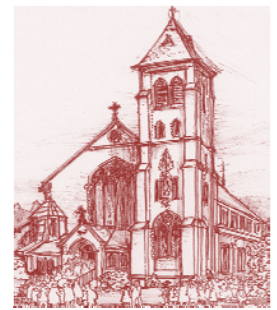


The Catholic Church in Crewe

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish



Newsletter

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th February 2012

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Saturday 18 th | No Sacrament of Reconciliation this week. Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Day of Prayer for the Unemployed) 5:30pm Mass (Mary Robbins) 7pm Polish Mass |
| Sunday 19 th | Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Day of Prayer for the Unemployed) 9am Mass (Pat Goode) 11am Mass (Cath Dunn) 12:45pm Polish Mass 6:30pm Mass (People of the Parish) 7:30pm Vigil Funeral Rites for Sarah Poppitt 10am Requiem Mass for Sarah Poppitt 12pm Service of Word and Communion |
| Monday 20 th | |
| Tuesday 21 st | |
| Wednesday 22 nd | Ash Wednesday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence) 12pm Mass (Peter Losa's 50 th Birthday) 6pm Mass (Chrissie Brunton) 7:30pm Polish Mass |
| Thursday 23 rd | Feast of Saint Polycarp 12pm Mass (Kath Dell) |
| Friday 24 th | 11am Requiem Mass for Michael Joseph O'Connor 12pm Adoration until 5:45pm 6pm Stations of the Cross led by Rev Peter Bravey 7:30pm Stations of the Cross in Polish |
| Saturday 25 th | 11am-11:45pm Sacrament of Reconciliation First Sunday of Lent 5:30pm Month's Mind Mass for Baby Steven Thomas Stokes 7pm Polish Mass |
| Sunday 26 th | First Sunday of Lent 9am Mass (Nora Boyle) 11am Mass (Sandra Dillon) 12:45pm Polish Mass 6:30pm Mass (People of the Parish) |

(Please note that Requiem Masses may take the place of requested dates for Mass Intentions. There is also a large number of Masses still to be said)

Reflecting on the Gospel

Forgiveness comes from God but it does require something from us. The four men in this gospel story acted to bring the paralytic to Jesus. They overcame obstacles to reach him, motivated by the expectation that Jesus would do what he had done for so many others. They had faith in Jesus' power and they acted on this faith. They were hardly narrow-minded – they had hope and expectations that Jesus would do for their friend what he had done for so many others. This kind of faith demands dying to self. We must die to hanging onto our infirmities, to excuses for why we are powerless to act, to paralysis on face of obstacles, to healing and forgiveness, to our own stubborn and narrow view of how things should be, and to the many conflicting forces in our own hearts. When we embrace this kind of dying to self, we place ourselves in the presence of Jesus, and there discover the healing forgiveness, wholeness, and life he offers.

The healings of Jesus don't merely expel demons or cure infirmities; they touch the deepest part of our woundedness. Jesus heals division, brings wholeness, and offers the integrity of life.



FROM THE PRESBYTERY

The Season of Lent opens this Ash Wednesday. Though it is not a holy day of obligation, it is a day when we receive the blessed ashes (the remains of the burnt palm leaves from Lent 2011) as a sign of our personal and communal need to come closer to God through Christ Jesus. It is also a time when we give up or take on something to improve ourselves as a Christian people. Let us pray for one another that we will approach the great feast of Easter with joy and renewed vision.

During Lent we do not recite the Gloria (Apart from the Feasts of Saint David, Saint Patrick, Saint Joseph, The Annunciation). We do not recite the Alleluia and there are no flowers in Church to mark the Penitential nature of the season.

We are asked to pray especially on the Sundays of Lent for the Candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

With every good wish for the week ahead
Father Jerome (Parish Priest)

FINANCES

Thank you for your contributions to the offertory last weekend which raised £1585.17.

ASH WEDNESDAY 2012

The season of Lent opens on Ash Wednesday 22nd February. Whilst the day is not a Holy Day of Obligation, it is a day of fasting and abstinence. Ashes will be distributed on that day at 12pm Mass and 6pm Mass.

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

On Wednesday 21st March at 7pm our Lenten Reconciliation Service will take place in Church. This will be an opportunity to receive individual confession and absolution from Father Jerome, Father John (St Anne Nantwich), Father Tony (Saint Gabriel Alsager) and Father Martin OMI (Wistaston Hall). Please keep this noted in your diary.

REMINDER LOCAL PASTORAL AREA LENTEN RETREAT: A PATHWAY TO EASTER 24TH MARCH 2012

Could we please remind Parishioners who have taken a form that they need to ensure that it is returned to the Parish contacts by no later than **25th/26th February**. If they are not returned we will assume that the places are free and will be assigned to other interested parties. We will review the situation regarding additional places once the other Parishes in the LPA have provided us with numbers.

PARISH PASSOVER MEAL

Booking Forms for the Parish Passover meal are still available in the porch. Please only take one if you are booking for the event which takes place at Wistaston Hall on Friday 30th March at 7pm. The cost of this fundraiser is £25. The number of places is restricted to 30. Forms need to be returned by **1/ 2 March**.

REMINDER THE SUNDAY MISSAL (WITH REVISED TEXTS)

Please remember to collect your Missal from the Piety Shop at a cost of £14. For the majority this leaves a balance of £9 which is payable upon receipt of the Missal. Cheques should be made payable to St. Mary's Crewe.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE



The next meeting will take place on Monday 20th February at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Rooms. The theme for this meeting is a talk and workshop on quilting and embroidery ideas for a Parish Banner given by Pat Parry. All are welcome to attend. If there are any potential members who require transport to the meeting please contact either Sheila Kane on 01270 588320 or Margaret Hughes on 01270 668873.

WELCOME WEEKEND – 18/19 FEBRUARY 2012

This weekend we are re-commencing the "Welcome Weekends". Refreshments will be provided after each Mass by the following groups – 5:30pm Welcomers; 9am The Catenians; 11am CaFE and 6:30pm the Music Group. Please do come and join us for refreshments and social time after Mass in the "Blue Room." The Parish would particularly like to take this opportunity to offer a warm welcome to anyone who is visiting us, is new to the area, has not been to church in a while or has not been involved in church life before. If this is the case then please do take a few moments to complete the short reply form on the back of the welcome leaflet so that we can give you some more information about the parish community, which we hope you would find useful.

MARY TERESA FERRINGTON (BONNIE)

Louise, Phil and all the family - Brian, Brenda and Alan - would like to thank everyone who attended Mum's Requiem Mass on February 8th and all who have shown us great support through Mass cards, sympathy cards, prayers and kind wishes.

We are very grateful to Fr. Jerome, Deacon Peter, Helena Jarecka and Joe O'Connell and his team for their help and care during these difficult days. Special thanks must also go to Margaret Bravey and the choir who sang so beautifully. The memory of your voices will stay with us for a very long time.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – HELP NEEDED PLEASE

We rely on volunteers to assist with the Children's Liturgy and are looking for people who could spare ½ an hour or so of their time at either 9am or 11am Mass (on a rota basis) to assist with the Children's Liturgy. You will be rewarded by imparting the faith to our young children of the parish and by learning at the same time. Please contact Ada-Belle Wilson for more information.



URGENT APPEAL FOR MORE WELCOMERS

Can you spare 20 minutes or so before Mass to say 'Hello' and give out a hymn book? If so your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Roy Prince on 01270 215907 for more information.



6:30 EVENING MASS – MUSICAL SKILLS SOUGHT AFTER

6:30 evening mass are looking for any musical folk to boost their ever decreasing numbers. Any musical skill welcomed even if you can't/prefer not to commit to every week. Rehearsals will be arranged to suit. Tempted? (Even slightly) phone Ruth on 219299 for further details.



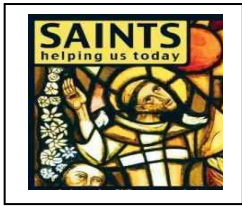
SVP



The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 29/2/2012.

OMI

The new edition of the 'Oblate Connections' is available in the Oblate Retreat Centre racks.



CaFE - "SAINTS HELPING US TODAY"

A Cafe DVD series for Lent, starts at 7.30pm on Monday 27th February in the Parish rooms. Come & enjoy this series on exploring the age-old wisdom and teaching of the Saints. We will be looking at how the lives of the Saints can be a very practical

help to us today over a cuppa in a friendly relaxed Cafe environment. Why not make it part of your Lenten promise?

CONVERSATIONS - ABOUT OUR FAITH

The next meeting is on Thursday 1st March in the Blue Room, at 7:30 pm.

This time our conversations will be about, 'Original Sin' what is it, what does it mean for us, and for babies?

What is meant by 'Tridentine' teaching? Are there any circumstances when a Priest can refuse 'absolution'?

Short notes are made available following the meetings, but there is really no substitute to being involved in the conversations, if at all possible. Contact Garry McGlincy on tel. 666247



CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST - FRIDAY 2ND MARCH.

This year the Government has offered to match all donations received during Lent - for every pound donated they will give an additional pound (see the poster on the Parish noticeboard). CAFOD generally raises about £2.1 million through the Fast Day every year - this year they would like to raise £2.5 million which, together with the match funding, will raise £5 million altogether! Please would you consider giving generously for the Fast Day? Envelopes will be distributed during the weekend of 25th / 26th February for collection in the retiring collection on 1/ 2 March. Thank you in advance for your usual generosity!



CAFOD - MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND CELEBRATION IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL ON SATURDAY 28 JAN 2012.

Archbishop of Westminster, the Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales was the Principal Celebrant at the Mass of Thanksgiving and Celebration for the work of CAFOD over the past 50 years.

Shrewsbury Diocese and St Mary's Crewe, were represented by May and Jim Gilroy, and Angie and Harish Narotham.

Throughout the past half-century CAFOD and its Partners have worked to end poverty and disadvantage looking towards a just world which anticipates God's Kingdom on earth, where every person can flourish and live in dignity and peace.

The Parishioners of St Mary's Crewe, are committed to a Covenant with the Poor and are dedicated to the aims of CAFOD. A unique opportunity is coming this Lenten Fast Day. Let us renew our commitment to the poor across the world so that they may have access to fresh water and sanitation.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX GIFTS

Donations of wool are required for the knitters who knit items over the year to add into these gift boxes. A box has been placed under the table in the entrance foyer for any contributions of wool. All donations are gratefully received.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

'Let Justice Prevail' prepared by Christian Women of Malaysia. Friday March 2nd at 2pm – venue St. Andrews, Bedford Street.

LENT RETREAT FOR WOMEN.

Thursday March 8th 10 am – 4 pm at Wistaston Hall. Led by Fr Martin Moran OMI and Sister Catherine Lavery HFB. Cost £12 includes light lunch. Booking is essential. Contact Angela Walker 664550

NEW LEADERS FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saturday 10th March 2012 9:30am – 12:30pm, St. Mary's Middlewich, led by Sister Catherine Darby SND & Chris Malone see notice board for full details.

LENTEN LUNCH SATURDAY 10TH MARCH 12 TO 2:30PM



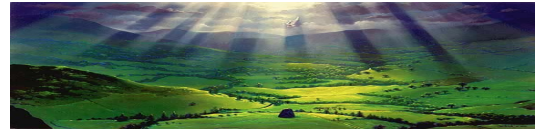
This event is organised by the Reaching Out Group and supported by the Catholic Women's League. Come and enjoy some soup and a roll, and some pleasant company in Parish Rooms. For more information

please telephone Anne Cantwell 01270 253511 or Margaret Hughes 01270 668873

EVENING OF REFLECTION FOR MEN

The next meeting of this group is on Thursday 15th March, 7:30 pm. at Wistaston Hall; all men are welcome.

Fr. Martin will be developing the theme of our last meeting The Significance of Dreams with regard to our inner wellbeing. Please bring something for the shared table that follows the meeting. Contact - Garry McGlincy.



ST. MARY'S FOOTBALL CLUB

St Mary's Football Team now sit 8th in the league with a very healthy 19 points! This is because of a fantastic 5 - 1 win over Boot and Shoe Villa last Sunday. Dave Gregory picked up man of the match award. Goals from Dan Rock, Steve McGowan, Dave Gregory, Rich Lennon and the Boot and Shoe own goal equalled the highest result the club has achieved. Will Frost was awarded January's player of the month at training last Thursday. I would like to take this opportunity in saying how proud I am of the team and congratulate them on the progress that has been made since the devastating injury sustained by Dave Griffiths. Thank you for your continual support and please continue to remember us in your prayers. Paul Walker, Manager.

HEALTH AND SAFETY - TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The health & safety regulations which apply to the kitchen also apply to the area outside the kitchen.

Polite reminder to groups using the kitchen – please remember to fill in the checklist after an event.



In order to prevent pests from getting in to the kitchen, the back yard and bins must be kept clean at all times.



Smokers must dispose of used cigarettes in a responsible manner.



In future all household waste placed in the Black Wheelie Bin must be bagged before disposal.





Garden waste must be put in the garden bin unwrapped, the bin will not be emptied if the garden waste is put in black sacks. Your


compliance to these requests will be greatly appreciated. Joyce.

| EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS ROTA | Ministry | Welcome | Readings | Bidding Prayers |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 18 February 5:30pm | | | | |
| Ruth Cantwell | Word | X | | X |
| Sheila Kane | Word | | X | |
| Michael Bowers | Eucharist | | | |
| Siobhan Goldstraw | Eucharist | | | |
| 19 February 9am | | | | |
| Pat Cantwell | Word | X | | X |
| David Butler | Word | | X | |
| Florence Losa | Eucharist | | | |
| Peter Losa | Eucharist | | | |
| Anne Cantwell | Eucharist | | | |
| Eunice Brown | Eucharist | | | |
| 19 February 11am | | | | |
| Chiara Baccelliere | Word | X | | X |
| Joycee Parthiban | Word | | X | |
| Giovanna Baccelliere | Eucharist | | | |
| Garry McGlincy | Eucharist | | | |
| Colette Cook | Eucharist | | | |
| Cyndy Jackson | Eucharist | | | |
| Francis Parthiban | Eucharist | | | |
| 19 February 6:30pm | | | | |
| Tom Kilkenny | Word | X | X | X |
| Esther Lusher | Eucharist | | | |
| Richard Lusher | Eucharist | | | |
| Lucy O' Driscoll | Eucharist | | | |
| 25 February 5:30pm | | | | |
| Angela Walker | Word | X | | X |
| Joyce Harp | Word | | X | |
| Siobhan Goldstraw | Eucharist | | | |
| Peter Losa | Eucharist | | | |
| 26 February 9am | | | | |
| Marianna Miller | Word | X | | X |
| Ruth O'Brien | Word | | X | |
| Anne Cantwell | Eucharist | | | |
| Susan Fay | Eucharist | | | |
| Phil Newton | Eucharist | | | |
| Anne Walker | Eucharist | | | |
| 26 February 11am | | | | |
| Maureen Sawtell | Word | X | X | X |
| Liz Smith | Eucharist | | | |
| Máiréad Walsh | Eucharist | | | |
| Michael France | Eucharist | | | |
| Pat Gardner | Eucharist | | | |
| Michael Wollaston | Eucharist | | | |

| EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS ROTA (cont'd) | Ministry | Welcome | Readings | Bidding Prayers |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 26 February 6:30pm | | | | |
| Alison McAulay + CC | Word | X | X | X |
| Michelle Perry | Eucharist | | | |
| Helen Hesketh-Roberts | Eucharist | | | |
| Gillian Alborough | Eucharist | | | |

**Mass Parts for the
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Psalter Week 3 Weekday Cycle 2**



First Reading: Isaiah 43:18-19.21-22.24-25
Response to the Psalm: Heal my soul for I have sinned against you
Second Reading: 2 Cor 1:8-22
Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!* The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. *Alleluia!*
Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12
Scriptures for the week:
Monday: James 3:13-18; Ps 18; Mark 9:14-29
Tuesday: James 4: 1-10; Ps 54; Mark 9:30-37
Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18; Psalm 50; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt. 6:1-6. 16-18
Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Luke 9:22-25.
Friday: Isaiah 58:1; Ps 50; Mt. 9:14-15
Sunday: Genesis 9:8-15; Ps 24; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

Don't forget to pick up a copy of the Wednesday Word in the porch!

Parish Priest: Father Jerome A.P. Fagan **Permanent Deacon** Reverend Peter Bravey
Saint Mary's Presbytery, 13 Gatefield Street, Crewe, CW1 2JP
Telephone: 01270 212533 Fax: 01270 216407
Website: www.stmaryscrewe.org.uk

Personal Assistant to the Parish Priest: Mrs Helena Jarecka (Office hours: Monday to Friday 9am-2pm)
Baptisms take place on the first Sunday of each month apart from January.
Marriages may be arranged by appointment with the Parish Priest. The Sacrament of Reconciliation times are as advertised in the newsletter.

Primary School: Saint Mary's, Danebank Avenue, Crewe, CW2 8AD (Tel: 01270 685174)
High School: Saint Thomas More Catholic High School, Danebank Avenue, CW2 8AE (Tel: 01270 568014)
The parish is part of Local Pastoral Area 9 and is in mission with the parishes of Saint Anne's, Nantwich and Saint Gabriel's, Alsager. We are also part of the Ecumenical Mission with Churches Together in Crewe.
The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity, Number 234025. *Please remember the Parish in your will.*

