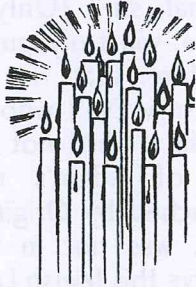


ST. LUKE'S PARISH

Diocese of Shrewsbury

FRODSHAM

PASTORAL AREA OF
RUNCORN & FRODSHAM
FOURTH SUNDAY in ordinary time.
2nd February 2014



YEAR A

Parish Priest. Mgr. Peter O'Neill.
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VISIT THE PARISH WEBSITE stlukesparish.org.uk
Also SCHOOL WEBSITE stlukesfrodsham.org.uk
PASTORAL AREA WEBSITE doslpa12.co.uk

Sat	01 February	6.00pm	Anton Owens & Family
Sun	02 February	9.00am	Alan & Beatrice Bathgate 50th
		11.00am	Mary Briscoe
Mon	03 February	9.30am	St. Luke's Parish
Tues	04 February	6.15pm	Alf & Betty Kinsey
Wed	05 February	9.30am	Brian Dunn
Thu	06 February	9.30am	Patsy Tittle
Fri	07 February	9.30am	Eileen Kelly
Sat	08 February	6.00pm	William McNamara
Sun	09 February	9.00am	Jean Bryant
		11.00am	Walter & Catherine Cain 60th

CONFESSIONS. Saturday before Mass 5.00-5.40pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK at home or in hospital who would dearly wish to be present at Mass with us, if they could.

IN MEMORIAM Let us pray for deceased priests and parishioners, who were good to us in life and helped pass on the faith to our time. In particular **Patsy Tittle**, who died on Wednesday, aged 89; funeral 1pm Fri. 14th Feb. May she rest in peace

COLLECTION last week £649 Many thanks to you all. This week is the special Retiring Collection for the **PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND**

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 23rd July to 31st July Booking Forms and Brochures now available on the website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk

Mass for Marriage and Family Life will be celebrated at 12noon Saturday 15th February at St Columba's, Chester (Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA) with Bishop Mark Davies presiding. All married couples and families are welcome but if you are a couple celebrating a significant wedding anniversary (silver, ruby, golden or platinum) and you wish to attend, then please let your Parish Priest know by the 2nd of February and he will arrange for a special invitation to be sent you on behalf of the Bishop.

PILGRIMAGE TO YORK in late spring or early summer is being considered for LPA by Fr Wright. Approximate cost two night stay in twin room £160. Supplement for single rooms £60. All depends on level of interest. Contact Angela Hill 01928 577941. Chris Williams 01928 563830 Chris Kennedy 01928 573588. Lillian Brocklesby 07710 670768

CHURCHES TOGETHER. HUMAN TRAFFICKING. ANTI-SLAVERY CAMPAIGN.

Meeting at St Laurence's Mon. 3rd Feb at 10am to raise awareness of the plight of many in our country. A full day gathering at Frodsham Methodist Church 29th March 10am, speakers from the Salvation Army. It would be helpful to have representatives from St. Luke's support at these meetings.

PASTORAL STATISTICS St. Luke's 2013.

Baptisms 23, First Communions 26, Marriages 2, funerals 7, Mass attendance, Sunday 325, weekday 20+

Fair Trade Many thanks to all who supported the above last weekend, the amount raised was £156.27p-a really grand total.

BOOK REPOSITORY As part of our role in Evangelisation, from this weekend there will be a small **Book repository in the Parish Centre**. This will be for **Spiritual/Devotional books**. Parishioners are welcome to take any they wish, and also of course provide some books for others to take. Please do take advantage of this. For further information contact Pauline Stitt 07749013320

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

Today the annual Special Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund is being held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

Special Envelopes are available for you to use. If you use weekly Offertory Envelopes, please can I ask that you write in your envelope number. If you do not have your Offertory Envelope with you, or you give to your Parish by means of a Standing Order, write in your name and home address. In this way, it will be possible to reclaim the tax on your donation if you have joined the Gift Aid scheme.

A Leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid to boost your donation to the Fund. I ask that you give as generously as you can to this very worthy cause and would also like to express my deep gratitude for your continued

With every blessing, +Mark. Bishop of Shrewsbury

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

Liturgy

The Presentation of the Lord

THE BLESSING OF CANDLES AND THE PROCESSION

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 47:10-11

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter
his Temple.*

PSALM: Ps 23:7-10.R.v8

**R) Who is the king of glory?
It is the Lord.**

O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **(R)**

Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. **(R)**

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **(R)**

Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. **(R)**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

*It was essential that he should in this way
become completely like his brothers*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Lk 2:32
**The light to enlighten the Gentiles
and give glory to Israel, your people.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your salvation.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Lk 2:30-31

**My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all
the peoples.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION



The 'purification' referred to in today's Gospel passage, is the law of purification described in the Book of Leviticus chapter 12: the purification of a woman who has born a child. Why? we ask. In the light of the teaching of the Church, Leviticus 12 is explained. Original Sin is passed on, the Catechism tells us, to the descendants of Adam through generation: "*Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death,*" (St Paul). And Ecclesiasticus (or Sirach), "*sin began with a woman*". Therefore, every woman who has conceived in the normal way, of a man and has given birth, must go through the liturgy of purification. The 'uncleaness' being purified is symbolically the 'uncleaness' of the child's inheritance: the effects of

original sin. (Only Baptism, of course, will truly purify.) It follows, therefore, that the Woman, Mary (the 'new Eve') who carried to the Temple a Child not conceived of a man of Adam's race, a Child untouched by Original Sin, a Holy Child, was not in fact bound to observe this Jewish Law. However, as her Son would later say over his baptism, she said in effect: "*It is fitting that we should in this way do all that righteousness demands.*"

Celebrating the Christian Mystery

A new series drawing on themes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (ccc).

The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ's Passover, that is, of the work of salvation accomplished by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, a work made present by the liturgical action.

It is Christ himself, the eternal high priest of the New Covenant who, acting through the ministry of the priests, offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. and it is the same Christ, really present under the species of bread and wine, who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

CCC 1409-10

Monsignor Bruce Harbert - Thoughts on today's Mass

A woman who gave birth to a baby boy was considered unclean for 40 days by Jewish law. At the end of that time she would bring her baby to the Temple. So, 40 days after Christmas, we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord, sometimes known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, on February 2. This day may be regarded as the end of the Christmas season, when cribs are dismantled. It is also called Candlemass, because the Mass is preceded by a procession in which candles are carried. Their flames remind us that in today's Gospel Simeon calls Jesus 'a light to enlighten the nations'. But he also strikes a sombre note, predicting pain for Jesus and Mary. Christmas is behind us, and Lent begins to come into view.

