

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LENTEN APPEAL

Embrace Gaza

You can still give to the Lenten Appeal using the Dona machine. There are also envelopes available at the back of Church which include gift aid - All donations can be returned any time over the next two weeks.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL You can still give online at www.cafod.org.uk or use the Dona machine at the back of Church. There are also envelopes available at the back of Church which include gift aid - All donations can be returned any time over the next two weeks

SAVE THE DATES

FATHER MICHAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday April 20th

Join us for a Parish Celebration for The 50th Anniversary of Father Michael's Ordination

We will be hosting a Cream Tea from 2.30pm —5.00pm followed by evening Mass at 5.30pm

A sign up sheet for catering numbers is now available at the back of Church

We are also having a collection for Father Michael to buy a present - please put any donations into an envelope marked (FrMAP) for the attention of Krissie

Please post them into the presbytery by 13th April

BOOK AND PLANT SALE ON MAY 12TH

We are holding a book and plant sale at the beginning of May. Please consider donating any books (please only good as new ones) or plants. Donations can be left on the table in the office All proceeds will be given to the charities the Parish supports.

For more info contact Krissie in the office.

ECUMENICAL SAFARI SUPPER Saturday, 6th July.

This is a free event and a sign up sheet will be put up nearer the time.

Thought for the week

Easter Sunday

31st March, 2024

Today, Easter Day, is the day around which our Christian faith pivots. At the first glimpse of dawn, while still dark, the women go to the tomb where Jesus' body was placed three days before. What do they find? The stone had been rolled away and the body gone. They go off to tell the apostles, and when Peter and John go inside, they see the binding cloths and nothing else. What had happened? The women had been asked, "*Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?*" As the apostles looked around the empty tomb understanding dawned, just as the new day was dawning, the scriptures had foretold, '*He must rise from the dead.*'

Throughout human history, from the moment humankind disobeyed God and decided to go its own way and suffer the consequences, God unfolded his plan that would allow people to return to him and experience his love and consolation. God the Son emptied himself, becoming man, then suffered humiliation and an agonizing death so that we might have eternal life. The enormity of this act of perfect love hits me frequently, especially at the key moments of the services during Holy week and the Easter weekend. God defeated death by rising again and where flesh and blood in the person of Jesus went, we can follow. As Jesus shared our humanity, we are now able to share in his divinity. The way to the Father and eternal life is open to us, but the choice is ours.

When I think of what Christ has done for me, I long to do something for him, but it can be so hard to do so on a daily basis. We know we can't earn His love. We know we can't repay His gift so dearly given. However, we can acknowledge that gift - in the way we live our lives. Jesus taught us how to choose eternal life with God and summed it up very simply, "*Love God and love your neighbour.*" We can share that love with all those around us.

So, on this Easter Day, as I give thanks for the Risen Lord and God's love of me, I need to consider how I reciprocate. Do I give him 'quality' time on a regular basis or fit him in when other commitments allow? Do I show love, understanding and compassion for the people I meet in my daily life or simply use them to get the things I want? As we move through Eastertide let us ask the risen Lord to guide us, as we seek to follow him to his Father and our Father.

Give thanks to the Risen Lord!

A Parishioner



**We ask you please, to pray for the following people
who continue to ask for your prayers;**

Please pray for Rosie Heap who is having palliative care, for a peaceful death.

Please pray for Sarah Britton .

Please pray for Mary Edwards who has had hip surgery, after a fall at home, and is now recovering in The RBH.

Please pray for Carl Stitt the Uncle of Krissie as his operation was not successful and will have to be repeated.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is now back at home and continues to improve.

Rosemary continues to need our prayers having undergone major surgery, as the recovery will be long and slow.

Please pray for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton (Joe has severe learning difficulties).
Please pray that they get the help they need.

Please continue to pray for Father Paul Rowan. Both cancer surgery and corneal graft are at last showing positive outcomes.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who continues to need our prayers following his bone marrow transplant,

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy.
Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers that he will continue to improve.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose
anniversaries occur at this time including;**

Kevin Cotter, Eileen Foley, Cedric Baring-Gould,
Joseph Anthony Melling, Mary Burns, Derek Graham,
Flora Bradley, Bernard Lobo, Paddy Hickey,
Jim Roginski, Elenor and Arnold Fox, Lilian Muston,
Harry and Mary Gardner, Bridie McGarry, Gerry Buck,
Josephine Legge, Harry Selway (Husband of Joan)