



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

# Newsletter

19<sup>th</sup> February 2023

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday year A

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B : Vincent De Paul Church

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## 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



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## Homily Notes

In today's Gospel Jesus continues his long sermon on the mount. He is teaching us

a new way of living. Today, Jesus speaks about 'revenge' and about 'mutual love'.

On taking revenge, the law of Moses in the book of Exodus teaches: 'Eye for eye and tooth for tooth'. This law was introduced to put limits to revenge and make it proportional to the offence. However, Jesus says: *But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance.* For Jesus, vengeance should be excluded altogether. The vicious circle of retaliation needs to be broken, and that can only be by opposing vengeance altogether.

Jesus does not stop us from defending ourselves in situations of unjust aggression and even less of opposing evil in the world. But Jesus wants to exclude vengeance. How do we educate our children and ourselves? What do we teach? When they hit you, hit back! Or, when they hit you, walk away!

After that, Jesus continues saying: *I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.* Love your enemies. How is this possible humanly speaking for us, weak as we are?

On ourselves, it is not possible. We need to draw close to Jesus, for him to infect us 'positively'. When we reflect on his words and his life, when we draw close to him in prayer and the Eucharist, he can infect us 'positively', in order to become whole and healthy, more like him.

God alone is good, God causes his sun to rise on bad people as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest people alike.

Jesus calls us to resemble our heavenly Father more and more, to be truly his children, and for that to ask for his help.

*Ferdinand*

## Mass Intentions

Sat 18: Mary & James Sharkey

Sun 19: Ollie Coopersmith

Mon 20: Parishioners

Tue 21: Holy Souls

Wed 22: Veronica Finnigan

Thur 23: Kitty Baxter

Fri 24: Betty Christian

Sat 25: Sheila Glanville-Jones

Sun 26 : Maureen Farrell

## Thoughts on Lent

Lent begins on Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. It begins with

ashes, an ancient sign of repentance, a

regret for a wrong done, a desire to turn around one's life.

"What are you giving up for Lent?", we are sometimes asked by our parents or friends. But the question would be better put as "What are you *doing* for Lent". Yes, there is an element of fasting in Lent – giving up chocolates, alcohol, TV, or whatever else seems to us to be in some way unhealthy. But this is mostly searching for what is profitable for me. Once again, I am the centre of my action. I will do something from which I will profit.

But what if I want to do something for the love of another, the others? This would be more Christ-like. Then I would have to do, rather than not do. I could, for instance, watch my tongue, to speak only good of the other, to say what is upbuilding, encouraging. And if in a situation I could not think of something positive and good to say, I would have to say nowt. I could visit a home-bound relative or person, check on their needs, cheer them up with my presence. This would be good for many people, especially for those in our care homes... I could give some time to prayer or to reading the Gospel, getting to know the source of my life, Jesus. It would help me in my quest for holiness, in my search for God.

Lent is a time for looking forward, not backward. Like Advent, Lent looks forward; to Easter and the self-giving of Jesus for the good of all, which resulted in his resurrection. We want to rise up, escape the conundrum of our selfishness and sin. We want to do good for others, to improve this world which threatens us with stabbing on our streets, drugs in our alleys, stress and strife at work, war across our borders.

Lent is a time to do just that. This week, Pax Christi offers us the opportunity to take action against war, CAFOD invites us to walk 200 sponsored km in Lent to fight world poverty, the parish invites us to help on a Tuesday morning to welcome people in difficulty with a cup of tea. All these are opportunities to join with Jesus and build his Kingdom of Peace.

*Terry*

## Parish Notice Board

### ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, is **Ash Wednesday**.  
Mass is at 9am with the distribution of ashes.  
There is an evening Mass at St. Anne's at 7.30pm.

The funeral of  
**Thomas Chandler**  
of Vincent Court,  
who died on 24<sup>th</sup> January,  
aged 74 years,  
will take place in this church on  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
11h00  
We extend our sympathy to his  
family and friends.  
**May he rest in peace.**

### PAX CHRISTI

Wrote to thank the Parish for the donation of £113.80, towards their charity.  
Please note their poster on the board inviting us all to join their **Walk of Witness for Peace and Repentance**.  
This will take place on **Ash Wednesday**, starting 11.45 at St. Luke's bombed out church and will continue with the Stations of the Cross through Lord Street and to the Town Hall.

### OFFERINGS 12<sup>th</sup> February

Envelopes: £ 20.00  
Plate: £ 223.21  
Restoration £ 50.70

*Many thanks*

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

With availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Friday 11.00am to Noon

*There will be **NO Stations of the Cross this Friday**, as we are all invited to join the 2 cathedrals for the Vigil of Prayer for Ukraine and peace.*

*The Stations will begin next week.*

### CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

*Please note that Cafod's Local representative, **Collette Byrne**, will visit us and talk at Masses on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February*

### FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

### Lottery Results – 12<sup>th</sup> February

**01 03 04 08 13 14**  
**Jackpot £ 900.00**

### Vigil for Ukraine

*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 4.30 pm*

The Parish Community is invited to join this vigil between 4.30pm and 6pm on this 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Lent.

It begins at the plaza of the Catholic Cathedral at 4.30pm and finishes in the Anglican Cathedral at 6pm.

The Cathedral will remain open for silent prayer and meditation until 7pm.

Let us remember all those who have died in this conflict which began with the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

### An Invitation to meet with the Provincial Superior of the Missionaries of Africa.

Fr. Gérard Chabanon will visit us between the 27<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. All parishioners are welcome to join us at **6.30pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**, in the Parish House, 13 Hardy Street. There will be refreshments and convivial chat about the Mission of the White Fathers.

*This meeting replaces the February meeting of SVP Conversations*

**THE TUESDAY CAFÉ NEEDS YOU: VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help serve refreshments and / or serve at the clothes stall.

We are now very short staffed.

Even one hour of help would be more than welcome.

Please join us.

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:** Lorraine ALLEN, Natasha BAKER, Patsy BIRCH, Christopher BROWNE, Emma DOLAN, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, June DUNNE, Joe EDIE, Jean ENNIS, Bobby ENWRIGHT, Maureen FARREL, Baby FRANKIE, Lenny GINLEY, Irene GREEN, Mary HOWARD, Kai, Maureen MAGUIRE, Jane MANN, Helen MARTLEY, Eddie McKENNA, Mary MELODY, Sarah MORGAN, Cathy MURRAY, Ava RUDZINSKI, Eileen SALTERS, Martina STEWARD, Jean TAYLOR, Mary TUIITE, Joanne WILCOCK, Camila WILD.

**Also, for the intentions of:** Kathy BANKS, Anne BAXTER, Ryan EDWARDS, Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, GERMAINE, Beverley HARPER, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, Frances KERWIN, Ian McNICHOLAS, Ann MOORE, Susan MORSELLINO, MURRAY & STEVENSON Family, Maureen RICE, Sarah Jane, Teresa SWIFT, Martha TAGUE, David THOMAS, Cath WILSON.

**And for those who have died:** Kitty BAXTER, Tommy CHANDLER, Margaret Higgins, Philip Rushbrook (brother-in-law of Fr Terry)