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**Newsletter for the week commencing 26th February 2023**

**First Sunday of Lent (A)**

**Entrance antiphon: When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.**

**First Reading: Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7**

**Psalm 50 Response: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

**Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 5: 12-19**

**Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

**Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11**

**Communion antiphon: One does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**

**Father Behr writes:**

 Dear Parishioners

Stations of the Cross is one of the great devotions of our Catholic faith and particularly suitable for this holy season of Lent.

Praying through these 14 stations we are moved by the greatness of Our Lord’s love and mercy. At the end of each station we pray the *Stabat Mater* uniting our hearts with the Blessed Virgin in her perfect cooperation with the redemptive action of her divine Son Jesus.

Please make a special effort to take part in this devotion.

**At the cross her station keeping,
Stood the mournful Mother weeping,
Close to Jesus to the last.**

Season of Lent at St Andrew

Sycamore Faith Sharing

Monday 27 February

Monday 6 March

Monday 13 March with refreshments from 10.30am

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday after the Word and Communion service.

Saturday evening 5.30pm before the 6pm Mass

Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary after the morning Mass on Tuesday and Friday.

Fr Behr

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased: Jean Dora Gillam RIP**

**Those ill or infirm:** Jane McKinnon, June Munton, Maureen Escott, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, 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 Crofton, Marjorie Frain, Delia Pearson, Pat Baker, Jim Maloney, Mary Bridgeman and Irena Lacka.

The Funeral and Burial of **Jean Dora Gillam RIP** will be on **Tuesday 28th February at 10:30 at Saint Margaret’s, Bethersden**

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| **This week’s services (25th Feb – 4th March), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 25th Feb**Feria | No public Mass am10.30 -11am Confession6pm Vigil Mass *For people with skin conditions*  **Reader: Charles** |
| **Sunday 26th Feb****First Sunday of Lent (A)** | 10am Mass *People of the Parish*  **Reader: Collette**12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Monday 27th Feb**Feria | 10am Mass *Charlotte Ford RIP* |
| **Tuesday 28th Feb**Feria | 10am Mass *Donor’s Intention* |
| **Wednesday 1st March****St David, Bishop** | 10am Service of the Word and Holy Communion |
| **Thursday 2nd March**Feria | 9am-10am Adoration10am Mass *Sanctity of Human Life* |
| **Friday 3rd March**Feria**CAFOD Fast Day** | 10am Mass *Allen Davis RIP (Sheila’s husband)*10.30 – 11.30am Adoration |
| **Saturday 4th March**Feria | No public Mass am10.30 -11am Confession6pm Vigil Mass *Josephine & Charles Azzopardi RIP*  **Reader: Family readers: Christine & Lucie** |
| **Sunday 5th March****Second Sunday Of Lent (A)** | 10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Brian**12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **No flowers in Lent** |
| **Readers: for Saturday 4th March – Family readers/Sunday 5th March - Brian** |

**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.

**Children’s Liturgy**

Lorraine is bringing back Children’s Liturgy at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson starts on **Sunday 5 March**.

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 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 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

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

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

**GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER:**This new ONLINE course, has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and Sycamore. It is a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang. Growing in Faith Together consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for: **married couples**to enrich their friendship and love; **engaged couples**who have **completed their marriage preparation course**and want to continue exploring their faith together.

The **LENTEN course**runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning **28 Feb 2023**and continuing on **MAR 7, 14, 21, 28 & 4 APRIL 2023.**To **register**click on the link below:
Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk)

**Sycamore is Back**

Sycamore is a series of talks about our Catholic faith that is both accessible and engaging. The parishioners who joined us last year found the experience really worthwhile and enjoyable.

This year we are joined by Deacon Simon South and parishioners from Rye.

I do hope you will come along.

We start every session with refreshments from 10.30am and we will finish by 12pm.

If you have never taken part in something like this before it’s really worth giving it a go.

**We will be meeting on the following dates**: Monday 20 and 27 February. Monday 6 and 13 March.

**Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ Weekend"** If  you are mourning  after the death of a loved one this  weekend may be  for you.

Aylesford Priory **24 - 26th March 2023** Cost £230 single, £210 shared. Please Tel: 01622 717272 or email: reception@thefriars.org.uk

**Churches Together in Tenterden**

**2023 Lent Lunches and Course**

We will be using Zion Baptist Church this year as our venue starting on **this coming Friday, February 24th** at 12 Midday.

A light ploughman’s style lunch with Coffee or Tea will be served at a cost of £5 with “profits” going to Christian Aid, who along with CAFOD and other charities are part of the Disasters Emergency Committee.

Volunteers to help set up, serve and clear up are asked to please arrive at Zion each Friday to prepare the food at 11:30 am.

The Lent Course will run for five sessions, using the book “Lentwise” (Spiritual Essentials for Real Life) by Paula Gooder. Copies of the book will be available to purchase. Cost approximately £9.00. Please let Jolyon know if you would like a copy.

The course sessions will be led by a team drawn from Churches Together in Tenterden.

This will begin on Friday February 24th, straight after the Lent lunch from 1pm to 2:30pm and normally repeated the following Wednesday evening in St. Mildred’s Church, Tenterden from 7pm until 8:30pm.

Please note that the course cannot take place on Friday 3rd March due to the World Day of Prayer, so session 2 will be held for the first time on Wednesday 8th March and repeated on Friday 10th March.

Thereafter, the pattern of Wednesday, repeated on Friday, continues until the end of the course on Friday 31st March. The sessions are as follows:

**1. Friday 24th Feb and Wed 1st March – Compass: Finding Direction**

2. Wed 8th March and Friday 10th March – Nourishment: Keeping Going

3. Wed 15th March and Friday 17th March – Light: Gaining Wisdom

4. Wed 22nd March and Friday 24th March – Shelter: Finding Security

5. Wed 29th March and Friday 31st March – Water: Enjoying Refreshment

**Used Printer Cartridges**

The sharp-eyed amongst you may have noticed a big box in the porch labelled 'Recycle Your Ink Cartridges Here'. I am hoping that those parishioners who have computer printers will bring their used cartridges to the church and put them in said box. The company who collects them will then make a donation to the Santa Maria Education Fund (SMEF) which is based in Paraguay. The fund was started some years ago by Margaret Hepplethwaite to foster the education of many of the poor children who live in and around Santa Maria and it has become very successful albeit with limited numbers of children due to lack of funds available. Many of the children go on to university and some even to the U.K. but at least all the pupils get an education that would otherwise be denied them.
So, please, do your bit to help the SMEF and bring us your 'empties' - unfortunately this only applies to makers cartridges and not refills, at the moment. Further information from **Brian Lawrence**

**Fire Drill**

Sunday 12 March at the end of Mass.

**CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal**

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD’s Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

**The amount donated at our recent collection for the earthquake appeal via CAFOD was £375.10**

**Thank you.**