



NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am (English)

11 am (Sung Latin)

Monday-Friday: 1 pm

Jesus is Tested in the Wilderness



1st Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Our annual season of preparation for the tragedy and glory of Holy Week has begun. It is characterised by an increased attention to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. I highly recommend the booklets “Day by Day” now available on the table in the cloister. The text invites us to reflect on the readings presented at Mass every day of Lent. Few of the faithful have the time to attend daily Mass, but these booklets allow us to tune in to what the Church is saying to the world as this season progresses. Fasting is only presented as an obligation on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, but “giving up” something for Lent is a discipline even widely known by people at the margins of church life. I remember arguments in my family from my youth when we decided to give up sweets for Lent. I insisted that “KitKats” were biscuits, not sweets, and should not be part of the sacrifice! To my shame, I now see that the “Pharisees” were not just a characters in the Bible!

The best way to make our sacrifice more than just a personal self-denial is to donate money saved to a worthy cause. This Friday is CAFOD Family Fast day. The way that works is covered in this newsletter. For the rest of Lent, I'd encourage you to use the wall box in the cloister labelled “Lenten Alms” to help our local homeless charity “Providence Row”. The sacrifice of time through volunteering is also an expression of faith. The section on our noticeboard indicates the range of skills which that charity currently needs.

Another generous act would be to use money saved to bring an item for the Camden Food Bank crate in the cloister. May this season see our faith fruitful in good works.

Fr Anthony Furlong IC

Today's Readings

Genesis 2: 7–9, 3: 1–7; [9 am Mass only. Psalm 50. **Response: "Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned."**]; Romans 5: 12–19; Matthew 4: 1–11.

Sunday's Music (11am)

Lassus Missa Triste Départ
Byrd Ne Irascaris
Byrd Miserere mei
Credo IV, Ave Regina caelorum, Lent Prose

Music Director: Robert Patterson

Stations of the Cross

During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross following the 1 pm Mass each Friday. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Thought for the week

God has allowed the Religious Orders to deviate more or less from their original charism, in order that no flesh should boast in His sight. No human society is incorruptible, save only the Church of Jesus Christ, in virtue of a special favour which He obtained from His Father with a strong cry and with tears. Therefore the Church is the work of God and not of man, it alone is founded on the divine Word, which is the firmament of the spiritual universe, as it is written, “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away”.

Blessed Antonio Rosmini

Please Support Us



Let us remember in our prayers:

Those who are sick, especially Geoffrey Cobden and John Manning.

The Lent Prose

This moving chant, based on a Mozarabic (Arab-influenced Spanish Christian) hymn of the tenth century, is sung at the end of the 11 am Mass on Sundays throughout Lent, taking the place of the Prayer for the King. You will find the text and translation on page 29 of St Etheldreda's *Ordo Missæ*. The number of verses sung increases with the Sundays of Lent.

Parish In Council

The second of our open meetings for all parishioners will be at 5 pm on Monday 9 March in the crypt. The purpose is to discuss any aspect or initiative in the life of the parish and the agenda is now open. Anything you would like to add should be emailed to the parish (enquiries@stetheldreda.com) or put in writing to the parish office by Monday 2 March.

Rite of Election

This is a major milestone in the RCIA programme and was held at Westminster Cathedral yesterday (Saturday). The purpose is to designate those about to be baptised as Catechumens; Baptised Christians to be received into full communion and adult Catholics preparing for Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion become 'Candidates'. Our RCIA group will include six candidates. Please keep them in your prayers. Over 730 Catechumens/Candidates were gathered yesterday. That's up from 500 in 2025 - a very encouraging trend.

Significant Wedding Anniversaries

Couples marking Silver, Ruby or Golden Wedding Anniversaries are most welcome to receive blessings or renew their wedding vows as part of our Sunday celebrations. To book, please email us: enquiries@stetheldreda.com

Coffee Morning

Our next coffee morning will be next Sunday (1 March) in the crypt following the 11am Mass. All contributions will go towards CAFOD Fast Day. All Welcome.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Is taking place this coming Friday (27 February). This is the most efficacious way to fast, linking our self-denial with donating money saved to aid the needy. You are invited to take home a CAFOD envelope today and bring it back next Sunday with your offering (Gift Aiding if appropriate).

My Day by Day

These booklets are now available on the cloister table at just £1 each. They invite you to reflect on your Lenten journey through a daily scripture meditation.

Getting married at St Etheldreda's – how to proceed

You should e-mail the Parish Priest at least 6 months before your intended wedding explaining who you are, your religious background, why you wish to get married at St Etheldreda's, and when (exact day, if possible). If the church accepts your request you will be invited to a preliminary meeting where the initial paperwork will be completed and the whole procedure will be explained and set in motion.

Collections

Sunday 1 February:

9 am: Plate £129.10; Contactless: £111.00
11 am: Plate £349.70; Contactless: £25.00.

Sunday 8 February:

9 am: Plate £80.05; Contactless: £86.00
11 am: Plate £287.60; Contactless: £100.00.

Sunday 15 February:

9 am: Plate £119.91; Contactless: £28.00
11 am: Plate £235.98; Contactless: £140.00.
Donations made by standing order, calculated weekly, amount to **£525.67**.
Thank you.



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Mass Intentions

Sun 22th February
First Sunday of Lent
9.00 am

Manuela Bruno RIP

11.00 am

For the people of the parish

Mon 23rd February

Lent Feria

1.00 pm

Elizabeth Hennessy & Family

Tue 24th February

Lent Feria

1.00 pm

Fiona Xavier GE

Wed 25th February

Welfare of Mark Baker

Thu 26th February

Lent Feria

1.00 pm

James Andrade RIP

Frid 27th February

Lent Feria

1.00 pm

Niall Patrick Kelly RIP

Contact

Parish Priest:

Fr Anthony Furlong IC

Tel. 020 7405 1061

email: enquiries@stetheldreda.com

www.stetheldreda.co.uk

Parish Office:

Mon–Fri (9.00am–5.00pm)

St Etheldreda's Church,

14 Ely Place,

London EC1N 6RY

Parish Safeguarding

Representative: Victoria Wilson

Tel. 07709347099