



CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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A parish of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees, No. 233699

Clergy Fr Howard James (Parish Priest)
Parish Secretaries: Lisa Mulvaney & Deirdre Weir
Parish Office Open: Tues – Fri, 10am – 2pm

SUNDAY MASS

9am, 10.30am (Children's Liturgy), 12 noon (sung) & 6pm, Vigil Mass – Saturday 6pm

WEEKDAY MASS

Please see overleaf for times and intentions

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10.30 – 11am, 5.15 – 5.45pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION Sat 10.30 – 11am

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 21 FEBRUARY 2010

READINGS at MASS

Today : Deuteronomy 26:4-10, Psalm 90

Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18, Psalm 26

Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 9:28-36

GIVING THE DEVIL A HARD TIME!

On the First Sunday of Lent we are always taken into the wilderness and told the story of how Jesus was confronted with temptation and how he overcame it. As children the story is presented to us with an accompanying illustration of the devil complete with huge bat-like wings a scaly tail and horns. How easy to resist temptation packaged so obviously as a 'bad choice'. The trouble with temptation is it rarely comes packaged as a 'bad choice'. Often temptation comes as a fairly harmless choice or even as an attractive or intelligent option. How harmless does it seem to sip half a glass of wine when you're supposed to be quitting. How harmless does it seem to 'borrow' a little cash from the office tea fund ... you can always pay it back later.

There's a lot of talk about what is classed as a temptation and what isn't. In the context of the First Sunday of Lent, a temptation is anything that takes you further away from God. If having an extra cream cake takes you further away from God, then it's a temptation if having an extra cream cake has nothing to do with your relationship with God, then it's totally unimportant.

In today's gospel Jesus shows us how to confront temptation. First of all Jesus spent a lot of time working out who he was and what he was about. If you have a clearly identified agenda then it follows you can more clearly identify your temptations too. A simple rule of thumb is to ask yourself in each of your daily decisions, 'Will this decision bring me nearer to God or take me further away?'

Knowing who you are and what you are trying to achieve in life not only helps you to identify your temptations, but also gives you a reason and strength of character when it comes to resisting. Today is the day we start giving the devil a hard time. Tempted?

ST JOHN'S GOT TALENT – this is an opportunity for us to show off the great talent that is in our parish. If you would like to audition for this Talent show the dates are as follows:

4-10 years: Friday 12th March at 7pm in the Fr George Haines Parish Centre.

11-16 years: Friday 19th March at 7pm in the Fr George Haines Parish Centre.

17+ Friday 26th March at 7pm in the Fr George Haines Parish Centre.

The dates for the Heats and Finals will be announced later.

YOUTH CENTRE – we are pleased to announce that the Youth Centre re-opened last Tuesday. The Youth Centre is open on Tuesdays from 6-9pm and welcomes young people from the ages of 11-14 and offer a variety of activities including table tennis, arts & crafts and pool. The programme of activities for the next month is available now by leaving a message with Fr Howard who will pass it on to the Youth Team Leader, Elsworth Samuel.

LENT – The Stations of the Cross will be done after the 10 o'clock Mass on Friday mornings during Lent.

HEALING SERVICE – The Healing Service that is shared between Cross Street Baptist Church, St James's Anglican Church and St John's will be on Sunday 21st February 2010 at 3.30pm at the Cross Street Baptist Church, Cross Street, Islington. The preacher is Fr John from St James.

THERE WILL BE A COLLECTION FOR LENT FAST DAY OFFERINGS FOR CAFOD TAKEN UP NEXT SUNDAY.

**MASS INTENTIONS
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

6pm(Sat) John Mitchell RIP (Anniv)
9am Frank O'Mara RIP (Anniv)
10:30am Mrs Nell Lee RIP
12noon Margaret Fitzpatrick RIP
6pm For Parishioners

MONDAY – CHAIR OF ST PETER, Apostle

10am Helena Bernadette McGeoch RIP

TUESDAY – Lent Feria

10am Joan Grace RIP

WEDNESDAY – Lent Feria

10am Tony & Nella Molinari RIP (Anniv)

THURSDAY – Lent Feria

10am Anthony Hughes RIP (1st Anniv)

FRIDAY – Lent Feria

10am Colywn St David's RIP

SATURDAY – Lent Feria

10am Margaret McInerney RIP

11.30am Altar Serving Conference In the Church

6pm Tom Tynan RIP (Anniv)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9am Camilla Mariani RIP (Anniv)
10.30am For Parishioners
12noon Kathleen Hughes, Alice Boylan & Tom Brown RIP (Anniv)
6pm Sarah Flood RIP

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – on 23rd February at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

ST JOHN'S YOUTH CENTRE – this parish youth club, founded in 1973 and open one evening a week to any local young person aged 11 to 14, is urgently looking for new Committee members to help with the governance of the club, which is run by trained youth workers. Any willing hands, especially those who can take on the Chairmanship and the role of Treasurer, and who can devote just a small number of hours each month and help with fundraising, will be most welcome. The club also needs to recruit volunteer youth workers to work one evening a week with the young people; they would receive training as needed. If you believe you might be able to commit yourself for six months or more please contact Fr Howard.

BAPTISM PREPARATION – the next session of preparation for parents with babies for baptism will be held on **Tuesday 2nd and 9th March** at 7.30pm in the church. Registration forms are in the Vestibule. Godparents are welcome to attend.

SCHOOL REFERENCE FORMS – for Nursery 2011. These forms will be signed on **Monday 22nd February** between **11am – 4.30pm** and **Wednesday 24th February** between **4pm-6pm**. If these dates are not convenient please contact Fr Howard to make an appointment.

WALK WITH ME – a Lenten Journey of Prayer for 2010 booklets available in the Vestibule **£1**. Please place money in the box that says Newspapers.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Rest in Peace – please pray for those who died Recently, especially Theresa Fung, Dessie Cullen, Michael Power and John Fahey and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Healing – please pray for parishioners and their relatives/friends who are ill especially, Michael Ball, Gerald Donnelly, Lucy Bergonzi, Gabrielle, Amy Louise Green, Christiana Okonji, Nichola Biggs, Lisa Wilson, Inez Schiavi, Margaret Kennedy, Margery Trotter, George Carrington-Johnson, Stefan Dabeesing, Joanne Matthias, Alf Carr, Kim Riley, Adriano Grazioli, Helen Grace Mboma, Rose Walsh, Paolo Mercantini, Jean Kennedy, Tony Lonergan, David Travers, Florence Irons, Robin & Collette Good, Kitty Parker, Christy McHugh, Mary Gibbons, Anne Sarling, Esther O'Driscoll, Barbara Watkins, Marie Richardson, Peter Shaw, Lisa Grigg, Bridie McLoughlin, Mandy Mayes, Joseph Matthew, John Hanway, Winifred MacAuley, Juliette Uibopuu, Helmut Aster, Harry Perkins, Con Enright, Bro John Ogivie Mbrs, Robert Redrupp and Bridin Davey.

FINANCES

Sun 14 Feb: Envelopes: £ 513.92
Loose Cash: £ 596.51
Homeless: £ 23.62

Thank you Very Much.

CALLING ALL 20's – 40's – you are invited to meet with Catholics/church attending young people to socialise, pray, have discussions, support each other and live out your Catholic/Christian Commitments.

HOLY COMMUNION DRESSES/ACCESSORIES

– Josiane will be displaying her dresses in the Vestibule on Sunday 28th February from 10am or contact Josiane Abel on 020 7278 7291 (after 6pm) or 0785 4047 724.

HOLY COMMUNION – next session is on 28th

February and the topic is Fruit of the Vine. Please bring your children to the 10.30am Mass.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – this will take place at the

10.30am Mass on 21st February, 28th March and 25th April. Children 7 and under will be invited to come to the School Hall at the beginning of Mass.

A DAY WITH MARY – Saturday 6th March at Holy

Ghost & St Stephen, Ashchurch Grove, London W12.

IRISH DANCING – lessons are available in the Fr

George Haines Centre (formerly the Crypt). If you have a girl or boy who is interested in Irish Dancing come along on Tuesday's from 3.30pm-5pm or call 020 7359 9833.

PRAY TOGETHER ISLINGTON – lunch will be held

at 12 Highbury Place, N5 at 1pm on Tuesday 23rd February. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and Coffee will be available.

ENGLISH CLASSES – St Mellitus Church, Tollington Park,

N4 3AG. Five minutes walk from Finsbury Park Station. Free classes from 10am to 12 noon on Fridays in school term time.

Contact Jan on 0208 888 5518.