



# THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Scull, Phone: 07847611013

Parish School: St. Mary's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Daventry Road, Southam CV47 1PS

Tel. No. 01926 812512 Head Teacher: Mr. John Brine

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



## 10 MARCH 2024 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY) – MOTHERING SUNDAY

Please gather in prayerful silence. Be encouraged "to speak to God before Mass and to speak to your neighbour after Mass".

<b>Saturday 09</b>	<b>Vigil – Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>
5.30pm	Montague Pendleton RIP
<b>Sunday 10</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>
10.00am	Antonio Blanco RIP
Monday 11	<i>Lent Feria</i>
9.30am	Joanne Stuart & Family Intentions
Tuesday 12	<i>Lent Feria</i>
	Private Mass
Wednesday 13	<i>Lent Feria</i>
6.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration
7.00pm	Helena Byrne (Intentions)
Thursday 14	<i>Lent Feria (Mass in School for Nursery, Reception, Classes 1 and 2)</i>
9.30am	Hugh Canning (Intentions)
Friday 15	<i>Lent Feria</i>
10.30am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
11.00am	Frank McDonagh RIP
Saturday 16	<i>Lent Feria</i>
	Private Mass
5.30pm	Helena Byrne, George Byrne & Canon Garry Byrne RIP
<b>Sunday 17</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>
10.00am	Tessa Hyland RIP

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday 6.00pm – 7.00pm.  
Confession: Saturday 4.45pm – 5.25pm  
Private Rosary / Quiet Prayer: Sunday - 9.30am – 10.00am  
Refreshments: Sundays 11.00am to 11.45am - parish hall.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for March – For the new martyrs:** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

**Lenten Lunches** have been organised again! They will be on the following Tuesdays: 12 & 19, between 12.00noon and 1.30pm. All proceeds go to Galanos House. Your generous response will be much appreciated.

**Sick:** Please pray for Janet Pittam, Nora Brown and all those who are unwell currently and those who need our prayers.

**Alpha course** will be starting at St Joseph's Church, Whitnash on Mondays at 7.30 - 9.00 pm. This is an excellent introduction to Christianity, also serving to refresh the faith of existing Christians. Food will be provided. All are welcome.

**Church Flowers:** At Masses this weekend, there will be a retiring collection for Church Flowers. Some of our silk flowers need replacing and also, we have to buy various items to do the arrangements. Thank you for your generous support.

**EASTER CARDS** will be on sale at Piety Stall at rear of the Church after the Weekend Masses. Please come & have a look.

**Sanctuary Lamp** is burning this week for Kayla Daniels & Family intentions. May God be with them and bless them.

Dates to book Sanctuary Lamp are available. The cost is £4 for the week please. Contact Pat Woolston for bookings.

**APPEAL FOR SPRING BINGO PRIZES:** As the time leading up to Easter will be busy, Easter Bingo is postponed. However, a Spring Bingo will be organized (date to be confirmed) in April. Hence, by way of preparations, we are appealing for the following prize items: Eggs, chocolates, bottles, plants. Vouchers too are welcome! Your support will be much appreciated. Thank you.

*A Very Happy Mothering Sunday!*

**Parish Hall Repair Work:** We are very pleased to inform that the builders will be commencing work on the hall wall, starting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Now we do not know if this will impact on any scheduled use of the hall during the week but will let you know accordingly as soon as possible.

**NEW LECTIONARIES** are being prepared for use in parishes of England & Wales. They will be available in parishes by mid-October 2024. They can be used on receipt but must be used from the weekend of 30 November/1 December, the First Sunday of Advent.

### Offertory Collections – 24/25 February 2024

Non-Gift Aided: £127.00 Candles £10.65 Refreshments: £13.00

CAFOD: £ 159.00 Lenten Lunch: Mugs £30.00

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass Attendance: Saturday: 30 Sunday 94 Total:124

**24 HOURS FOR THE LORD:** The "24 Hours for the Lord" event, a Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation introduced by Pope Francis, this year marks its 11<sup>th</sup> edition. As previously, the event will be celebrated in dioceses around the world on the eve of the fourth Sunday of Lent, from Friday 8 to Saturday 9 March. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for this year is taken from a verse of the Letter to the Romans: "Walking in a new life" (Rom 6,4)

**Lent 2024 - Penitential Day at St Peter's:** On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, between 11.00am and 6.00pm, priests from this part of our deanery will be hearing Confessions. Parishioners are reminded and encouraged, by way of our spiritual preparation, to celebrate this sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness.

**Day of Recollection:** There will be a Day of Recollection on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March between 9.30am and 12.00noon at the Olde Retreat House, for the Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist and the Readers. Others will be welcome too. Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist are expected to do this as part of their commitment. Please book your places with Sr. Sharon.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation in St. Mary's School:** There will be an opportunity for all the children who have made their First Holy Communion, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the next fortnight either in the church or in the school as is convenient.

**The Issue of Abortion** is very emotive. The position of the Church is not to condemn the mother but to love both mother and child....

On March 4<sup>th</sup> Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy want to amend 2 laws: -The Person Act 1861 and Infant Life Preservation Act 1929, that are used to protect the unborn child. Without these acts, there would be no sanction against a doctor or parent who aborts a baby up to birth (even on the grounds of gender).

Most countries in Europe (22 of them) have an abortion limit of 12 weeks gestation. In the UK it is 24 weeks. This amendment would effectively make abortion permissible up to birth.

The Church loves and values the unborn child (the most vulnerable of all) and believes that better ways must be found to support mothers in difficult circumstances. Abortion is damaging for mothers and deadly for unborn children. Please write and express your concerns about this amendment to the law to your local MP this week.

In stark contrast, the BBC announced last week that ministers have listened to bereaved parents who have gone through the painful experience of miscarriage. Campaigners said they were "thrilled" that millions of families would finally get the formal acknowledgement that their baby existed in the form of a certificate. This is for babies up to 24 weeks since those after that are registered as 'still-births'. No-one has suggested a certificate for babies who have been aborted. If we don't speak up for them, who will?

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