

LENT PEACE THOUGHTS

As Lent begins on Wednesday, perhaps these wise words will encourage us to challenge ourselves as we strive to grow closer to Christ in this holy season.

Lent is not a simple ritual, but a "summons to live anew" and a "time for trimming the soul". It is a period for profound self-reflection, breaking through personal stagnation, and active spiritual growth, urging believers to confront inner obstacles and renew their commitment to God.

It is the opportunity to change what we ought to change but have not...
It is about becoming, doing and changing whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now".

This 40-day season of reflection, repentance, and renewal calls for a shift from self-centeredness to actionable, communal justice. It moves beyond traditional fasting to actively "loosing the chains of injustice" by addressing social, gender, and systemic inequities, often focusing on supporting the marginalized and the hungry.

LENT CALLS US TO ACTION!

Sister Joan Chittister OSB

'During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference.'

Pope Francis

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

TUES, WED & THURS 9.00PM C4: THE TONY BLAIR STORY

Series profiling of the former prime minister from his meteoric rise to his downfall following the Iraq War.

TUES & WED 10.30PM C4: FUKUSHIMA: DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD

Tells the extraordinary story of the devastating tsunami on 11th March 2011, which killed 20,000 and triggered a nuclear meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear facility in Japan, Survivors and witnesses tell their stories in the aftermath of the disaster.

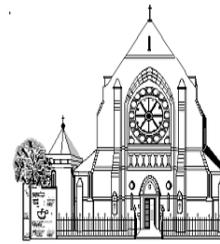
WEDNESDAY 10.15PM BBC4: BREAKING THE CODE

Drama about Alan Turing, who was instrumental in cracking the Enigma Code in World War II, but struggled with the pressure of homophobic persecution.

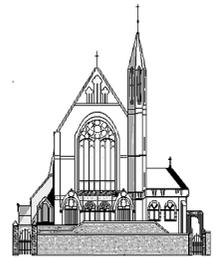
THURSDAY 10.00PM CECIL: THE LION & THE DENTIST

In 2015, the violent death of a famous African lion,, killed by a millionaire American dentist and big-game hunter sparked outrage. But, what is the real story behind this seemingly needless killing and what does it tell us about wildlife today?

Registered Charity **232709**



**THE PARISH OF
ST MICHAEL
AND SACRED HEART**
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14th/15th Feb 6th Sunday Year A p.137

MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael's

Ash Wednesday 12noon Sacred Heart and 7.00pm St Michael's

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael's

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

GOSPEL THOUGHTS Matthew 5: 20-34

As we grow up at home, Dad shouts, "While you live in this house you will do as I tell you". We need the rules of the traffic lights to avoid traffic chaos. Laws of the land are mostly rules to help us live well. Good rules enable us to be kind, fair and loving to each other.

Some leaders use rules selfishly to protect their own power and wealth. Jesus came to reveal what all good rules are for. Rules are important when they show us the way to look after each other. Jesus tells us rules are only meant to protect each other with all that will bring dignity and love to every single person, not just a few rich ones.

God's plan, wisdom and presence are revealed by good rules.



REMEMBERED... during Mass

Anthony Perry, Vincent Muldoon, Jose Mathew.
Martin George, Chirstine Grant, Averyll Fairfield
Please keep these families in your prayers..

ACTION FOR PALESTINE

LEAFLETING: Barclays Bank, Lord Street, **Monday 16th February, 1.30pm**, highlighting the bank's role in financing Israeli apartheid and inviting customers to move their accounts.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross, Fridays during Lent,
starting Friday 20th February, 6.30pm at St Michael's Church.

PILGRIMAGE THROUGH LENT

You are invited to a series of Lenten Evenings at the Irenaeus Centre, 32, Great Georges Road, L22 1RD on Tuesdays at 7pm starting 24th February, then 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th March. You can join via Zoom. For more info. contact centreirenaeus@gmail.com or ring Jenny on 0151 949 1199

ANNUAL WALK OF REPENTANCE - DISARM OUR HEARTS

Nuclear weapons are one of the most urgent challenges to life on our planet. Join Pax Christi, CND and peacemakers, on **Ash Wednesday, 18th February**, to celebrate a liturgy of repentance for the sin of nuclear weapons.

Meet 1.30 pm at St Luke's Church on Berry Street, then walk via Bold Street, Church Street and Lord Street to the Law Courts in Derby Square, pausing along the way to share and reflect on the need for peace and justice in our world. We hope to see you there!

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

FOR READERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & CATECHISTS

Everyone from our Family of Parishes involved in the above ministries, or interested in getting involved, is invited to a day of recollection on Saturday, 28th February at St Patricks, Park Place, 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Fr Matthew Nunes will guide us through the day, helping us to reflect more deeply on the spiritual richness of our ministries, with others from our local parishes.

DEANERY SYNODAL PROCESS

Any parishioners interested in representing the deanery at Synodal Meetings and learn more about decision making. Please speak to Fr Fitz or Ann O'Connell who can tell you more about the role.

SVP

The SVP is an important part of parish outreach. The collection is the first weekend of each month. You are very generous. Thank you.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Faith & Justice Group Meeting - Tuesday, 17th February, 5.00pm at St. Michael's.

Baptism Preparation Sessions - Mondays 2nd and 16th March 7.30pm., St Michael's Horne St.

WYA Session 4 - Tuesday, 10th March 5.30pm, The Irish Centre.
Pax Christi - Tuesday 12th March Friends Meeting House

COMPANIONS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Safeguarding regulations insist that Eucharistic Ministers do not visit people alone. We are therefore asking for people who are not Eucharistic Ministers but who have some time to give to this work each month to consider this role. Accompanying our Eucharistic Ministers will be a way of serving those in our community who are unable to attend church but wish to receive the sacrament. Please let Fr. Fitz know if you can be part of this.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

Baptism Preparation Sessions will take place Mondays 2nd and 16th March , 7.30pm in St Michael's, Horne St. For a place on the Programme, please see Fr Fitz after mass Saturday or Sunday.

FAITH & JUSTICE GROUP MEETING

How might we respond to the injustices we see in our changing world? Please join us to explore what we could do locally at our next meeting on Tuesday, 17th February, 5.00pm in St. Michael's when we will make plans for prayer and action.

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The young adult group meetings resume at the Pauline Book Centre, Church Street, L1 3AY, 6.30-8.00pm, for more faith-based talks on: Tuesday, 17th February, with Fr. Ron Johnson All, aged 18-35, are welcome to attend.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAY

The Irenaeus Centre will be leading a Eucharistic ministry training day On 14th March 2026. Please see to Fr Fitz if you are interested and we can get you registered for the training for this important ministry.

CUPPA AFTER MASS

Please join us after mass in the Parish Room on Sunday mornings for a cuppa, biscuit and a chat. All are welcome.