

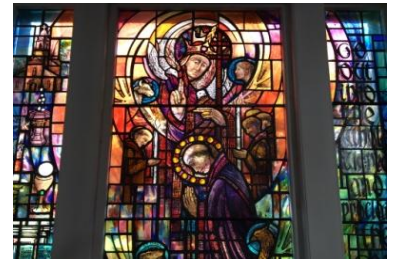
St. Gregory's Newsletter

12th March 2017 2nd Sunday of Lent Parish Mass Book page 155



The Parish Office is staffed on
Monday, Wednesday and Friday from
9.00am to 13.00pm.

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Saint of the Week

Saint Patrick

Nearly all we know of St. Patrick (c.390 – 461) comes from his authentic writings. He was British by birth, the son of a town councillor who was a deacon, while his grandfather was a priest. His place of birth was somewhere in the West between the mouth of the Severn and the Clyde.

Whilst a youth he was captured by Irish pirates and reduced to slavery for six years using this time to pray, in contrast to his earlier years in Britain when he 'knew not the true God'.

He either escaped or was freed and returned to Britain. He was ordained and later made his way to Ireland c. 435, working mainly in the North, setting up his See at Armagh. From this base he made missionary journeys.

Patrick's writings show a sincere simplicity and deep pastoral care, devoted to abolishing paganism, idolatry and sun worship.



Reflection..... on fasting

This is not about "losing weight" or "getting in shape", though it will make a difference to our overall health.

This is about being more alert... the monks in the desert, centuries ago, discovered that fasting – simply not eating – caused a tremendous boost to their consciousness. Not only did their bodies go on "alert", but their whole person seemed to be in a more heightened state of attention.

The whole purpose of fasting was to aid prayer – to make it easier to listen to God...

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are named as days of fast which we all, as Catholics, do together. ... On Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent we may want to try to fast more intentionally. Of course, always conscious of our health, we may want to try to eat very little, except some juice or perhaps a small amount of beans and rice. We will experience how powerfully open and alert we feel and how much easier it is to pray... we will feel freer and more energized.

The other powerful advantage of fasting is that it can be a very simple gesture of greater solidarity with the poor of the earth, who often have very little more than a little rice and beans each day.

Powerful things happen in me, when I think about those people in the world who have so much less than I do. And it's a great cure for self-pity.

From "Beginning my Lenten patterns"
<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/...>

Children's Corner

P	E	R	T	E	T	E	P	I	N
E	F	A	N	E	C	F	E	S	A
H	A	J	I	L	E	L	T	U	I
E	C	E	A	W	J	I	E	S	T
R	E	S	T	T	O	S	R	E	N
T	U	N	N	D	E	D	H	J	U
E	S	H	U	S	E	N	A	J	O
P	O	O	O	S	U	M	T	H	M
J	L	M	M	O	E	M	O	S	S
C	A	S	E	S	S	E	O	M	E

JESUS	PETER	JAMES
JOHN	MOUNTAIN	FACE
SUN	MOSES	ELIJAH
TENTS	CLOUD	SHADOW



2nd Sunday of Lent - 5th March 2017

Sunday 12th March

9:30am John Oaks
11:00am Margaret Holmes
6:30pm Mary Calderbank & Family (FM)

Sunday 19th March

9:30am Jack Critchley
11:00am Pauline Simpson & Margaret & James Entwistle
6:30pm The Walmsley Family (FM)

3:00pm – 4:00pm Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament

Weekday Masses

Monday 8:30am Nellie Watson
Tuesday 8:30am Reid Family
Wednesday 8:30am Margaret Airey (LD)
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Thursday 8:30am Francis Kendal
Friday 8:30am Valerie Bretherton
Saturday 10:00am LISCF

Saints of the Week

St. Patrick
St. Cyril of Jerusalem

Weekly Confession Saturday after morning Mass

Rosary 20 minutes before weekday Mass

Please Pray For Our Sick Brothers And Sisters

Kitty Ellison, Jayne Hodge, Kathleen Reynolds, Brigid Cain, Mary Patten, Agnes Martindale, Robert Stretton, Mildred Bridge, Margaret Wood, Harold Sutton, Margaret Bower, Thomas Moss, Gerard Baker, Hugh Daly, Margaret Dearden, Maureen Jackson, Maureen McIver, Bill Burns, Lois Chiasson, Gerard McGuigan, Moya Jones, Teresa Kershaw, Teresa Critchley, Canon Richard Firth

Baptisms today

Today we welcome in Baptism Mason Alexander Burgess and Evie Marie Turner, and pray for them and their families as they start out on their new faith journey.

Collection

Thank you very much for last week's collection of £945, for the SVP collection and for your Lenten Alms which are ongoing, to be counted at the end of Lent.

THE GREAT LENT

CAFOD Fast Day

The CAFOD Family Fast day was last Friday, but the collection is still open, if you have not done so yet, there is still time to "Do something amazing this Lenten Fast Day", as per the appeal on the CAFOD poster. Just £4, for example, will buy 100 tiny fish, and with CAFOD's training to build a fish pond another family in the developing world can become self sufficient...

Stations of the Cross

As Friday is the traditional day for this devotion, the church will stay open after morning mass (till 1:00pm) for people who wish to walk the stations of the cross privately. Different text versions will be left at the back of church. A weekly communal service will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7pm.

Lenten Evening of Recollection for Men

As an excellent preparation for Easter Fr. O'Shea is offering this popular "mini-retreat" for men on Tuesday, 4th April, starting at 7pm and ending with Benediction and Tea and coffee at around 8.45pm. No charge. Further information from Robert Aston Tel 01204 468896 or email Robert@stoneacre.freeserve.co.uk

Chrism Mass

As usual a deanery coach is being organised for this diocesan celebration at our Cathedral on Wednesday, 12th April, picking up at St. Mary's, West Street car park @ 5.15pm (Adlington 5pm, Coppull Police Station 5.50pm). If you wish to join, please sign the list at the back of church and bring the payment of £10 to the sacristy – cut off point Monday, 3rd April.

Cemetery

We certainly are getting enough rain for the plants at the moment, but for extra water Paul tells us the taps are back on.

200 Club

The winners of the February draw were Gareth Hulme £20, Nora Cooper £30 and Ben Markham £50.

Advance Notice – Come & See

The annual Come and See Conference will take place at Christ the King School in Southport on 14th – 15th October. More info nearer the time, and see the poster in the porch.

Ministering to the Assembly

Counters 13th March, Denise and Bruce Conway

Rotas 19th March, 3rd Sunday in Lent

S.A.S. Mary Wakeman and Liz Fowler

Dial a Ride Barry Crossen and Catherine Jackson

Readers Pauline Doyle

Dominic Stone

John Oswell

Euch. Ministers Jack Knight

Sharon Hobin

TBA

Clare Meredith

Barbara Slater

Richard Jackson

Edward Brierley