



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

26, London Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5AX

Father Clive Dytor [fr.clive.dytor@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.clive.dytor@rcaob.org.uk) 07484 158642

[holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk)

### NEXT WEEK in

#### Holy Trinity:

**Monday** 19 February

**Mass at 9:15am**

**Tuesday** 20 February

**Mass at 9:15am**

**Wednesday** 21 February

**Saint Peter Damian**

**Thursday** 22 February

**The Chair of St Peter the**

**Apostle**

**School Mass 9:15am**

**followed by First**

**Confessions**

**Friday** 23 February

**St Polycarp**

**Prayer for Peace 9:15am**

**Saturday** 24 February

**6pm Vigil Mass**

**Sunday** 18 February

**Mass 11am**

**First Sunday of Lent**

ALL WELCOME

[Weekday Masses in our sister parish St Teresa's Charlbury 9.15am on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.](#)

Website <http://holytrinityrc-chippingnorton.com>

Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

**Sunday 18 February 2024 First Sunday of Lent**

**Readings: Year B**

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### Dear Parishioners

"I am not asking you to do anything more than look at Him."(Saint Teresa of Avila).

Last weekend I was in a very happy place: The Carmel of the Magnificat, in Wolverhampton, home to an enclosed community of discalced Carmelite nuns. These nuns never leave their enclosure in the Carmel, except to seek medical help or vote, and they live lives of prayer, silence, austerity, manual labour and community life. It was my pleasure to spend the weekend in their guest quarters soaking up the deep tranquillity and holiness of that place.

The Carmelites talk of their vocation as "the wilderness", to go out and do battle in prayer with the forces of darkness in this world...and don't we need that at present! They lay down their own needs and wants to petition for others who are in trouble and pain.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is driven...a strong expression used by St Mark...out into the wilderness where He does battle with Satan, who is desperate to corrupt and ruin the Son of God, the only One who can liberate Creation from the powers of Darkness. St Mark's version is typically more terse and spare than St Matthew and St Luke, but the picture is painted with the same energy as the rest of this year's Gospel. Satan tests Jesus...but fails! The Father of Lies will return but he will be as impotent then as he is now and from the Cross in agony and suffering the Son of God will cry out: "It is finished". The great work of our Redemption will be completed.

This Lent is our opportunity to join with the Carmelite sisters, with all believers, to unite ourselves with the Crucified King as we offer our whole lives to Him. Let's not delay, let's not put it off for another year. Who knows where the world is heading? Join with the Mother of God, so greatly loved by Carmelites, in following her son, the Christ, who alone can bring pardon and peace.

**God Bless Everyone**

**Fr Clive**

**Parish Notices – Masses Holy Trinity – Monday, Tuesday at 9:15am. Thursday is a School Mass at 9:15 followed by First Confessions**

**Stations of the Cross at St Teresa's** Wednesday after Mass at 9.45am

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February 2024: For the terminally ill.** We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes:** Carol Wilson, Tom Cantwell, Bridget Kennelly, Audrey Nellis, Richard O'Farrell, Mary Ward, Paula Biggs, Lynette Murphy, Betty, Ania.

**In addition to your own daily prayers please remember:** All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

**The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

