St. Michael's Bulletin

Saint Michael's is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity N. 234216

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THIRD SUNDAYOF LENT, March 15th, 2009
Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls

9.00 am Our Parish family **1030 am Holy Souls**

5.00 pm Holy Hour Devotions for Lent

Monday 9.00am Eucharistic Service Tuesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass Thursday 9.00 am Morning prayer and Mass
Friday 7.00 pm Evening Mass for Lent **Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls**

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FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Lord, send Your Healing Spirit on all who are in any way sick or distressed: we pray for Claudina Rodrigues, Eugenie Micotti, Alison & Betty Gosling, Ena Wilson, Marguerite Brosnan, Joseph Bradley, Mike Coulehan, Harry Littlefair, Nancy Keogh, Michael Boyle, Donald Garland, Gerald Scullane, Jason Thatcher , Mary Comfry, Jade Goody, David Roberts and Marie Evans.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY.

We pray for Deacon James Rowe and all who died recently, for all killed in wars, disasters and accidents: victims of terrorism and oppression; and for those who die of starvation or neglect. We remember in prayer Dorothy Flannery, Mamie Connors, Molly Luby, Henry Kerr, Donna Armstrong, Doreen D'Souza, Alan Dant, Mary Fallon, Mary Ann Kerr and all whose anniversaries fall at this time. **Grant them the joy of Your Presence.**

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FR EDDIE BUTLER

Today we welcome Fr Eddie amongst us. Fr Eddiewill give us some insight into the meaning and importance of Lent.
He will also be inviting us to join in the "Journey of Faith" course which he is now running at Sacred Heart in Henley.
The sessions take place each Wednesday at 8.00 pm during Lent. If you wish to go along, please feel free to do so.
Fr Eddie is now retired, but he ran a very successful "Journey in Faith" course in his former parish, and during his ministry there he received more than 100 people into the church. He is currently helping Fr Anthony during Lent at Sacred Heart in Henley.
Fr Eddie will return to be with us again during the later weeks of summer.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

For Sunday evening devotions this week we shall have Evening Prayer of the Church followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, with a time of stillness and silence for your own personal prayer and recollection.
Please remember that we also have Evening Mass during the week, for those who have to go to work: on Fridays at 7.00 pm.
I encourage you to join with me at the Anglican Church of Christ the King for their Lenten Study Groups. We have joined these in the past and they are very successful. They will meet on Wednesday afternoon at 2.00pm and at 7.30pm in the evening.

CAFOD FAST DAY

Thank you all for the return of your Family Fast Day envelopes. They contained £371.80, but with Gift Aid this amount will be increased. I am confident that there are still more envelopes to be returned over the next few weeks and I shall keep you informed as to the final amount, which we shall send to CAFOD, who use it to support the hungriest people in our world.
I have mentioned before that increasing numbers now set aside each Friday as a personal fast day during Lent. Are you one?
I am sure many of us can remember the "Fish on Friday" discipline which asked us not to eat meat as a minor form of penance But was that lovely crispy battered fish and juicy crunchy chips a penance? Hardly. In the 16th century Queen Elizabeth I imposed several meat-free days on the nation as a way of supporting our fishing industry! But whatever the reason we fast the beneficiaries of our penance and fasting should be those in our world who go hungry and thirsty every day. Let us not neglect them. We hardly ever experience real hunger, and we never have to worry about where our next meal is coming from.

LENT PROJECT. Housing for Refugees

Our Lenten Project is to support a housing scheme for refugess in the war-torn countries of the Balkans.
This project is very much the brain-child of Sister Josephine Walsh, who will come to speak to us at each Mass on the week-end of March 28th/9th .and will give us an insight into what she is doing there. The swing-bin awaits your donations to this project.
This swing-bin will happily accept all your losse change, no matter how small. " Small change can make a big change."

SAINT MARTIN'S SCHOOL.

On Tuesday the Governors appointed Mrs Madeleine Cosgrove to succedd Mrs Ann Hogg as our Headteacher.
F Mrs Cosgrove will take up her duties in September at the beginning of the new Academic year

CHURCH CLEANING

You will find on your bench a card asking if you can spare some time to help clean the church. We need a few more volunteers to help clean the church, which will be for about 40 minutes every two or three months. We are very grateful to those who already help with this task. There is also a list at the back of church which will detail the jobs which need to be done, and ask if you can help us so that the church is always spick and span whenever we come into it.

We also have a Men's Team, which we should use more regularly. We have a "big-clean" before Easter and Christmas, but maybe we should have more regular slots in order to support the ladies.Maybe more of the gents might like to join us.

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May we all have a calm and prayerful week. Fr Chris