

Baptism: gateway to a life of faith

Today we begin our journey through the sacraments with a first look at baptism: the beginning of a life of faith and membership of the Church. This beautiful sacrament is the gateway to a life following Christ, life that is spiritual and eternal.

FOCUS ON... **Bishop-elect Paul Swarbrick**

On Monday, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, it was announced that the Pope has appointed Canon Paul Swarbrick to be the next Bishop of Lancaster.

Bishop-elect Paul, 59, is a priest of the Diocese, currently Parish Priest of Christ the Good Shepherd in Workington. He was ordained priest in 1982 and has served in many parishes, and also spent fifteen years on the missions in Zambia.

He will be ordained bishop in the Cathedral on Monday 9th April, at which point he will become the seventh Bishop of Lancaster. Please remember Bishop-elect Paul in your prayers. Whilst he has a big task ahead of him, he will be able to draw not only on his own considerable qualities, but also on the grace of ordination, the strength of the Holy Spirit, and the help of our prayers in the years ahead. Ad multos annos!

Bishop-elect Paul said, **"I beg your daily prayers, your patience and your collaboration; our mission is to make our Lord Jesus Christ more widely known and loved in the Diocese of Lancaster. I draw on the example of so many saints and martyrs, as well as on the witness and memory of my own wonderful parents, grandparents and family. Faced with so much that is unknown and uncertain I am comforted by the presence of the Good Shepherd who has promised never to forsake His flock. I will serve to the best of my ability."**



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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book Page 148

Office: Psalter Week 1; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: of Lent

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 17 th	6pm (vigil)	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	Mary Sinnott RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 18 th	9:30am		Carmine Torlo RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		Harry & Cath O'Brien RIP
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm	Scott Frodsham RIP	
Wednesday	9:15am	Special Intention	
Thursday	9:15am	The Chair of St Peter	Gill Glenholme RIP
Friday	12noon	Requiem	Pearline Simpson RIP
Saturday 24 th	10am	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	Frank Rowe RIP
	6pm (vigil)		Joan Burton RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 25 th	9:30am		Martin Cliff RIP
	6pm		Bill Hargreaves RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Gladys Bee**, whose funeral will be at the crematorium on Monday at 10:45am, **Pearline Simpson**, whose Requiem Mass will take place here on Friday at 12noon, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon (for priestly vocations)

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Monday-Friday 7:45am during Lent.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon, and on request.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays 3pm during Lent.

ROSARY: Mysteries of Light prayed after 9:15am Mass, and before 12noon Mass on Fridays. These prayers are offered for the protection of life at all stages.

ANGELUS: said at 12noon on Fridays, at the start of Mass.

ANNIVERSARIES: George Livesey, Maud Melling, Maria Jakimovicz, Jack Bennett, Margaret Gavell, George Green, Bill Walmsley, Anne Lovell, Norma Douds.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays at 3pm during Lent.

LENTEN LUNCHESES: Please note that there will be no Lenten Lunch this week, as Friday's Mass is a Requiem. The lunches resume next Friday (2nd March).

LENT TALKS: Two talks exploring the scriptural roots of the sacraments. Tuesday 13th March and Tuesday 20th March at 7:30pm. All welcome.

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY: Materials from CTS are now on sale in the narthex. Prices are printed on the booklets/leaflets. Please put money in the wall box.

CTS BOOK CLUB: We are starting a monthly book club using a different CTS booklet each month. First meeting is after evening Mass on Sunday 11th March. The booklet for this month is called 'Living fruitfully: Generosity'. A good one for Lent! Free copies are now available from Fr Andrew after Mass or from the presbytery.

HOLY WEEK MUSIC PRACTICES: Come and learn some new music for the Sacred Triduum. First practice in the presbytery this Wednesday at 6:30pm. All welcome!

PARISH LOGO: You may have spotted the new logo on the front of the newsletter or online. See the notice boards in the narthex for an explanation of its meaning.

FIRE ALARM: The church is now fitted with a fire alarm, with sensors and manual call points by the doors. If the alarm sounds, **please only exit the church via the emergency doors: do not try to leave via the narthex**, as this will be screened off.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION: this weekend, 17th/18th February at all Masses. Please leave items in the porchway of the presbytery (house) at Mass times only.

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY is this Friday, 23rd February. Envelopes will be collected next weekend (24th/25th).

200 CLUB: If you would like to join or would like more numbers, please contact Anthony Donlan, tel: 01772 713046; Email: anthony@donlan.eu

NARTHEX PLOTS: One or two people have asked – so we will reopen it for a limited period. Forms are available inside the narthex.

GLIMPING GOD: Sessions at Soul Space (92 St Thomas' Road), 7-8:30pm, each Tuesday until 20th March. Email: soulpace92@outlook.com or call 07722 572753.

OUR LADY & ST EDWARD'S Ladies Group: Thursday, February 22nd. A quiz in the Parish Centre at 8pm. Visitors welcome. Cost £2.

LOURDES BURSARY: Going to Lourdes as a volunteer? If you are under 25 and in Year 10 or above, the Catenian Association will give £75 towards your costs, no strings attached. To apply just go to www.thecatenians.com and click on 'Bursary'.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday 2nd March, 2pm at Our Lady & St Edward's. Theme: 'All God's Creation is Very Good: Praying for Suriname'.

LAST SUNDAY: Attended: 426; Collection: £940.15; Thank you.

Events this week (one off/occasional events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	7:45am	Morning Prayer of the Church	Church
Monday	7:30pm	Journey in Faith	Chapel
Tue-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:30pm	Marriage Preparation (6)	Parish Hall
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	6:30pm	Holy Week Music Practice	Presbytery
	7:45pm	NCW Lent Announcement	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Saturday	9am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Confirmation Preparation (2)	School
Sunday	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (3)	Parish Hall
	11am	Holy Communion Parents' Session	Chapel
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Advance Diary Dates

6th March: Social Committee 7.30pm

16th March: Stations of the Cross for persecuted Christians, with ACN, 7pm

Further ahead and further afield...

HEALING SIGNS & WONDERS: Cor et Lumen Christi Conference 3rd – 4th March in Manchester. Visit www.coretlumenchristi.org for more information.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN VACANCY: At Cardinal Allen High School, Fleetwood, starting in May this year. Visit www.cardinalallen.co.uk for more information.

PILGRIMAGE TO LINDISFARNE (Holy Island): for young adults (20s and 30s), 4th - 8th April 2018. Two days of walking in the beautiful Northumberland Countryside along St Cuthbert's Way, followed by a day on Holy Island and a visit to Durham Cathedral. Opportunity to walk, pray and relax! Organised by the FCJ sisters. For more information, contact Sr Lynne FCJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com