St. Michael's Bulletin

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, March 29th, 2009
Vigil 5.30 pm Leslie Archard

9.00 am Our Parish family **1030 am Cotter & O'Shea families**

5.00 pm Holy Hour Devotions for Lent

Monday 9.00am Morning prayer & Mass Tuesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass Thursday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service
Friday 7.00 pm Reconciliation Mass for Lent **Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Betty Holohan**

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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, David Roberts and Marie Evans.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY.

We pray for Jade Goody 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 Mary Gardner, Liam Treacey, Cedric Baring-Gould, Joseph Anthony Melling, Kevin Cotter, Eileen Foley, Flora Bradley, Jim Roginski, Bernard Lobo, Eleanor Fox and all whose anniversaries fall at this time. **Grant them the joy of Your Presence.**

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LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Please remember our Sunday evening devotions at 5.00 pm. We hope that these have proved useful for you during Lent. On Friday we have our Lenten Reconciliation Mass at 7.00 pm. This also known as "The Annual Amnesty"

SISTER JOSEPHINE WALSH.

Our Lenten Project will receive a great boost when Sister Josephine speaks to us today. This project is to help house refugees. The swing-bin awaits your donations , no matter how small. **" Small change can make a big change."**

Alms giving in Lent has a three-fold purpose: 1. to strengthen Christian living – 2. to encourage compassion and charity in our daily lives – and 3. to help ease the physical and emotional pain of people in need.

CHURCH CLEANING

Have you found the card asking if you can spare some time to help clean the church ? 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 find a little time to help us so that the church is always spick and span whenever we come into it.

There will be a Men's Team cleaning session on Saturday, beginning at 9.00 am. Would more of the gents who have not yet had this experience like to join us ? We may have to do some difficult tasks, such as bringing down the cross from above the altar down and giving it a good clean – as well as the statue of Our Lady. There will be another sesion next Saturday moring.

GIFT AID.

There is a sheet at the back of church explaining what is involved for newcomers to the parish and for those who have not yet joined this scheme. New sets of boxes are at the back of church for those who use the envelope scheme.

EASTER CARD.

The Easter card is now on the table at the back of church. These will be delivered to your homes, but you may wish to take one now. It contains the times and dates of the important Holy Week ceremonies and services. Please keep it safe.

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Now that the hour has changed and our nights are lighter it means that some of our Holy Week ceremonies will not be as much in the dark as they have been in previous years. Our Maundy Thursday celebration of The Lord's Supper at 7.00 pm and the Easter Vigil at 8.00 pm on Saturday will be reasonably light. This makes it less threatening to many who find it difficult to come out of your homes in the dark for fear of stumbling. I hope the lighter nights will encourage you to come along each evening.

PARISH HALL

The new double-glazed windows are now installed. This will make the hall warmer, brighter and more presentable. The ceiling has already been renewed and we intend to renew the tables and chairs. We also intend to have new crockery so that everything matches for those occasions when we eat together. We shall then paint the porch leading into the hall.

READERS.

We need to know the availability of Readers for Holy Week. There is a sheet on the table at the back of church for your names. Please sign if you would like to be included on our Holy Week roster, even if you have never been a Reader before.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Each year there is a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, lead by Archbishop Nichols: maybe some of you have been on it.. This year the pilgrimage begins on Saturday May 23rd and ends on 30th. Are you interested to go? There is a poster with more details at the back of church, and there is a Booking Form, too. If you would like to go let me know as soon as possible, please.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

This will take place at Fawley Court on the Marlow Road in Henley on Sunday 19th April.
The day will begin at 1000 am and end at 4.30 pm. There is a notice on the board with more details.

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