



**The Parish of English Martyrs,
St Joseph & St Peter
in Chard, Ilminster and Crewkerne.**

THE GOOD NEWS

18th February 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Year B

Day of Special Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments

“COME BACK TO THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART DURING LENT”

Pope Francis' 2018 Lenten Message is inspired by words Jesus spoke near the end of his life on the Mount of Olives regarding the end of time: “Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold”. (*Matthew 24:12*). In a reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation; amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

False prophets whom the Pope calls “snake charmers” and “charlatans” lead us astray and mesmerise God’s children, who then mistake true happiness for momentary pleasure and become slaves to profit or trapped in loneliness. Each of us is called to peer into our hearts to see if we are falling prey to the lies of these false prophets. The question Pope Francis would like us to reflect on this Lent is “What are the signs that indicate that our love is beginning to cool?” Above all else, he says, “what destroys charity is greed for money”. Rejection of God follows, and “we prefer our own desolation rather than the comfort found in his word and the sacrament”.

What are we to do? The Church offers us the Lenten practices of prayer, almsgiving and fasting which Pope Francis calls a “soothing remedy”. **Prayer** allows us to eradicate “secret lies” and “self-deception” and we find “the consolation that God offers”, he says. **Almsgiving** frees us from greed; it helps us regard others as brothers and sisters. **Fasting** “weakens our tendency to violence”, reviving our “desire to obey God” who alone can satisfy hunger. Above all, Pope Francis urges us to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God!

For full text go to www.vaticannews.va/ ...2018-02/pope-francis-lenten-message-2018

Welcome to this House of God: Talk to God before Mass, listen to God during Mass, talk to others after Mass.

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Induction Loop systems are installed in our churches in Chard & Crewkerne.

BULLETIN BOARD

THANK YOU ! Fr. Peter and I are very sad that we had to miss our last Sunday masses at Crewkerne and Chard, and (as we now know) the party afterwards. We want to say a big "Thank you" for the bubbly and lovely flowers we received. Together with Ilminster, you have given us happiness and generosity throughout these past months. We have seen your enthusiasm and devotion to the Catholic faith and know you will be very supportive of Fr. Dominic. We pray for Fr. Dominic and yourselves as you set out on your new journey together this Lent.

Fr. Peter and Ann Clarke

"WELCOME" GATHERING FOR FR. DOMINIC: come along and meet our new Parish Priest **this Monday, 19th February at 7pm**, in the Parish Hall. Wine, tea, coffee and snacks will be served.

100 CLUB: DON'T MISS OUT! To ensure your entry into the first draw of 2018 on 3rd March, please contact **Peter Bloomfield in Ilminster, Simon Colledge in Crewkerne or Les Gilbert in Chard.**

CUSHIONS FOR ROMANIA !

We have now superceded our target of 70 cushions for the poor and deprived children attending summer camp in Romania. A big thank you to the parishioners of our three churches for donating cushions. They will now be sent to their new home, where they will be greatly appreciated.

Ingrid Bloomfield.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: the Special Collection taken at the end of January amounted to £103.89. Thank you.

**PARISH COFFEE MORNING
& 100 Club quarterly draw
Saturday 3rd March.
10am - 11.30am**

This Coffee morning will be co-ordinated by **Mick & Christine Capps (261008)**. Please contact them if you can bring a cake

MASS INTENTIONS: if you would like a mass said, please speak directly to Fr. Dominic.

HOLY HOUR: our next Holy Hour will be on **Sunday 4th March at 2pm.**

TAIZE GROUP meets fortnightly on **Thursdays at 7.00pm (See Diary on P.3)**

MORNING & EVENING PRAYER: The celebration of **Morning prayer on Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and Evening Prayer on Wednesday** allows us to join with people throughout the world praying the prayer of the Church.

PARISH REPOSITORY: Greetings cards, missals, books and lots more available after mass each Sunday in all of our churches.

THE BIG CHURCH CLEAN: Thank you to all who worked so hard to ensure that our churches had a thorough spring clean.

We would welcome more help with **regular church cleaning and assistance with the setting up of the Crewkerne church for mass.**

KENYA APPEAL: Simon Frackiewicz thanks everyone for their generosity which resulted in over £500 being raised at the cheese & wine evening and the two special collections. The CLG have added to this with a donation of £500.

Please take this newsletter home with you as a reminder of this week's Masses and events

AT MASS AND IN YOUR PRAYERS
THIS WEEK

.Please remember with the whole Church, our Pope Francis and those who hold high office under him.

Our whole Diocese follows a cycle of Prayer, so during Lent we are asked to pray for Candidates for the Sacraments; World Day of Prayer; the Needy and the Hungry of the World; Penitents and wanderers.

In our own Parish, we pray for all parishioners and visitors; for those who are unable to be with us today, the sick and the housebound and those who care for them, and all who have asked for our prayers, all those who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

DIARY

Mon. 19th Feb 10.00am: SVP meeting in the hall in Chard

Mon. 19th February 7pm: “Welcome” gathering for Fr Dominic, in the Hall.

Thursday, 22nd February: Taize Group at 7pm in Chard..

Fri. 23rd February: CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Fri. 2nd March: World Day of Prayer in English Martyrs Church, Chard at 7pm (we are hosting). Also in the Methodist Church, Crewkerne, at 2pm and in the Minster Rooms, Ilminster, at 2pm.

Sunday, 4th March: Holy Hour, 2pm

Friday, March 9th: Lent Soup Lunch, 12 noon - 1.30pm in the Parish Hall.

LENT IN THE PARISH

MASS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS: during Lent the Mass in Chard will be at 9.30am on Wednesdays, with Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm. There will also be Stations of the Cross at 10.00am on Wednesdays in Ilminster and 7.00pm in Crewkerne.

The date of our **LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE** will be announced shortly

CAFOD: There will be a collection for **CAFOD Lent Fast Day** on the weekend of 25th February **but** this collection will be ‘left open’ for individual contributions until Palm Sunday, March 25th. On **FRIDAY 9th March** we will have our **Lent Soup Lunch** in the Hall from noon until 1-30pm. Please make a note of this date and come along. The proceeds from this will be added to the CAFOD collection

EXPOSITION: (subject to confirmation from Fr. Dominic) during Lent there will be exposition for one hour before the Stations of the Cross each Wednesday. There will also be exposition for half an hour before Mass on Fridays and half an hour after Mass on Saturdays.

WATCH THIS SPACE for details of Holy Week services and events.

CONFESSIONS: Chard - Wednesdays and Saturdays after Mass; Ilminster - Saturdays, between 4.55 and 5.10pm; Crewkerne - Sundays, between 8.25 and 8.40am **NB: TO BE CONFIRMED WITH FR DOMINIC**

MASS - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)

- ENTRANCE HYMN:** 865 - Here I am, Lord
- GLORIA:** *The Gloria is not said during Lent*
- FIRST READING:** from the book of Genesis 8: v 8 - 15.
- RESPONSE:** **Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.**
- SECOND READING:** from the first letter of St.Peter 3: v 18 - 22.
- GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!.**
- GOSPEL:** from the Holy Gospel according to Mark 1: v 12 - 15.
- CREED:** Said
- OFFERTORY HYMN:** 600 - All that I am
- OUR FATHER:** 507
- COMMUNION HYMN:** 662 - O Bread of Heaven
- RECESSIONAL HYMN:** 934 - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

NEXT WEEK: THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Next week: Special Collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Mass & Service Times for this week - Lent week 1, Year B

Saturday 17th February	5.30pm	Ilminster	All masses are offered for the intentions of Fr Dominic.
Sunday 18th February	9.00am	Crewkerne	
	11.00am	Chard	
Monday 19th February	9.10am	Chard	Morning Prayer
	9.30am		Mass
Tuesday 20th February	10.00am	Ilminster	Mass
Wednesday 21st Feb:	9.10am	Chard	Morning Prayer
	9.30am		Mass
	10.00am	Ilminster	Stations of the Cross
	6.00pm	Chard	Exposition; Stations at 7.00pm
	7.00pm	Crewkerne	Stations of the Cross
Thursday 22nd February	9.10am	Chard	Morning Prayer
	9.30am		Mass
Friday 23rd February	8.40am	Chard	Exposition; 9.10 Morning Prayer
	9.30am		Mass: <i>Marguerite Mills RIP (anv)</i>
Saturday 24th February	9.10am	Chard	Morning Prayer
	9.30am		Mass; 10.00am Exposition

Next Sunday: The Second Sunday of Lent (Yr B)

Saturday 24th February	5.30pm	Ilminster
Sunday 25th February	9.00am	Crewkerne
	11.00am	Chard