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Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday 16th March 2025

This weekend there will be a Special Second Collection for CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day
Envelopes will be available again for Gift Aid contributions.

Genesis 15: 5-12,17-18

Philippians 3: 17 to 4: 1

Gospel Luke 9: 28-36

The readings this weekend invite us to reflect on faith, transformation and God's promises. These themes help us to grow closer to God during Lent and calls us to deepen our faith and trust in God's promises, listening to the teaching of Jesus. In the first reading from Genesis, God promises Abram countless descendants, as numerous as the stars, and the land "from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates". Abram believed, and God made a covenant with him. This covenant ensured Abram's future and the land for his descendants and was a sign of God's commitment to His people. In the second reading of St Paul writes to the Church of Philippi in Greece while he was in prison, probably in Rome. As new converts, the believers in Philippi needed help and warnings about the danger of being misled by false teachers. He exhorts them to imitate him which seems to be putting himself on a pedestal equal to Christ. But St Paul is a great example of a Christian as he continually admits to be a great sinner who strives to diligently follow the example of Christ. He warns them that focusing on earthly pleasures leads to destruction, while believers can be transformed by Jesus to earn eternal glory. The Gospel reading from St Luke describes the "Transfiguration" of Jesus on a mountain in the presence of just three disciples, Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called. Jesus has taken them up the mountain to pray but after a day of mountain climbing, the disciples were tired and fell asleep. They are jolted awake by the dramatic transformation in the appearance of Jesus and were made spiritually awake to His glory accompanied by Moses and Elijah. Lent is a time when we should be jolted awake to the glory of Christ and transform our lives to follow Him. Malcolm.

Mass times

Feast Days

<p>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</p>	<p>Saturday 15th St Louise de Marillac Born in France 1591.. Lived among the French aristocracy and educated in royal monastery. Wanted to be a nun. Rejected due to poor health. Uncle arranged a marriage. Had a son. Husband lost his job in the royal court after civil unrest. He suffered chronic illness and was cared for by Louise. She became depressed. Vincent de Paul gave her a new challenge in Paris to help the poor. She founded <i>Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul</i> that worked in the community and hospitals. Later called <i>Sisters of Charity</i>. Died on 15th March 1660</p>		
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>	<p>Sunday 16th March</p>	<p>Second Sunday of Lent</p>	<p>Pat, John and Peter Moon RIP</p>
<p>6.30pm Mass</p>	<p>Monday 17th St Patrick Born 387 in Scotland to fairly wealthy Roman parents. Aged 15 captured with some of his father's slaves by Irish raiders and sold as a slave in Ireland. 6 years a shepherd to a cruel chieftain and acquired a perfect knowledge of Celtic language which would be useful later. Then escaped back to Scotland. Trained for priesthood in Gaul as his mother was related to St Martin of Tours who had died a few years earlier. Part of mission to Britain. Ordained a priest. Led missionaries to Ireland in 433 requested by Pope Celestine just before he died in 432. The Irish were astonished he preached so eloquently in their own language. Opposed pagan Druids and converted many people. Evangelised Ireland with the help of St Brigid. Built churches and monasteries. 493 aged 106 Patrick retired exhausted to the monastery at Saul, Downpatrick, south of Belfast. He eventually died there on 17th March 493. His remains were wrapped in a shroud woven by St Brigid's own hands. Bishops, clergy and the faithful from all parts of Ireland came to pay due honour to the Father of their Faith. He was buried at the chieftain's fort, near Saul monastery, later Down Cathedral, Downpatrick.</p>		
<p>10am Mass</p>	<p>Tuesday 18th St Cyril of Jerusalem Born in about 315 near Jerusalem. Deacon, priest and then Bishop of Jerusalem. Opposed heresy of <i>Arianism</i> which the Bishop Acacius of Caesarea supported. Jerusalem, covering the Holy Land was considered more important than Caesarea. Caused conflict between Cyril and Acacius. Acacius accused Cyril of selling Church property, which he did to feed the poor. Bishop Cyril ignored him. Synod deposed Bishop Cyril who went into exile. Reinstated and then deposed again twice more. Took part in the Second Ecumenical Council in 381. Helped to rewrite the Nicene Creed to exclude <i>Arianism</i> beliefs. Died exhausted in 386 aged 71.</p>		
<p>SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm</p> <p>6.30pm Mass</p>	<p>Wednesday 19th St Joseph While Mary had a visit of the Angel Gabriel to explain the virgin birth of Jesus, Joseph had a divine revelation in a dream. The teenager responded to care for Mary who was aged about 14. Despite Mary being close to giving birth the two teenagers travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem where Jesus is born. Joseph is again told in a dream to travel to Egypt to avoid the massacre of the "Holy Innocents" by King Herod, a really dangerous journey for the teenage couple. Back in Nazareth Joseph became famous as he was more an artisan, a skilled craftsman in wood and stone, than just a carpenter. It seems he died before Jesus started to gather his disciples. He is the patron saint of workers and many organisations. Many religious Orders that use his name.</p>		

10am Mass **Thursday 20th St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne** Born about 635 to a poor farming family near Melrose, Scotland. He tended sheep on hills above Melrose Abbey. At age 16 he saw a vision of the soul of Bishop Aidan, first Bishop Lindisfarne, being taken to heaven by angels. Felt he had a calling as a monk but first spent four years as a soldier fighting for Christian King Oswy of Northumbria against pagan King Penda of Mercia. Then entered Melrose Abbey. Educated in Celtic tradition by Irish monks. His mentor Eata was made Prior of new Ripon monastery. Cuthbert became guest master at Ripon. When St Wilfred became abbot he adopted Roman rites so Cuthbert and Eata returned to Melrose Abbey. Eata became abbot and Cuthbert was made Prior. Cuthbert was austere unlike the arrogant St Wilfred and ministered to the people who found him friendly and inspiring. Tension between Celtic and Roman rites resulted in the *Synod of Whitby* in 664. Abbot Wilfred won the day for the Roman rite. Bishop Colman resigned from Lindisfarne and left with most of the monks and relics of St Aidan, the first bishop. Abbot Eata asked Cuthbert to be Bishop of Lindisfarne to introduce the Roman rite. His gentle leadership was ideal for this sensitive role. Cuthbert was successful and admired by the remaining monks and people for his charm, sanctity and generosity to the poor. He travelled the area as a missionary and converted many and improved religious practices. In 676 he left Lindisfarne to live as a hermit, first on the mainland at *St Cuthbert's Cave* and then on Farne island. He was elected Bishop of Hexham but rejected the post. Eventually agreed to return as Bishop of Lindisfarne. Died in 687. Later inspired King Alfred the Great. Shrine in Durham Cathedral.

NO MASS **Friday 21st St Enda of Aran** Born about 450 in Ireland. An Irish prince who succeeded his father as King of Ulster. He was a warrior king who successfully fought his enemies. The soldier king was converted to Christianity by his sister who was an abbess. Became a priest and founded a monastery on one of the Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland in Galway Bay. Monks lived a very austere life in stone cells, never heated, and slept on the ground. They met for liturgies and meals in silence. They sustained themselves with farming and fishing and made their own clothes from the wool of their sheep. St Enda and St Finnian were considered fathers of Irish monasticism.

6 pm Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass
Nora and Michael Hunter RIP
Saturday 22nd St Nicholas Owen Born Oxford in 1562. Trained as a carpenter and stone mason by his father. Short in stature, he was disabled with a limp. Two brothers were priests and other brother printed and secretly sold Catholic books during Penal Laws of Queen Elizabeth I. Travelled with Fr Edmund Campion SJ as Jesuit lay brother. Started making hiding places for priests – “priest holes”. Arrested with Fr Edmund. Released as considered a harmless disabled servant. Travelled with Jesuit Provincial Fr Henry Garnet. Spent 18 years from 1588 creating ever more ingenious priest holes and even secret rooms for celebrating Mass in homes of Catholic recusant families all over the country. Arrested. Martyr's death by torture refusing to reveal the secrets of his hiding places in 1606.

9.30 am Mass **Sunday 23rd March** **Third Sunday of Lent** **Diana Stimson RIP**

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION

Your prayers are needed for the following people

Sue Chandler **Hazel Sale** **Mary Light** **Trevor Delves** **Fr Shaun Budden** **Ann Drumgoole**

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fr Thomas had his major operation on Tuesday 11th March cancelled at Southampton General Hospital
After being prepared for the operation, Fr Thomas was told they did not have a bed for him to recover

CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day last Friday 14th March. Special Second Collection at this weekend Masses
As the parish can now only collect gift aid on contributions to the parish and diocese, charities such as CAFOD can only collect gift aid themselves if individuals paying tax give them their details. Consequently CAFOD envelopes will again be available at Masses this weekend so that people can donate with their details so CAFOD can claim gift aid.

Next SVP Social is this Wednesday 19th March – 1pm to 3 pm
This is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of two hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat.

50 year celebration on the feast of St Vincent de Paul on Sunday 28th September this year at 9.30 am Mass.
We wish to share 50 years of memories of the parish beginning with a celebration Mass followed by a breakfast buffet. All parishioners past and present are invited to attend. For the event we hope to put together a booklet of quotes and memories. Where you involved with the setting up of the parish? Do you have photographs? Did you get married in the parish or celebrate a baptism? Please email any memory to lizchalland@btinternet.com. Just a couple of sentences for each memory please. More details of the event and Mass to follow in Spring.

Appeal for Raffle Prizes from Liz Challand
Do you have any unwanted Christmas presents that you do not need and may be used as Raffle Prizes to raise funds for our parish of St Vincent de Paul? Any items please drop them into the Sacristy or church office.

Parish collection for last weekend 8th and 9th March

							Donations at funeral of Ruth Gleeson RIP		
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£77	£19.25	£174.80	£242.54	£51.98	£565.57	----	£140	£10	£715.57