**SUNDAY 2 March 2025 YEAR C1 PSALTER IV**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND SAINT CECILIA**

**Priest in charge: Father Donald Nwaka**

**Landline: 01258 452051 Mobile: 07931939907**

**Hospital RC Chaplains: Dorchester:** 01305 255198;

**Poole:** Deacon Declan McConville 01202 442167

Newsletter: newsletterblandfordcatholics@yahoo.co.uk

Website: blandfordcatholics.org

Plymouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 213227

**Please keep in your prayers: Father Robert; Christina and John Morley; Janet Hudson; Josie Seath; Father Chacko; Theresa and Tom Hogan and Sandra; Kelly Harte; Marjorie Bygrave; and all those suffering at this time.**

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

**Saturday 1 March St David, Patron of Wales (Feast)**

**9.30am Confessions**

**10.00am HOLY MASS**

**5.30pm VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY**

**Sunday 2 March 9am HOLY MASS - EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - DAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED**

**Monday 3 March 9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

***followed by* STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Tuesday 4 March St Casimir**

**5pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**6.10pm Evening Prayers 6.30pm HOLY MASS**

**ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS (Psalter 1)**

**Wednesday 5 March 9.10am Morning Prayers ­9.30am *and* 5.00pm HOLY MASS**

**Thursday 6 March 9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30 am HOLY MASS 2.30pm Our Lady's Prayer Group**

**Friday 7 March St Perpetua and St Felicity, Martyrs (Comm)**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - *followed by* Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday 8 March St John of God (Comm)**

**9.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**9.30am Confessions**

**10.00am HOLY MASS (The Family of Mary) *followed by Meeting of The Family of Mary***

**5.30pm VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY**

**Sunday 9 March 9am HOLY MASS - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**PLEASE PRAY** for the soul of Tom and Teresa's niece Sharon who died on Sunday.

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope** Father Francis and I are considering a pilgrimage to Rome during the Jubilee Year, possibly in the Autumn. If you think you may be interested please put your name on the sheet at the back of church. If there is enough interest details and prices will be sought and published.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** £254.87. Thanks to all who contributed. *Ruth*

With blessings on every one of our Parish family,

**Father Donald**

**LENT STATIONS OF THE CROSS – there will be Stations of the Cross during Lent on each Monday and Friday straight after Mass.** Should you wish to be on a rota to lead Stations, please let Anthony Reed know. All this involves is leading the prayers from the book at each station and avoids the same person doing it each time.*Anthony*

**A SPECIAL MASS AND SOCIAL GATHERING** for all those involved in voluntary service including CWL, CARITAS, CAFOD, SVP, Family of Mary, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Sacristans, and all other volunteers will be held on **Saturday, 15 March at 3.00pm** in the **Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Dorchester**. We will celebrate the dedication and generosity of our parish volunteers throughout the Deanery. Please attend if you possibly can and represent our parish. Offers of lift shares will be welcome. *Marie*

**TRANSFORMATIVE LENTEN RETREAT**: “Pilgrims of Hope” - April 9th–11th (Wed–Fri evening) at **Holy Trinity Dorchester**. The Retreat will be led by Fr. Jon Bielawski, centred on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope” and offers a time of spiritual renewal, reflection, and preparation as we journey through Lent. [Schedule: 6:30pm – Arrival, Silent Prayer, and Reflection, 7:00pm – Talk by Fr. Jon Bielawski, 8:00pm – Holy Mass] Let this Retreat be a time of grace and deepening faith as we prepare our hearts for Easter. All are welcome!

**THE BOOK OF REVELATION** – in this Jubilee year where Pope Francis has asked us to be active “Pilgrims of Hope”, renowned scripture scholar and author, Fr. Nicholas King SH, will lead us to understand the Book of Revelation and how the Word of God is our power for Mission. This event will be held at **Buckfast Abbey** Conference Centre on **Saturday 15th March 10am-4pm**. (Dart View Room 4). There is an opportunity to go to the Abbey Mass at noon. Booking is essential and needs to be done through plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk Enquiries: 01752 701660. We look forward to seeing you at this inspiring day. *Fr Jonathan Bielawski*

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** For information on becoming a local volunteer for the Catholic Children's Society please see poster in porch and contact: Vicki Dunstone, Fundraiser & Communications Officer, Catholic Children’s Society (Plymouth). Working hours – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

PLEASE NOTE: my email address has changed from vicki.dunstone@prcdtr.org.uk and is now vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk. Website: St Boniface House, Ashburton, Devon TQ13 7JL; 01364 645420 www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

**DORSET DEANERY CARITAS NEWSLETTER** Click on the link to read about news of love in action and charities in the Dorset deanery https://tinyurl.com/mx4ybxv5. *Fran McMullan*, Caritas Project Administrator

**ONLINE MORNING & EVENING PRAYER GROUP** An online group has been sharing Morning Prayer and Night Prayer, Monday to Fridays, for the last two years. We simply pray the Divine Office together (about 12 mins) - 'for the sake of the Church and the world'. People dip in, as they can (no apologies needed when we can't). There is no obligation to read, just join us in prayer.

For more information contact <deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk>SPUC

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL** Wednesday 5th March - Sunday 15th April, outside Bournemouth BPAS buffer zone. For further information please contact Livia or Sebastian 40daysforlifebournmouth@gmail.com. *Amabel*

**DIOCESAN YEAR BOOKS 2025** - There has been a delay in receiving a few copies for parishioners. I have left one copy at the back of the church so that anyone can access to the book. Please do not remove it from church.  *Ruth Hiscock*

**PLACES OF PILGRIMAGE** While Rome is the focus, the Holy Father asked each Diocese to establish a number of locations to be Places of Pilgrimage to provide a more local and accessible experience of walking pilgrimage. **There are four such locations for Plymouth Diocese: The Cathedral; St. Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston; St. Boniface, Crediton; and Holy Trinity, Dorchester.** Details for how to book a group, or times for more casual pilgrimages, will be published on the Diocesan website and will be sent more directly when they have been finalised. An indulgence has been established by the Holy See relating to these Places of Pilgrimage, but I will share detailed information when some matters have been clarified soon. *Harriet*

**THE POPE’S INTENTIONS for MARCH**

**For families in crisis**

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**\*\* WILL PARISHIONERS WISHING TO INSERT NOTICES PLEASE EMAIL THEM IN NO LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENINGS OR THEY MAY NOT BE RECEIVED IN TIME FOR PRINTING ON FRIDAY**

**MORNINGS\*\***

**LENT LUNCHES** Throughout Lent we hope to hold our regular lent lunches on Saturdays. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church from this weekend if you feel able to host a lunch either in your home or in the church hall. The 1st lunch (**8th March**) will be hosted by ourselves in the church hall. *Anna and Ali*

**KNIT & NATTER** Next meeting on **Tuesday March 4, 2-4pm** in the church hall. *Julie*

**NOURISH** (Food Bank) are short of the following items: Coffee, cereal, shampoo, tinned meat, but all other donations also welcome. Green collection box at the back of the church. Thank you, *Jan*

**PARISH LUNCH** – **Saturday 01 March** in Stourpaine Village Hall – 12.00 for 12.30 – thank you to all those who have committed to the lunch by entering your name on the form at the back of the church. We have now reached the maximum number the hall can accommodate (80). If you have entered your name on the form, but no longer intend to attend, please let me know. There will be a raffle during the event, so if anyone wishes to donate a prize, please bring it to the Church Hall between now and the event. New items only, please. Thank you. *Anthony*

Donations of gift items for the raffle will be very welcome. Any consumables must be in date, with thanks. *Mel*

**NEW DAILY MISSALS** - The order will be placed the week beginning the **3 March** so if you wish to order a New Daily Missal please put your name on the list at the back of the church. I can also order a Sunday Missal if you would prefer. Please note the Daily Missal weighs 1kg+*. Ruth*