

Welcome to Lent!

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday with the penitential ashes to remind us of this special and different time during which we prepare for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. It is a time of prayer, penance and repentance. What are you going to do for Lent??

Prayer

There will be a silent 'holy hour' each Sunday in Church at 3.00pm (with Benediction at 4.00pm) this will be a quiet hour... time for reflection and personal prayer. You don't have to come for all of it but you might come for a visit, even a few minutes.

Each Friday there will be Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm and of course there is Mass every morning at 8.30am. And what about the Rosary? The Rosary is said each day after Mass here in the mornings. Pope Francis has a great devotion to Mary – the Rosary is now said in St. Peter's before papal Masses... how about one "decade" each day.

Penance

Do you remember giving up sweets, sugar in your tea, cigarettes.... Well whatever – we should give up something – just to say 'no' to ourselves... but please remember you can't make a profit out of it – and savings you make should go in the Lenten Alms box or in the CAFOD collection on 16th March.

Ash Wednesday

is a day of fasting and abstinence. For the legalists amongst you: fasting means that we eat less on that day. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food and drink (it used to be 'meat' – hence fish on Fridays) or do something positive like visiting the sick, the old.... The Law of Abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year.

Sunday 7th February

9.30am Special Intention (I.R.)

11.00am Norman Martin

6.30pm May Ward

Sunday 14th February

9.30am Alice & Harry Southworth (A)

11.00am Huber & Mary Spedding (A)

6.30pm Hugh Daly intention

Weekday Masses

Mon. 8.30am In Thanksgiving (S.R.H.)

Tues. 8.30am Agnes McGowan (birthday)

Wed. 8.30am Valerie Bretherton

Thur. 8.30am John & Anne Miller (60th wedding anniv.)

Fri. 8.30am Jim Dunne (birthday)

Sat. 8.30am Thomas & Edith Culshaw (A)

Masses on Ash Wednesday

8.30am, and 10.00am when we will be joined by the children from School.

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Jayne Hodge · Kathleen Reynolds · Bridget Cain · Hazel Lee · Mary Patten · Agnes Martindale · Robert Stretton · Hilda Haworth · Mildred Bridge · Margaret and Fred Wood · Harold Sutton · Josie Down · Mary Campbell · Margaret Bower · Thomas Moss · Winifred Marshall · Gerard Baker · Hugh O'Daly · Margaret Dearden · Maureen Jackson · David Woods · Frank Morris · David Lynch · Dorothy McDonald (Howarth) · John Lilley · Howard Line

Diamond Wedding

Congratulations to John and Anne Miller who on Thursday celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage here at Weldbank. We join them in thanking God for the blessings of these sixty years and wish them both a happy celebration and every blessing in the future.

Baptism

Today we welcome in Baptism Oscar Francis Jack Deverson (Madge's great grandson) and wish him and his family every blessing.

Collection

Thank you for last week's collection of £1085.

PTFA – Friends of St. Gregory's

The PTFA (or Friends of St. Gregory's as they're now known) are holding a St. Patrick's night at Chorley Football Club on Friday, 11th March at 7.00pm. There will be live music from *Meet the Folkers*, a raffle and a hotpot supper included. Tickets are £10 each and are available from Reception at the School and will be sold at the back of church after 11.00am Mass on Sundays.

Catenians

The Catenian Association is an International Catholic organisation for men and their families. They have a "Circle" in Chorley, who meet socially once a month at Shaw Hill Hotel for a short meeting often followed by a guest speaker and supper. They support and encourage each other and their families in social, business, retired and Parish life.

They are always pleased to welcome new members into the Association and further information can be obtained from any member, or ring Bill Critchley on 01257 279500 or Terence Donnelly on 01257 249703.

S.V.P.

The Society will take the monthly collection today. Thank you for both your financial support and also your prayers for this most important work.

Ministering to the Assembly

Counters (8th February) John and Mary Mark

Rotas (14th February)

S.A.S. Mary Wakeman and Liz Fowler

Dial a Ride Tommy McGuigan and Paul Thompson

Readers Angela McLeod

Ministers Edward Brierley

Linda Walmsley

Carla Blears

Paul Thompson

David Chadwick

Paul Tate

Christine Crossen