



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH (Vol 8: Issue 155)
SUNDAY 12th MARCH 2023 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

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Reflection: This Sunday, we reach **the midpoint of Lent.**

It is good for us to take stock at this midway moment.

Yes, we can reflect on the first half and make hoped-for resolutions for the second.

Jesus' fasting for 40 days & nights illustrates for us not just that we, throughout life, detach ourselves from a desire for an excess of food and drink.

At the same time, it would have been prime time for His One-to-One engagement with God the Father.

From this, we learn that Fasting (and not just from food and drink in excess!) will have the effect of **raising our individual spirit** – the part of us, in and through which, we are **"in the image and likeness of God."**

(For this is altogether something absolutely different from the oft-used expression of a thing "raising our spirits" or "cheering us up". The expressions "comfort food" and "comfort eating" cover those situations).

The second half of this Holy Graced Season of Lent will be an excellent opportunity for us to **feed more upon the Word of God in Sacred Scripture.**

Maybe we can consider preparing or taking smaller portions of earthly food, so as to make time to seek out portions of Sacred Scripture for regular reading and prayerful reflection.

Such a choice will reward us and we will be, or soon become, inwardly conscious of such reward.

Of course, the Bible's range of such portions is very broad. **We might, for example, choose a Psalm a day for the remaining 20 days!**

**MAY YOUR SECOND HALF OF LENT
BE INWARDLY REWARDING AND
RICH IN BLESSINGS.**

Saturday 11th March 2023

Confessions: 10.30 – 11am & 5.45pm – 6.15pm
6.30pm Mass: God's justice for home ownership (AB)

SUNDAY 12th MARCH 2023
THE 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

7.30am: Adoration
8.30am Mass – Michael McDonnell R.I.P. (8th anniversary)
11am Mass – Birthday blessings today for Fred Wye

Monday 13th March 2023 Feria

8.30am Adoration
9.15am Mass – Nigel Hollingdale R.I.P. (KC)

Tuesday 14th March 2023 Feria

8.30am Adoration
9.15am Mass – God's blessings & protection for Kwame Poku

Wednesday 15th March 2023 Feria

8.30am: Adoration
9.15am Mass – Sarah Naughton R.I.P. (KC)

Thursday 16th March 2023 Feria

8am: Adoration
9.15am Mass – For Lucy, Paul & Emmanuel

Friday 17th March 2023 St. Patrick (Bishop)

8.30am: Adoration
9.15am Mass – Conversion & all-round peace for Mark
8pm: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saturday 18th March 2023 Feria

10am Mass – In thanksgiving from Alphonsine & the Kpangni family
Confessions: 10.30-11am & 5.45-6.15pm
6.30pm Mass – Arthur Mack R.I.P. 2nd anniversary 27.3.2023

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**"THE BEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS IN THE
WORLD CANNOT BE SEEN OR EVEN TOUCHED –
THEY MUST BE FELT WITH THE HEART."**

(HELEN KELLER)

Our Archdiocese has a new initiative entitled CARITAS SOUTHWARK. ('Caritas' is Latin for 'Love'. It gives us our word 'charity').

The formal launch of CARITAS SOUTHWARK took place this weekend (Saturday 18th March). There was a Mass in St. George's Cathedral at 12.30pm.

This "project" is all about active outreach to the poor and marginalized in society.

For many years our parish had the Good Shepherd Mission to the Homeless. This was an ecumenical venture. 'Members' travelled up to Central London once weekly, to distribute food and drink to the homeless. When this most commendable venture had to cease, due to declining numbers of 'members', two have admirably been committing themselves to helping out at the Croydon Night Shelter ever since.

Foreign Coins: We soon hope, and expect, to receive boxes and envelopes for the collection of these. This is an initiative of the organisation "Mary's Meals". Its staff organize a hot meal a day to be given to young schoolchildren in the poorer countries of the world e.g. Liberia. So that we can assist, please have your available foreign coins 'at the ready'. They will collect from us at appropriate intervals. Thank you.

Croydon Council are trialling a new **Healthy School Street** scheme on Dunley Drive (down to Walker Close), for the benefit of pupils and staff of our primary school. **This scheme commenced on MONDAY 23rd JANUARY 2023**. These 2 roads have become a **Pedestrian and Cycle Zone only** (except for those eligible for exemption permits, and except for buses) between the hours of **8.00-9.30am and 2.00-4.00pm from Monday to Friday**, during school term time only. **Expressing views on the above scheme** Objections can be submitted upto and including **23rd July 2023: Online: www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk**
Email: goodshepherd@croydon.gov.uk (reference GOODSHSS/2023).

Post: same reference: Highway Improvements Team, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, CR0 1EA.

New Addington Foodbank: Many thanks for your contributions. Special thanks to Richard (Francis) who faithfully takes them to the Foodbank on Tuesday evenings. CURRENTLY THE FOODBANK NEEDS: household cleaning products; nappies size 4 **& higher**; baby wipes; long-life milk; sugar; coffee; squash/fruit juice; savoury biscuits/crackers; rice; cooking oil; meat pies.

2020 Diamond Fund: this dates from March 2015. 2017 was our 60th Year (Diamond Anniversary) as a parish. 2020 marks 60 years of our church being built, before its final unveiling in 1962. Details of the 2020 Diamond Fund bank account avail from Fr Con, for anyone wishing to transfer. Thanks to all contributors.

Gift Aid Scheme: Parishioners not currently members are encouraged to join. You have paid tax on your weekly-giving to the parish. We can claim this back from HMR & C, at no cost to you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE HEALTH ISSUES: Winston Daniel, Teresa Saunders, Joyce Dean, Dorothy & Maria Vassallo, Grace Sebastian-Price, Sally Grante, Fred Wye, Trudi Ollivierre, Philomena deSouza, Shirley Pointu, Alexandra Munn, Ann Gavigan, Caroline Morrison, Cathy Joyce, Peter Enohoro, Cyril Green, Patricia Tougher, Pat & Chris McRedmond, Monica & Pat Courtman, Kathy & Terry Jobson, Ainsley Carr, Kathleen Sage, Mary Davies, Anjali & Doug Fanthome, Margaret Furey, Bryan & Maria Smith, George Peach, Edith Mack, Mary Johnston, Eileen Evans, Tilly Whitmore, Celia Hulbert, Maura Malinoff, Teresa Holmes, Mike Cogavin, Salvatore Basilio, Rebekah Stone (17), Amelia & Georgina Holmes, Ken & Maria Rowland, Anita Gregory, Victoria Kana, Jamie Prince, Pat Vaughan, Enis Hanks, Pat Enver, Julie Jones, Tyrone Phillips, Saoirse Hennessey, Mike Slattery.

Collection details: March 4th/5th: Attendance: 205

1st Collection: £774.33 (Gift-aided: £532 Loose: £242.33) 2nd Collection: £151.91

This Sunday's 2nd Collection is for church maintenance here in the parish.

Next Sunday's is for "Poor Parishes". (Gift-aiders to use yellow envelope marked 5th March).

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CUSTOMARY WEEKLY GENEROSITY