

PEACE THOUGHTS ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Today's gospel reminds us how important it is to recognise and affirm the gifts and value of all women, especially those who face discrimination, oppression, marginalisation, or injustice. We pray today for the courage to be like the Samaritan woman, who, trusting in all that the Jesus taught her, went out to preach, teach, evangelise, and change hearts.

Dear God, creator of women in your own image, give to the women of our time the strength to persevere, the courage to speak out, the faith to believe in you beyond all systems and institutions, so that your face on earth, may be seen in all its beauty; so that men and women become whole, so that the world and the Church may be converted to your will, in everything and in all ways.

We call on the holy women who have gone before us, channels of Your Word in testaments old and new, to intercede for us -

Saint Esther, who pleaded against power for the liberation of the people.

Saint Deborah, laywoman and judge, who led the people of God.

Saint Mary Magdalene, minister of Jesus and, 'apostle to the apostles'.

Saint Clare of Assisi, who confronted the pope with the image of women as equal.

Saint Julian of Norwich, who proclaimed for all of us, the motherhood of God.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, who knew the call to priesthood in herself.

Saint Catherine of Siena, to whom Pope Gregory listened.

Saint Teresa of Avila, who brought women's gifts to the reform of the church.

Saint Dorothy Day, who led the church in a new sense of justice.

Mary, mother of Jesus, who heard the call of God and answered; who endured hardship bearing Christ, who ministered at Cana, who was filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Mary mother of Jesus, who turned the Spirit of God into the Body and Blood of Christ, pray for us. Amen.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO ENSURE THAT THE LIVES OF WOMEN ARE FULLY HUMAN AND NOT GENDER DEFINED?

Sister Joan Chittister OSB

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

SUNDAY 10.20PM ITV1: FAKED: HUNTING MY ONLINE PREDATOR

Follows three women in their hunt to unmask their online predator.

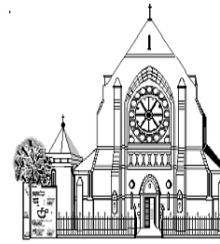
WEDNESDAY 11.20PM FILM4: THE FATHER

Award-winning film about an elderly man, confused by dementia, and his daughter, who is trying to balance parental love and care alongside her own needs.

THURSDAY 9.00PM BBC2: DUNBLANE: HOW BRITAIN BANNED HANDGUNS

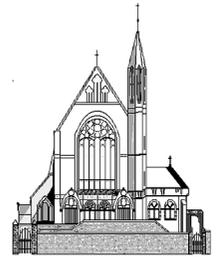
How one father's grief over the loss of his only daughter in the Dunblane shooting, was channelled into the drive to take powerful pistols out of private hands.

Registered Charity **232709**



THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN
Tel: 0151 263 6578



7th & 8th March 3rd Sunday of Lent Year A p.158

MASS TIMES

Monday 12noon Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael's

Wednesday Funeral John Peers 12 noon Sacred Heart

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael's

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

GOSPEL THOUGHTS John 4: 5-42

Have you ever poured out your heart to a friend? When was the last time you listened intently to your teenager? We all need to be known and loved.

To experience that we are known and still loved allows us to experience God's love of us. To thoroughly know another person, good and bad, is our opportunity to bring God's love into our encounters.

We are already known, bad and good, and still wanted by God. It is a pure gift, not earned. We are to wrap ourselves in Jesus invitation to build up a conversation with him. Only the honest sinner will experience the

warmth and joy of such a conversation as in the Gospel story this week.

In Lent, let's accept Jesus' invitation and pour out our heart honestly then listen carefully to those we love after Jesus' example.



REMEMBERED...during Mass

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

Please keep these families in your prayers.

ACTION FOR PALESTINE IN LENT

LEAFLETING: At Barclays Bank, Lord Street,
Monday 9th March, 1.30pm, highlighting the bank's role in financing
Israeli apartheid and inviting customers to move their accounts.

REMEMBER THE CHILDREN - AN INVITATION

Over the months, a small group has been working to create
a lasting memorial to the 20,000+ Palestinian, 31 Israeli children
and 8 Bedouin children killed in the Israel/Gaza war.

The Memorial, displayed on our Lady's Altar, contains 11,500+ children's
names. We now need to add the names of the other 9,000+ Palestinian
children, killed in Gaza by the Israeli Occupying Forces, despite a ceasefire.

To this end, you are warmly invited to join us on:

Wednesday, 11th March in the Parish Room, St. Michael's at 12.30pm.

We share a soup lunch to start, then, begin writing the names at 1.00pm.

This is gentle and powerful act of solidarity and remembrance.

Please drop in, even for a short while! All are welcome!

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; also donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope
or call 0303 303 3030. Thank you!

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 10th, 17th, 24th March.

You can join via Zoom. For more info.

contact 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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

Baptism Preparation Sessions - Monday, 16th March
7.30pm., St Michael's Horne St.

Pax Christi - Thursday 12th March, 2.00pm - Friends' Meeting
House

WYA Session 4 - Tuesday, 10th March 5.30pm, The Irish Centre.

COMPANIONS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

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

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Archdiocese Safeguarding Team will be visiting our parish on Monday 9th March
in St Michael's parish rooms between 4:00-7:00pm to help complete DBS forms,
for those who support the children, housebound and vulnerable in our parish.

It is essential that this process is completed. If you are unable to attend
please let Father Fitz know as soon as possible.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

Baptism Preparation Sessions will take place Monday, 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.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAY

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

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, 17th 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.