

Regular Mass Times	
Sunday	10.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07:30
Friday	09:00
Saturday (vigil)	18.00

### Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

# Rewsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> Apríl 2022 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday ín Lent C



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### **Mass Intentions**

Sat 02: Alice & Frank Silker Sun 03: Kathleen Bowles RIP Mon 04: Holy souls Tue 05: Catherine Bowles Wed 06: Sr. Mary Jo Thu 07: Mary Harris Fri: 08: Vera Cartledge Funeral Sat 09: Laura Gilbertson Sun 10: PALM SUNDAY PRAYER

# Thoughts for today

Last Wednesday, some of us stood in

the wind and rain on the steps of St. Luke's Church, with Christians from other churches, praying for an end to war. We had in mind the war in Ukraine but we were also thinking of the more than 30 wars that have been raging across the continents

for many years now.

Did you know that there's a war on in Mexico, where Britons go on holiday in well-protected resorts? That war has killed more than 350,000 with more than 72,000 people missing, since 2006. In 2020 alone 20,000 civilians lost their lives in the war in Yemen. In the last 25 years more than 6 million people have been killed in wars in the Democratic Republic of Congo (source-Worldwithoutgenocide.org). this is a Country where British firms dig for



diamonds and exploit their reserves of gold, copper, cobalt, tin, tantalum and lithium: some of the most valuable minerals in the world. In 2021, *2.2 million* persons had to flee their homes due to war in the DRC.

We have been touched by – our hearts bleed for the suffering people of Ukraine. Rightly so. They are our neighbours. They live no great distance from us. Maybe, too, their plight raises the fear that this could happen here at home all too easily. Our emotions lead us to get involved.

Yet our lifestyles, the things we want, are also strongly implicated in the wars of Mexico (drug wars), the DRC (minerals and other resources) the Yemen (control of the trade routes – remember the ship stuck in the Suez Canal) - and in too many other places.

Standing on the steps of St. Luke's, the church which reminds us of all the victims of war across time and space, united with the people of Ukraine, I was led to think just how fragile is peace; peace at home in our families, peace in our neighbourhood, peace across the world.

Jesus, who died for the end of all strife, of all death, invites us to forgive and forget, to seek reconciliation and to live in peace.

# Homíly Notes

Though we are starting the 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent, today's

Gospel already has an Easter taste. While the scribes and the Pharisees want to condemn a woman to death for having committed adultery, Jesus does not condemn her, but tells her: *Go away, and don't sin anymore.* Jesus opens up for her a new future.

We may be shocked to hear that we find a law to stone people to death after having committed adultery in Holy Scripture. The people of Israel considered the union between man and woman in marriage so important that it should be protected at all costs, even to the extent of killing those who went against the marriage bond. Jesus did not accept this law; he did not condemn the woman. For Jesus, the life of a human person comes before the Law.

When the Pharisees ask Jesus' opinion about condemning the woman to death, Jesus does not answer, but he makes them reflect. He says: *if there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.* And they all disappeared.

It is so easy to accuse others, it is more difficult to reflect on our own lives and accuse ourselves. And yet, it can be so healthy, to recognise our own defects and failures, at the same time trusting in God's love and mercy.

Last week we heard the parable of the generous Father and his two sons, which speaks about the mercy God showers on those who return to him. Today we hear again about God's mercy, revealed in Jesus, who forgives the woman.

To be forgiven, to be reconciled with God and each other is an Easter experience. It is being showered with God's mercy and with new life. It is a new beginning. *Ferdinard* 

# **Parish Notice Board**

## **Stations of the Cross**

Every Friday during Lent 6pm in the church

Fr. Charles thanks everyone for their prayers and their encouragement this last week. He is recovering well from his operation and hopes to be back in circulation within the next 2 weeks. The Community of Missionaries of Africa is also encouraged by your concern and Thank you all. support.

### A WORD FROM OLIVIA JANE

What is it to give? A community play, played by the children and members of the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Community. Welcome aboard, one and all! Welcome aboard Cordelia. the finest ship in the sea. Here, in an *immersive experience, you shall* all explore the question: What is it, to give? All are welcome to come and celebrate St. Vincent and the historic establishment of this church and community. Sunday, 3rd of April, at 11.30am Free Soup and Sandwiches will be provided after the community

play.

# EASTER RAFFLE

Gifts in kind are always welcome. Do buy some tickets in the hope

of winning. 55 \$ 8 It is for a good cause Tickets on sale in the church porch

> Lottery Results 26/03/22 01 02 05 06 13 14 Jackpot £750 WOW 😫

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: NO ADORATION THIS WEEK

### HOLY WEEK SINGERS

Let's make Holy Week a week of Prayer to strengthen our faith and resolve!

Liturgies with good singing will help in this cause: Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday afternoon, Holy Saturday night and Easter Sunday morning are all rich in sung psalms and hymns.

For this purpose, we seek volunteers to prepare this week and lead the congregation in song. This will entail some practices during this week too.

Able to sing? Able to help? Please see Fr. Ferdinand or Paul Glover after Mass to inform them.

EASTER

FLOWERS

Please donate, if you

can, to help enhance

church at EASTER.

Thank you greatly

the beauty of the

### WAY OF THE CROSS With Missionaries of Charity. Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April Begins 2pm on Lord Str, in front of NEXT

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**SVP Justice and Peace Group** Meeting at 6pm in Guild Room

Offerings on 26 March Envelopes: £32.00 Plate: £116.50 Candles: £90.15 Ukraine £27.30 Palm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April The Saturday vigil Mass, 9<sup>th</sup> April, will take place as usual, with the blessing of palms, procession, and the reading of the Passion. Palm Sunday Morning, the 10am Mass is replaced by a Procession of Palms from SVP to St. Michaels, beginning at 11am.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm, there will be a penitential service with possibility of confession.

The funeral of Veronica (Vera) Cartledge, of Parliament St, who died on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022, aged 82 years, will take place in this church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm We extend our sympathy to Billy, her husband, and all her family. May she rest in peace.

**MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** with Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm

> **BINGO** 7pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April In School Hall All are welcome

### Tuesday Café – Food Bank

Many people have been donating used clothing to share with the refugees who come to the Food Bank on Tuesdays. It is heartbreaking to see them cry in gratitude for the help you give. We also need BEDDING, TOWELS and SUITCASES. **Thank vou**.

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:** Sheila & Mike, Lorraine ALLEN, Natasha BAKER, Kitty BAXTER, Lloyd CHUNG, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, Joe EDIE, Jean ENNIS, Mary HOWARD, Raymond JOYCE, Eddie M<sup>c</sup>KENNA, Mary MELODY, Cathy MURRAY, John PHILLIPS, Ava RUDZINSKI, Jean TAYLOR, Camila WILD.

Also, for the intentions of: Anne & Joan BAXTER, Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, Germaine, Beverley HARPER, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, Madeleine M<sup>c</sup>CANN & Family, Teresa SWIFT, Martha TAGUE, Cath WILSON.

And for those who have died: Vera CARTLEDGE, Kieran ALLEN, Mary JONES, Linda THOMAS, Gloria SMITH.