

Reflection BELIEVE IN GOD'S LOVE

Every Lent is a new beginning; sometimes beginnings are welcomed, other times half and half! We welcome Lent as a time to make our faith fresh, but we know from other Lents that it's hard to keep going, and it's for a long time! We might ask ourselves what Lent is really for.



The focus of Lent is not on what we give up but on what we are given. We focus our minds on the self-giving love of Jesus which we will celebrate in Holy

Week. We allow ourselves to believe in this love. Often it's difficult to believe in the tender love of God. This conquers all else in the world; it is given in the mercy and compassion of God.

Lent pours the grace of forgiveness into our world, needed individually and as a people. We need to know that God is bigger than any of our sins, wars, violence and hatred. God wants his kingdom to come now. Lent is our time of saying 'yes' to a partnership with God in saving the world from the effects of evil and sin.

Pray a bit, read the gospel every day, do something good for another every day

- this is the way to share in the saving love of God. Maybe we can ask what our Lent does for others rather than just what we are doing for Lent. It is a time of renewal, then it shows in love, forgiveness and care of others in our lives.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH,
HEALD GREEN
Saturday 17th February 2018
(Vigil Mass) 5.30pm
Sun 18th February 2018
Mass 9am & 11am
 (Children's Liturgy at 11am)

				<i>Intentions</i>
Sat	17th Feb	First Sunday of	Vigil Mass 5.30pm	Tom RIP
Sun	18th Feb	Lent	Mass 9am Sung Mass 11am	Parishioners Kenneth Fields RIP
Mon	19th Feb	Ferial	Celebration of Word & Communion 10am	
Tue	20th Feb	Ferial	Mass 10am	Colon Dixon RIP
Wed	21st Feb	Ferial	Mass 10am	Alfred Dwan RIP
Thu	22nd Feb	The Chair of Saint Peter	Mass 10am Mass 7.30pm	Kath Byrne RIP First Sacrament Children
Fri	23rd Feb	St Polycarp B,M	Mass 10am Exposition 10.30-11am Stations of the Cross 7pm	Edward RIP
Sat	24th Feb	Ferial	Mass 10 a.m.	Margaret Dwan RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION :

Fr. Paul will be in the confessional on Saturday 11.30-12 noon and 5-5.20pm.
 OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Next Week : SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

24th February Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm

25th February Sunday Mass at 9am & 11am

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

40 Stories of Hope—Lent Course

MONDAY 19TH FEB Heald Green Methodist Church, Brown Lane at 7.15 for 7.30pm start
TUESDAY 20TH FEB Christ Church Parish Hall at 2pm—please join in.

40 Stories of Hope book available in the porch £2 each.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 23RD

Please take an envelope and return it with your offerings next week

SERRA LENTEN TALKS—1st MARCH 7.30pm

The second of the three talks on St Paul by Judge Humphries. Mass is at 7.30pm, in the Parish Hall followed by a light supper and the talk. Please ring Gerry Lanigan (428 9103) early in the week of the meeting if possible, for catering purposes.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 2nd March 7.30pm, United Reform Church, Wilmslow Road, Heald Green. Please come and celebrate this worthwhile service prepared by the women of Suriname.

LPA DAY OF RECOLLECTION

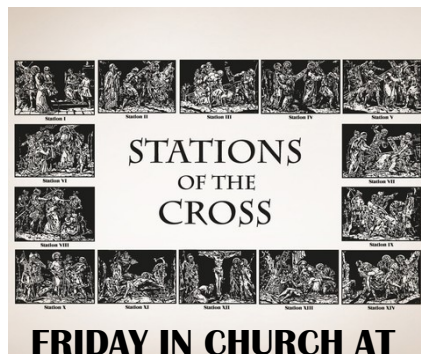
For Eucharistic Ministers & Welcomers will take place on Saturday 3rd March in our Parish Hall. The Theme is 'Reluctant Disciples' - 9.30am for prompt 10am start—finish around 3pm.

THE EUCHARIST: MAELSTROM OF LOVE

Saturday 3 March St Ambrose College, Hale Barns and **Sunday 4 March, Shrewsbury Cathedral Parish Room** -talks by Fr Oliver Treanor
www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/catholic-faith/the-new-evangelisation/registration

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES THIS YEAR ARE SATURDAY 21st & 28th APRIL AT 11am here at Christ Church.

ST ANN'S HOSPICE—JIMMY CRICKET EVENT
Proceeds amounted to £1,166.50— a good evening for everyone—thank you



FRIDAY IN CHURCH AT

7pm EACH WEEK.

Also an evening Mass in the weeks of Lent at 7.30pm each Thursday

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience,

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have hope in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

REDISCOVER JESUS - the gift from the Bishop at Christmas is readable and lifechanging—good to read during Lent. There are still copies available in the porch, if you didn't get one.

INVIGILATORS—ST JAMES' SCHOOL

St James' Catholic High School is currently recruiting for exam invigilators. This is a part time and seasonal role on a casual basis. Applicants must be available for at least 4 sessions a week (Sessions are AM 8.15am - 12pm and PM 1pm - 4pm) during May and June. For more information, please contact Amy Morrin by email amy.morrin@st-jamescatholic.stockport.sch.uk

SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM

On the Feast of St John Bosco, Patron Saint of young people, the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team website went live. On the website you can find out about SYMT, read blog posts, download resources and discover www.symt.org.uk

ADOREMUS NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2018

Takes place in Liverpool at the Echo Arena on 7th & 8th September. The Symposium on the Friday is a primary focus for Catechists, Religious Education personnel, Music Leaders, chaplains and those involved with formation.

Shrewsbury Diocese has been allocated **154 places—booking forms, should be returned by 12th March.** See posters in the porch. There are 2 Masses on the 9th at 9.30 and 11.30

www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/catholic-faith/the-new-evangelisation/adoremus

40 DAYS FOR LIFE (MANCHESTER)

From 14th February to 25th March, our community will take part in 40 Days for Life... a ground-breaking, coordinated international mobilisation. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city - and beyond. To join the prayerful, peaceful vigil outside the abortion facility in Fal-lowfield, Manchester please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/manchester-2/ or call 07810 791032.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND



May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

ROSARY Monday to Friday at 9.30am.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH is prayed prior to 10 am weekday Mass or Service of the Word & Communion.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP: Meetings are held every Monday at 2pm in the Meeting Room.

MASS INTENTIONS The small brown envelopes are in the porch and we have some in the sacristy. If you have an anniversary of someone you love or a need for prayer, why not have a Mass offered.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Andrea Lomas will be available each Tuesday 7.30-8.30pm for anyone wishing to discuss arrangements.

WELCOME

We welcome Nancy Marie Hare who is to be baptised this weekend. Please pray for her and her family.

CAN YOU HELP?

The Parish office is in need of help, (3 hours on 2 mornings a week) mainly covering the telephone and post. If you can volunteer time on a regular basis, please speak to Father Paul or Cath Cohen. Every little helps.

HEALD GREEN FESTIVAL JUNE 2018

Christ Church Ladies have run the bookstall for many years but we need new volunteers - please contact the office.

FATHER MIKE DYSON has a new phone number—0161 436 6119