annual World Day of Prayer will take place **this Friday** (4th March) at 2pm. The host this year is Zion Baptist Church. Do come along if you can and take part in this inspiring and thought-provoking service led by women in Tenterden. The service was prepared by women from England, Wales and Northern Ireland.