



LENT What began as a shorter time of preparing catechumens for baptism at the Easter Vigil, expanded over the centuries to 40 days of penitence, excluding Sundays. Lent began on Ash Wednesday and ended when the Easter Vigil began. Today the Season of Lent is a little less than 40 days. While the development of the Lenten days was various throughout the Church, it may have been suggested by Christ laying in death for 40 hours, or by his 40 days of prayer and fasting in the desert (a number itself reminiscent of Israel's 40 years in the desert for disbelieving God). Regarding the connection to Christ's own life, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us, "For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sinning"

[Hebrews 4:15]. By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert. (CCC 540).

COLOUR PRINTER We have updated the printing facilities in the parish office and are now able to bulk print in colour. We hope you enjoy this week's picture enhancement!

REMOVAL OF FLOWERS During Lent, it is established practise of the grounds team to clear all Christmas flowers and foliage from the graves. This will start on Monday 7th March. Please retrieve anything you don't want disposing of.

QUARANT'ORE Thank you to all who supported the Quarant'ore by providing practical help and time, or visiting the Blessed Sacrament. Here are a few words from one of our younger parishioners:

"The altar was decorated with beautiful white flowers and many candles. At the centre was the Monstrance looking resplendent and luminous in the candlelight. A fitting home for the Blessed Sacrament. The altar made me feel more connected with Jesus."

SVP The parish SVP met this week, with lots to talk about! They are pleased to report that as restrictions are lifting they are beginning to meet people 'face to face'. They will meet again on Wednesday 6th April.

SACRISTAN We still need a regular sacristan for a Friday morning at 9:30am. If you attend this Mass, please consider if this is something you can do – even if you can't do it every week. At the moment, the secretary is covering it, when there is work to do in the office!

PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS

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Rev. LJR Daley, Priest

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 6th March 2022

Celebration of Holy Mass

6 th Sunday	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	10:30 am Pro populo
7 th Monday	Ss Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs	7:00 pm Rita, Kitty and Vincent Watkins
8 th Tuesday	St John of God, Religious	7:00 pm Dec Members Sephton Family
9 th Wednesday	St Frances of Rome	7:00 pm Holy Souls
10 th Thursday	Feria	11:30 am Lancashire Infirm Clergy
11 th Friday	Feria	9:30 am Intentions Mary Blackhall
13 th Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	10:30 am Joseph Lewis, Robert Trevelyan

PLEASE PRAY FOR Kathryn Taylor, Clare Crossan, Sheila Jennings, Fr Cassian, Michael Smith; and all those affected by the Corona virus pandemic, and all in our parish who don't yet feel able to come to Mass.

ANNIVERSARIES Mary Halpin, Matthew De Geir

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Loose £95.20, Envelopes £72.00, SOs £435.00. Thank you.

CANDLES COLLECTION Thank you for your donations of £132.00 towards the cost of the candles for Quarant'ore.

MONTHLY SECOND COLLECTION This is a quarterly collection for SVP. There is a basket at the back of Church.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY This takes place this coming Friday, 11th March, a day when we can eat simply and give generously. If you wish, please collect your envelope from the back of Church and return in the offertory basket next week.