**Sunday 26 March 2023 Divine Office: Proper/Week 1**

**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; Hilary Gent; 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**

**FIFTH WEEK OF LENT YEAR A1**

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

**12 noon LATIN MASS OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HR**

**Sunday March 26 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**

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

**Monday March 27**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS followed by STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Tuesday March 28**

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

**Wednesday March 29**

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

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

**Thursday March 30**

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

**Friday March 31**

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

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Saturday April 1**

**9.30am HOLY MASS (Traditional)**

**4.30pm CONFESSIONS**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**Sunday 2nd April PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**8.00am CONFESSIONS**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**



**THE TIMES OF SERVICE IN HOLY WEEK WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Holy Thursday - Mass of the Last Supper and watch at the altar of repose begins at 7pm on Thursday, April 6th.**

**Good Friday - the Good Friday Liturgy will be at 3pm on Friday, April 7th.**

**Holy Saturday - the Easter Vigil will begin at 8pm.**

**Confessions will be heard from 4.30pm on Saturday, April 1st. and from 8am on Palm Sunday morning, April 2nd. Every day from 8am until 9.10am during Holy Week, and from 5.30pm on Holy Thursday; from 2pm on Good Friday; and from 6.30pm on Holy Saturday.**

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** - The planned pilgrimage to Lourdes from 7 - 14 September has had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Tangney Tours have now offered us a quote for a **5 Day, 4 Night pilgrimage to Lourdes by Air from 11 - 15 September**. The cost is **£650 per person\*\*** based on a shared room flying from Heathrow to Toulouse with coach travel onwards to Lourdes. **Tangney need to know participation by 14 April** as deposits have to paid to British Airways for the flight. There is a list at the back of the church for parishioners to indicate whether they wish to support this amended travel.  *Ruth \*\**please note*: this price does not include travel to Heathrow.*

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** - £288.35 Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**ENVELOPE 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 **but did not ensure that your envelope was placed in last week’s collection,** as the total amount was sent to CAFOD last 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 (in the church or church grounds) please hand it to her or to Father Francis. Thank you.

**LENT LUNCHES**  Pease 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 4 April (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*

***LENT LUNCHES 2023***

***Saturdays 12-2pm***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **PLACE** | **HOST(S)** | **CHARITY** |
| 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*

**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.  *The Caritas Team*

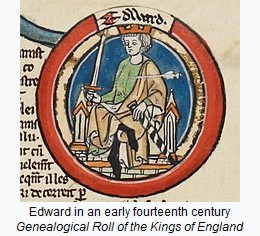
**BLANDFORD FOODBANK**  We have been looking at ways to serve and support the community most effectively and this summer **we will be opening a community larder alongside the Foodbank**, where people on low income and other income related benefits will be able to access food for a small weekly cost.

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*

From Gordon Amery, Steward of Gillingham Methodist Church: On **Sunday 7th May 2023**, GMC will be hosting a performance of Edward Elgar’s sublime choral work ‘***The Dream of Gerontius’*** with a 50-strong choir and the international concert organist, David Briggs playing our Sweetland organ and taking the place of an orchestra. There will also be three well-known soloists, including tenor, John Graham-Hall (of ROH fame) taking the role of Gerontius. Elgar composed this profoundly moving work in 1900 and the score was set to the text of a poem by Cardinal John Newman. It relates the journey of a pious man’s soul from his deathbed to his judgement before God and settling into Purgatory with the promise of everlasting glory.

As you can appreciate, an event of this magnitude does not come cheaply and we have set an admission price of £20. For more information, please see posters in porch.

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**ST. EDWARD’S WAY—PART ONE** Well, after a hiccup with the weather, we finally started our walk from Wareham to Shaftesbury on Sunday 19th and were rewarded with a day of lovely sunshine. We left Wareham through historic back streets and the Saxon walls before crossing bridges under the bypass and railway to walk over heathland coloured by gorse blossom and muddy patches. We saw a few horse riders and the odd cyclist but walkers were absent...presumably all enjoying Mothering Sunday get-togethers! After passing Woolsbarrow Fort we crossed the A35 and soon reached East Bloxworth with banks full of daffodils. A bit further on the route offers a view of Bloxworth House, a beautiful ancient building used for Bathsheba’s home in the film of ‘Far from the Madding Crowd’ and then offers a less appealing crossing of the A31 (you are either quick or you’re dead) before heading for Winterborne Muston and our finish for the day.

We are walking the Way to raise money for Cafod and would be very grateful for any sponsorship (of course, we can’t deny this is great fun as well! ). Please either put your money in an envelope marked St. Edward’s Way and put it in the collection, or give the envelope to Ruth or to Madeleine......now or when we have finished. Further accounts of the route to follow! *Madeleine* and *Ruth*

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*The Blessed Virgin directs to us all the acts that every mother lavishes on her children. She loves us, watches over us, protects us, and intercedes for us.* - Pope St John XXIII

*The Blessed Mother never committed any actual sin - not even a venial one. Otherwise, she would not have been a Mother worthy of Jesus. The Son would have shared the ignominy of the Mother, for He would have had a sinner for His Mother.* - St Thomas Aquinas