

St Francis de Sales Church
 Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash
 Common, Newbury RG14 6NH
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory Road,
 Hungerford, RG17 0AF
 Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number 246871
 Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
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Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B

Date	Time	Place	Feast of the Day	Mass Intention
Sat 13 Mar	6:00 pm	St F	Sunday Mass	
Sun 14 Mar	9:00 am	OLOL		
	11:00 am	St F		Patrick Cuddihy RIP
Mon 15 Mar				
Tues 16 Mar				
Wed 17 Mar	9:30 am - 10:00 am 10:00 am - 10:30	OLOL	Adoration & Reconciliation Mass ST PATRICK, Bishop	
Thurs 18 Mar	9:30 am - 10:00 am 10:00 am - 10:30 am		Mass Adoration & Reconciliation	Dr Patrick Mahony RIP
Fri 19 Mar	07:00 pm - 07:40 pm 07:40pm - 8.30 pm	St F	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation ST JOSEPH	

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B

Sat 20 Mar	6:00 pm	St F	Sunday Mass	
Sun 21 Mar	9:00 am	OLOL		
	11:00 am	St F		

We have the following guidance from Pope Francis and from our Catholic Bishops The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems and also on our economic wellbeing. Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate.

We now blessed in having vaccines that are safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines **for the good of others and themselves.**

Please keep safe and God Bless Fr Zbigniew

Please help us to continue God's work by supporting us financially

Lloyds Bank 30 93 04 a/c number 00882993
 PRCDTR Newbury St Francis de Sales
 Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

Special Collection: There is a special collection this weekend for the Clergy Assistance Fund.

John 3: 14-21

As 21st century readers, we operate out of a symbol system that belongs in a different time and a different place. Hence the need to explore the traditions informing the stories. The first two verses of today's reading evoke the ancient Israelite tradition of the bronze serpent (Numbers 21:5-9). According to the story, the Israelites are unhappy with their lot in the desert. They complain about the food or lack thereof. They blame both God and Moses. Their situation worsens with the outbreak of a plague of poisonous snakes whose bite has killed a considerable number of them. The people interpret the plague as punishment for their sin of speaking against God. They ask Moses to intercede with God. God instructs Moses to make an image of a fiery serpent and set it on a pole: anyone affected by snakebite has only to look upon the image to find life and healing. And so it happens: the bronze serpent is lifted up and those who "see" or "look upon it" find life. Life and death, seeing and believing in God's love and mercy are at the heart of the story of the bronze serpent. The gospel writer taps into the collective memory of the emerging Christian community: just as the serpent was lifted up and the people found life, so will Jesus be lifted up and those who believe in him will find life. In John's gospel, seeing is often equated with believing and believing leads to "life" Sr Veronica Lawson

Pope's Intention March 2021

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God

An Act of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

If you would like to be included in the Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office. Please pray for Courtney Andrews, Ann Bowyer, Lily Brooke, Broniek (father of Anna Brooks), Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Mary Dykes, Emma, Joe Emery, Maria Hall, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Victoria Kilkenny, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Deidre McNair Wilson, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Mary Russell, Elizabeth Sage & Linda Verner, David Kennedy who ask for our prayers. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Parish Administrator: Yvonne Eaton

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm

FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

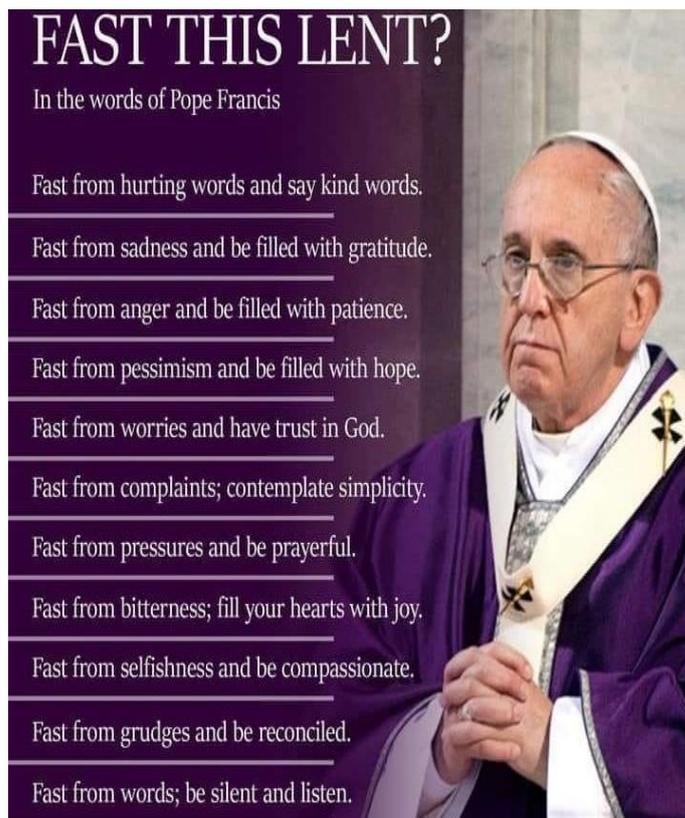
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



Would you like to be a prayer support for others or get a helping hand?

We can really make a difference by spending a few minutes each day, bringing the needs of others and our own to the Lord.

'COME TO ME ALL YOU WHO ARE OVERBURDENED AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST' Said Jesus

TAKE JESUS AT HIS WORD, HE MEANS IT

Without leaving your home, would you like to make a difference and join our HELPING HANDS group, dedicated to praying for those in need of help?

Family and friends near and far may need our help.

- Would you like to help?
- Send your email to the parish office, entitled 'helping hands' and make our small prayer group grow bigger.
- Do you need help?
- Send a request email entitled 'HELP'
- All requests are ANONYMOUS eg 'for healing'; 'thanksgiving'; 'in celebration'; for someone in distress'.
- A group email will be sent each week to those who want to pray for others, with the requests that have come in.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH:- at the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you.

During Lent the Confirmation group are raising money for the CAFOD water appeal. They will be walking 10000 steps during Lent. We encourage you to donate money on the just giving page to help those who walk 10 hours a day to collect water for their families. You can also take part yourself in the 'Walk for Water'. Cafod have produced a video about the appeal which you can see on the parish website or alternatively visit the Cafod website: <https://cafod.org.uk/>

The link to our Just Giving page is below.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/woolhampton-and-st-francis-de-sales-confirmat>

Thank you all for your support.

Sunday Mass is streamed live via our website, at <http://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk/mass-live> and starts at 11am each Sunday.

CAFOD Lent Appeal. Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or phone 0303 303 3030 or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT 5 to 70460 to donate £5 or Text LENT 10 to 70460 to donate £10* or LENT 20 to 70460 to donate £20. Many thanks for your support.

*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460.

Cafod Events

[Register](#) to join us.

[Stations of the Cross](#)

Every Friday throughout Lent, 11am

This Lent, we will walk through the Stations of the Cross online in a prayerful journey of transformation in solidarity with people living in poverty around the world.

Join us as we meditate on Christ's journey to the cross, following themes of justice, poverty, mercy, friendship and hope.

[Register](#) to the series.

Missed one of our online events?

Recordings are available of past online meetings, including an inspirational talk from Maria, our Head of International Development, just visit www.cafod.org.uk/onlinetalks and click 'Watch recordings'.

If you are at all concerned that you might have developed COVID-19 after visiting the Church, please contact the relevant NHS authority and let the Parish Office know ASAP

SAFEGUARDING: If you have any safeguarding concerns re a child or vulnerable adult please contact Maureen Hudd, Parish Safeguarding Representative on 07880 730691.