**St. Andrew’s Catholic Church, Tenterden**

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 7th/8th March 2020**

**Second Sunday of Lent (A)**

**First Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4**

**Psalm 32 Response:**  May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**Second Reading: The second letter of St Paul to Timothy 1: 8-10**

**Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9**

**Father John writes:**

**Receiving HOLY COMMUNION in the present circumstances.**

Some of you have expressed concern about precautions at Mass arising from the current Coronavirus situation. Our Bishops’ Conference recently circulated to parish priests some advice on this matter. The key advice is to take a stepped approach and to reassure people that the disease is mostly mild, although elderly people can be more vulnerable. I am sure you already observe the good hygiene advice (catch it, bin it, etc.). It is suggested that alcohol hand gel should be available for all to use as they come into Church (but inevitably there is none available currently). However, hot water and soap is available in the Church porch toilet, or in the facilities by the entrance to our Parish Centre. Anyone who feels uncomfortable in the present circumstances about taking Communion from the Chalice is advised that they should receive the Sacred Host on the hand only. If the situation should get worse, there will be the need to suspend distribution under both kinds (only Communion from the Host). Frequently touched surfaces (such as door handles) will be regularly cleaned.

Finally –**the sign of peace**: a wise precaution is to **give the sign of peace without touching anyone** (so no handshake). Different generations tend to find their own way of expressing ‘peace’ to their neighbour without physically touching, such as bowing, smiling, waving, or simply ‘thumbs up’! And don’t forget during Mass to pray for all suffering from this disease.

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:** Marjorie Frain,Jim Maloney RIP

**Those ill or infirm:** Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Eric Booth, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton, Josie Payne and Joe Venables.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Anne Knox, Sally Cudator, Naomi Mitchell, Alfred Holmesdale, Philip Goodwin, Peter Cox, Mary Hastings, John Bryant and John-Paul Beirne.

**This week’s events**

Stations of the Cross at 4pm every Sunday during Lent.

There will be a **second collection this weekend** for you to give in your CAFOD envelopes from Family Fast Day on Friday.

On **Saturday 14th March**, from 10am until 12 midday, **Goudhurst Parish** is holding a short training course for **Extraordinary** **Ministers**, organised by Palmyra Willis. It will be a morning of reflection and discussion about dealing with unusual circumstances. The course will be held in the church (Sacred Heart Church, Beresford Road, TN17 1DN) and anyone who is interested is very welcome.

**Next Saturday - 14 March - at 11.00** at the Unitarian Meeting House, just down the road from us, there will be a 40-minute organ concert in aid of the RNLI by John Wilkins (Organist of St Thomas's RC Church, Rainham)  Coffee and cakes served from 10.30 - all are welcome!

**New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week.** The Society of St John the Evangelist is a monastic community in the Anglican Episcopal Church, based in Cambridge, Mass. Rooted in the ancient traditions of prayer and community life, and critically engaged with contemporary culture, the Brothers seek to know and share an authentic experience of God’s love and mercy. “Signs of Life” is an online Lenten retreat, with a new episode each week. Visit it here: www.newpilgrimpath.ie

The **third** **of the Lent lunches** (run by St Mildred's this week) will be held at St Mildred's Church Hall from 12 midday to 2pm on **Friday, 13th March**. Great food and the opportunity to help worthwhile causes.

**This week’s services**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Date** | **Feast** | **Time/Detail** |
| Saturday | 7th March | Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs | 10am – 11am Sacrament of Reconciliation  6:00pm Vigil Mass of Sunday |
| Sunday | 8th March | Second Sunday of Lent | 8:30am Mass  10:30am Mass *Carole Marden RIP*  16:00 Stations of the Cross |
| Monday | 9th March | St Frances of Rome | 10:00am Mass *People of the parish* |
| Tuesday | 10thMarch | Feria | 10:00am Mass |
| Wednesday | 11th March | Feria | 10:00am Mass followed by Adoration |
| Thursday | 12th March | Feria | 9:00am Mass *for all suffering from coronavirus* |
| Friday | 13th March | Feria | 10:00am Mass followed by Adoration |
| Saturday | 14th March | Feria | 10:00 to 10:45 Reconciliation  6:00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday | 15th March | Third Sunday of Lent | 8:30am Mass  10:30am Mass  16:00 Stations of the Cross |

**Next week’s responsibilities (14th/15th March)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **6:00pm Saturday** | **8:30am Sunday** | **10:30am Sunday** |
| **Reader** | Charles O | Tony M | Kathy Gibbs |
| **Extra-ordinary Ministers** |  | Allan Shipton  Peter Lonergan | Lorraine Sharp  Liz Dumbleton |
| **Flowers** | No flowers in Lent | **Cleaners** | Liz & David |

**Regular activities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Event | Where | When |
| Mothers’ Prayers | The Parish Room | Tuesdays at 4.30pm |
| Choir practice | St Andrew’s Church | Wednesdays at 6.30pm |

**Forthcoming events**

A few more funnies to cheer you up in this horrid weather…

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

Police were summoned to a day-care centre where a three-year-old was resisting a rest