

## LENT PEACE THOUGHTS

Recent events in the Middle East, as well as other places in the world, reinforce the urgent need for a lasting world peace. While many world leaders and influential commentators focus on retaliation and vengeance, we turn to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and pray:

*Great God, who has told us, 'Vengeance is mine,' save us from ourselves, from the vengeance in our hearts and the acid in our souls.*

*Save us from our desire to hurt, as we have been hurt,*

*to punish, as we have been punished, to terrorise, as we have been terrorised.*

*Give us the strength it takes to listen rather than to judge, to trust rather than to fear, to try, again and again, to make peace, even when peace eludes us. We ask, O God, for the grace to be our best selves, for the vision to be builders of the human community rather than its destroyers and for the humility as a people to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.*

*We ask for the heart it takes to care for the peoples of Iran, Lebanon, of Palestine and Israel, of Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, as well as for ourselves.*

*Give us the depth of soul, O God, to constrain our might, to resist the temptations of power, to refuse to attack the attackable, to understand that vengeance begets violence, and to bring peace - not war - wherever we go.*

*For you, O God, have been patient, merciful, and gracious to us; so may we be merciful, patient and gracious towards others, whom you also love.*

*This we ask through Jesus, the one without vengeance in his heart. Amen.*

Sister Joan Chittister OSB

## TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

### MONDAY 8.00PM BBC1: ASSISTED DYING: WHAT NEXT?

With the assisted dying bill delayed in the House of Lords, what is its future? This report talks to leading supporters and opponents of the bill.

### TUESDAY 11.30PM BBC4: BIRDSONG

Follows Sean Ronayne as he sets out on a mission to record the call of every bird species in Ireland.

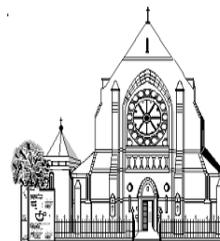
### THURSDAY 7.30PM ITV1: SUPERMARKET PRICES: DOES LOYALTY PAY?

Food prices have surged in recent years and are now almost 40% higher than at the end of 2020. How can we cut our costs and do loyalty schemes pay?

### THURSDAY 9.00PM BBC2: THE SEA EMPRESS DISASTER

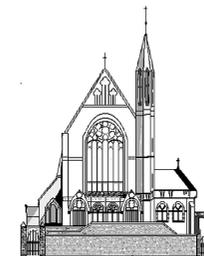
In 1996, a Liberian oil tanker ran aground on the Pembrokeshire coast, spilling thousands of tonnes of crude oil into the sea. This film explores how the local community rescued their coastline?

Registered Charity **232709**



## THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area  
St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH  
Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN  
Tel: 0151 263 6578



## 14th & 15th March 4th Sunday of Lent Year A p.167

### MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael's

Wednesday 12 noon Sacred Heart

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael's

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

### GOSPEL THOUGHTS John 9:1-41

When two friends 'fall out' it sometimes happens that a third friend, tries to heal matters, but gets caught up in the misunderstanding.

Jesus came to heal all that goes wrong and got caught up in a big division between a blind man and the Pharisees, who believed that the blind man and his family were sinners.

Jesus, in healing the 'sinner', upset the Pharisees. Trying to heal the Pharisees too, Jesus enters into a conversation with people who do not believe that they need healing. He sees that they are 'blind' to forgiveness and to any help the blind man's family needs.

This Lent, let's check up on our own blindness and set about being the light between friends' arguments, like Jesus.



### REMEMBERED...during Mass

John Peers, Gary Parker, Eileen Tompson,  
Anthony Hughes, Anthony Perry, Eamonn Burke.

**Please keep these families in your prayers.**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross, Fridays during Lent, 6.30pm at St Michael's Church.

### CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST

This Lent, let's live out the Gospel call to love our neighbour.

By fasting and giving what we save, we join in Christ's compassion to help other families put food on their table. Your donation will help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions. Please take a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support and return at the Offertory Collection.

You can also donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope)  
or call 0303 303 3030. Thank you!

### LIVERPOOL FRIENDS OF PALESTINE

Gwyn Daniel, eminent psychotherapist and member of the UK- Palestine Mental Health Network will speak on '**TRAUMA AND COLLECTIVE 'SUMUD' (STEADFASTNESS) IN A TIME OF GENOCIDE**' on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 6.30pm** at the Crawford Centre, Upper Warwick Street, L8 3DN (use Gwent Street entrance).  
All are welcome.

### FAITH & JUSTICE MEETING

**In a time of war and increasing division,  
Christian witness is more vital now than ever.**

A small group meets monthly, to discuss, pray and work together to explore how we might respond locally to these challenges.

Please join us on **Tuesday, 17th March, in St. Michael's at 5.00pm** when we will make plans for prayer and action.

### CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO THE FAR-RIGHT RALLY

Far-right groups are planning a 'Stand for Christ' rally outside the RC Cathedral on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March.

This has caused great alarm both at the Cathedral and across the city, as it is abusing religion to divide communities and spread hatred. We will be joining, Merseyside Stand Up To Racism, who are calling all who believe that racism is not welcome in our city, to join a counter-protest on

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 11am, at the junction  
of Hope St and Mount Pleasant.**

Jesus was a refugee who preached a gospel of love not hate!  
**Faith in Jesus Christ calls us to action!**

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**Stations of the Cross** Each Friday during Lent 6.30pm St Michael's

**Baptism Preparation Session** - Monday, 16th March at 7.30pm.  
St Michael's Horne Street.

**Faith & Justice Meeting** Tuesday, 17th March 5.00pm at  
St. Michael's.

### COMPANIONS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We are asking for adult visitors to the housebound, if you have a spare hour.  
Please let Fr. Fitz know if you can be part of this.

### SAFEGUARDING TEAM

The Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team visited our parish last week to help complete DBS forms. This essential process is in being completed.

All our parishioners who support the children, housebound and vulnerable in our parish are being checked.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

A second Baptism Preparation Session will take place  
Monday, 16th March, 7.30pm in St Michael's, Horne St.

### NON-VIOLENCE: A RADICAL RESPONSE IN OUR VIOLENT WORLD

Monday, 16th March, 6.30 - 8.00pm at the Quaker Meeting House, L1 3BT.  
An evening of challenge and reflection with speaker Nicholas Paz, Director of the Catholic Nonviolence Institute, hosted by Pax Christi Merseyside.

### ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

On Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30-8:00pm, the group will be holding a Catholic Social Action activity: 'Room at the Inn: Living the Spirituality of Hospitality'. If you are 18 -35 years and interested, contact Moses: [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).

### 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, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> March. You can join via Zoom. For more info. contact [centreirenaeus@gmail.com](mailto:centreirenaeus@gmail.com) or ring Jenny on 0151 949 1199

### 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.