**Sunday 19 March 2023 Divine Office: Proper/Week 4**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND SAINT CECILIA**

**Parish Administrator: Mgr Francis Jamieson**

**Landline: 01258 452051 Mobile: 07826 732493**

Hospital RC Chaplains:

**Dorchester**: Fr Barry Hallett 01305 255198; **Poole**: Deacon Declan McConville 01202 442167 Newsletter: [newsletterblandfordcatholics@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newsletterblandfordcatholics@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [blandfordcatholics.org](http://blandfordcatholics.org/)

Plymouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 213227

**Please keep in your prayers: Rose Grant, Ruby Cooper, Iris Bell; Christopher; Noreen Breadmore; Christina and John Morley; Leeah, Marjorie’s daughter; Sandra, Teresa and Tom’s niece; Father Tom, and all at the Care Home where he is chaplain; and all families of those suffering at this time.**

**MASS INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLISHING BUT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE**

**FOURTH WEEK OF LENT YEAR A1**

**Saturday March 18 St Cyril of Jerusalem, Doctor of the Church**

**9.30am LATIN MASS**

**(NATIONAL CHILD EXPLOITATION AWARENESS DAY)**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**Sunday March 19 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**

**6.00pm-6.30pm ADORATION AND BENEDICTION**

**Monday March 20 St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (SOL)**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS 6.30pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Tuesday March 21**

**6.10pm Evening Prayers 6.30pm HOLY MASS followed by Half-hour talk on the Holy Mass**

**Wednesday March 22**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**2 to 2.30 pm Half hour talk on the Holy Mass**

**Thursday March 23 St Turibius de Mogrovejo**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Friday March 24**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS followed by**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Saturday March 25 THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (SOL)**

**12 noon LATIN MASS OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

**(NATIONAL CHILD EXPLOITATION AWARENESS DAY)**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HR**

**Sunday March 26 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** - £294.72 Thank you to everyone who contributed. **STANDING ORDERS** - Amounts for February - Gift Aided £1,162.50, Non Gift Aided £215.00. Thank you.

**ENVELOPE GIVING** - As we are nearing the end of the Tax Year, 5 April 2023, I have been reviewing the number of parishioners who use the Envelope Scheme for their Giving. After consultation with the Finance Committee **we have decided not to continue with the Envelope Scheme,** due to the reducing numbers of parishioners who use it and the cost of obtaining the sets of envelopes. A letter has been sent to all parishioners who have used an Envelope for their Giving since 6 April 2022. **CAFOD FAMILY FAST** If you wish to give to CAFOD **please ensure that your envelope is placed in this week’s collection,** as the total amount will be sent to CAFOD this week. You can still give by sending the Gift Aid envelope direct to CAFOD, Freepost and I suggest that you send a cheque rather than cash. It is not cost effective for the parish or CAFOD to process small donations. If you wish to give outside special collections please use the FREEPOST envelopes. *Ruth Hiscock* Parish Treasurer & Gift Aid Co-ordinator

With blessings on every one of our parish family,

**Father Francis**

***ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

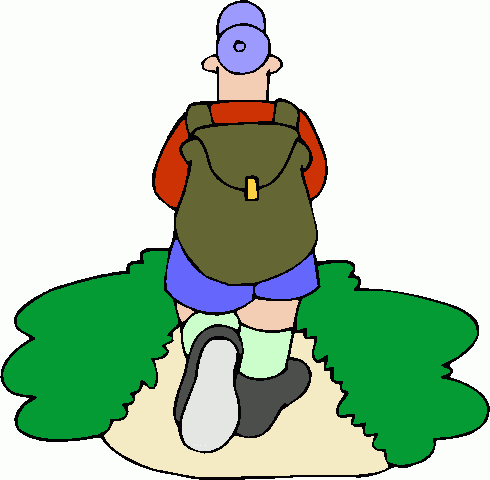
**LOST** - Philippa lost a brooch of great sentimental value on Friday (17th) - if you should happen to find it please hand it to her or to Father Francis. Thank you.

**LENT LUNCHES**  please see schedule below.

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL** This year the family fast day was on **Friday 3rd March.** CAFOD envelopes are in church **from Saturday 4th March**. This Lent, CAFOD is supporting families with the skills and tools they’ve asked for to fight the climate crisis. Give today to help families grow in strength to adapt to the climate crisis. Use the envelope or give online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent) *Ali*

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**KNIT & NATTER** next meeting in the Hall on **Tuesday 21st March (2-4pm)**. All crafters welcome! *Christina*

**THE CAFOD BIG LENT WALK** On **Saturday 25th March** many of the parishes in Dorset are planning to walk together. Here in Blandford we are walking the trailway and meeting up with Shaftesbury and Marnhull parishioners, at the **Shillingstone railway station**. The walk will start at **10am from church or 10.10 from the Milldown carpark.** After meeting our fellow N Dorset Catholics, people are then invited to walk to Charlie's house who is hosting the lenten lunch, also raising funds for CAFOD.

**For this week only, the Lent lunch at Charlie's house, will be from 1pm.**

If you are not able to take part in the walk, please feel welcome to join us at Shillingstone train station **around 12** and then you could offer a lift to the more weary walkers to the lent lunch. Any drivers with spaces in their cars would also be greatly thanked if they were able to drive some people back to Blandford after the lunch too. Let **Anna** know if you are planning to join the walk or if you have questions please contact her on 07903 046401 Thank you, *Ali*

**CAFOD BIG WALK AND ST. EDWARD’S WAY** Ruth and Madeleine are planning to support the Cafod appeal by walking the St. Edward’s Way in Dorset. This route has been devised to run between Wareham, where the king was martyred, to Shaftesbury, where he was buried. We will be doing it in 8-10 mile stages. Please think if you can sponsor us....you can either hand the money directly to either of us, or put it in an envelope, clearly labelled ST EDWARD’S WAY, and pop it in the collection basket at Mass, and if you would like to join us for one or more of the stages, please let us know! *Madeleine*

PS Weather permitting we will be starting the walk this **Sunday 19th March**.

***LENT LUNCHES 2023***

***Saturdays 12-2pm***

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| **DATE** | **PLACE** | **HOST(S)** | **CHARITY** |
| 18 March | At Audrey’s home  There will be a raffle - donations left at back of church would be very welcome | Audrey & Becky | Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)  \*please phone Audrey with numbers and leave a message if you are planning to come!\*  07818678993 |
| 25 March **\*1pm\*** | At home | Charlie | CAFOD |
| 1 April | Hall | Fiona Mackay & Lucy | CAFOD |

*Location details, if not known, available from the hosts, or the newsletter,*

*or Father Francis.*

**SEWING MACHINE AND SEWING ACCESSORIES WANTED** The Blandford Welcome Group is looking for a sewing machine for our resettlement family. Hinda would like to learn how to sew and we are asking if anyone might have an electric sewing machine that they no longer use, and would be willing to offer it to the family. We are also looking for cotton reels, scissors, a tape measure, and any material you may have lying around. Please contact Debra (07964 163 127). Thank you! *Anthony*

**A Blandford man** aged 92 in excellent mental health needs a lady carer for 2 hours a day, perhaps 6 days a week. He can pay £20 an hour. A very nice man. Does anybody know of someone who might be prepared to help him? Please tell Father Francis if you can think of anyone.

**CARITAS MARCH NEWSLETTER** Caritas Diocese of Plymouth’s March newsletter is now available to read online. Please click the link here: https://tinyurl.com/yjmvuwmj If you would like a printed copy, please telephone Caritas on 01364 645360.

**HOMES FOR UKRAINE** There are still many Ukrainians looking to come to the UK to seek sanctuary from the war. Saint John of God Hospitaller Services (SJOG) and Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) are offering a matching, training and support

service under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. If you would like to know more, Caritas and SJOG are holding an online event on Wednesday 22nd March from 6-6.45 pm.

To register please follow this link: https://forms.office.com/e/adH56azgaq or telephone Caritas on 01364 645360 With all best wishes,  *The Caritas Team*

**BLANDFORD FOODBANK**  Over the last 10 years Blandford Foodbank has achieved so much and we are so grateful for the ongoing practical and prayerful support from the local churches. Last year we fed nearly 1800 adults and children in the DT11 area and the demand is increasing reflecting the impact of the cost of living.

We have been looking at ways to serve and support the community most effectively and this summer **we will be opening a community larder alongside the Foodbank**, where people on low income and other income related benefits will be able to access food for a small weekly cost.

Two of the major needs of the Foodbank are donations of food and financial donations. The items we are most in need of are coffee, fruit juice, tinned fruit and tinned vegetables. If you are interested in making a financial donation please email blandford.food@faith-works.org.uk or phone us on 01258 456093 for more information. Any food can be dropped at the Parish Centre, the URC (Tuesday and Thursday), and Morrisons and there are collection baskets at Lidl and Tesco. Also, if you have some spare time and you would like to volunteer with us please do get in touch. *Gail, Hayley* and *Heidi, Blandford Foodbank Team*

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"I came to the Irish peoples to preach the Gospel and endure the taunts of unbelievers, putting up with reproaches about my earthly pilgrimage, suffering many persecutions, even bondage, and losing my birthright of freedom for the benefit of others.

If I am worthy, I am ready also to give up my life, without hesitation and most willingly, for His Name. I want to spend myself in that country, even in death, if the Lord should grant me this favour.”

– From the Confession of Saint Patrick, bishop

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A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee." The husband said "You're in charge of the cooking around here so you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." Wife replied, "No, you should do it, and besides, it says in the Bible that the man should do the coffee." Husband replied, "I can't believe that! Show me." So she fetched the Bible and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says "HEBREWS"!! (contributed by Maura)

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*O Mary, when Jesus was conceived in you, He found you a Virgin. After being born of you, He left you a Virgin. He gives you fertility, but He does not violate your integrity.*

*-* St Augustine