

ST. LUKE'S PARISH

Diocese of Shrewsbury

FRODSHAM

PASTORAL AREA OF
RUNCORN & FRODSHAM

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

23rd March 2014



CONFESSIONS. Saturday before Mass 5.00-5.40pm.
The LPA RECONCILIATION SERVICE takes place on Wed. 9th April at Our Lady's Lapwing Grove, Runcorn. 7pm

COLLECTION last week £645. The Family Fast Cafod Collection came to £516. With other donations £750 (plus Gift Aid) has been sent to Cafod. Many thanks to you all.

FAIRTRADE GOODS will be on sale downstairs after all Masses next weekend 29-30th March.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES for the next financial year (April 2014) are now available on the table in the porch.

UCM MEETING AGM Monday 24th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Non-members are welcome.

POOR CLARES at HAWARDEN-LENT FOOD COLLECTION (tinned or dried food, no meat products). UCM would be grateful for the support of St. Luke's Parish. Please leave goods in the BOX in the porch, through lent from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday, or hand to any UCM member.

NEWSLETTER by e-mail starts this week for all who requested it in the questionnaire last year. Any change of e-mail address, please advise
chris.pownall@btinternet.com

Lent Day of Recollection – Sat 5th April 2014, 10a.m – 3.30p.m. in the St Luke's Parish Centre. The theme of the Day will be: **"Did God Really Wear an Apron"** (based on work of Joyce Rupp) Coffee/Tea will be provided and Lunch will be a 'Shared table' Please complete the form in the Church Porch if you are able to attend. For more information please contact Pauline Stitt 07749013320

FRODSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY-MOZART REQUIEM and arias St. Laurence Parish Church Sat. 5th April 7.30pm. Tickets £10.

YEAR A

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VISIT THE PARISH WEBSITE stlukesparish.org.uk

Also SCHOOL WEBSITE stlukesfrodsham.org.uk

PASTORAL AREA WEBSITE doslpa12.co.uk

Sat	22 March	6.00pm	Jack Pennock
Sun	23 March	9.00am	St. Luke's Parish
		11.00am	Joe Dignan
Mon	24 March	9.30am	NO MASS
Tues	25 March	6.15pm	NO MASS
Wed	26 March	9.30am	Paddy Murphy
Thu	27 March	12noon	John Newcome
Fri	28 March	9.30am	Patsy Tittle
Sat	29 March	6.00pm	Jack Hodgson
Sun	30 March	9.00am	Paddy Murphy
		11.00am	St. Luke's Parish

LENT STATION MASS Wednesday this week 7pm at St. Edward's, Ivy St. Runcorn.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Thursdays 11.30am before 12noon Mass during LENT

SOUP LUNCH will be served during Lent after the noon Mass on Thursdays, beginning on March 6th.

Proceeds to CAFOD. (Last week raised £72. If you can help in any way will you please fill in the list in the porch.

CAFOD SHREWSBURY is organizing a novena of Masses for Peace round the Diocese, starting Friday 28th 7pm at the Parish of the Apostles and Martyrs, Wallasey CH45 6TU. Other dates to be announced.

The Big Clean THANKS TO ALL who took part and helped with the big spring-clean at weekend.

Proposals for refurbishment of our Parish centre are on display downstairs. Take a look.

LPA PILGRIMAGE to Compostela, via Seville. Proposed for 6th Oct.-13th Oct 2014. Cost is £849 for twin occupancy (single supplement £116), plus flight Liverpool-Malaga (approx £60. Contact Chris Kennedy 01928 573588, or Chris Williams 01928 563830.

Churches Together in Frodsham Anti-trafficking forum

Saturday 29th March at Frodsham Methodist Church 10 am to 4.30pm and will include coffee/tea and lunch. Two Salvation Army Officers, Major Anne Read, Major Gladys Ljungholm, and Graham Evans MP, and Hannah Flint will speak on this important issue. This event has attracted national interest, and, even if you cannot make the whole day, it is worth a few hours of your time. AM 9.30 to 1pm Lunch 1-2pm PM 2-4.30pm

Lent Bible Studies

Ecumenical Bible Studies for Lent/Easter will take place at the home of Fr Colin and Aelison Wilson, 1 Elm Rise. Once again, they will follow the York Course, entitled 'Build on the Rock'. Start at 10.30 am and will take place on Fridays 14th 21st 28th March (in Lent) and 25th April and 2nd May (after Easter)

OUR FAITH ON SUNDAY

Liturgy

3rd Sunday of Lent (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 24: 15-16
**My eyes are always on the Lord,
 for he rescues my feet from the snare.
 Turn to me and have mercy on me,
 for I am alone and poor.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:3-7
Give us water to drink.

PSALM: Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R.v8

**R) O that today you would listen to his voice:
 'Harden not your hearts.'**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
 hail the rock who saves us.
 Let us come before him, giving thanks,
 with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R)**

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
 let us kneel before the God who made us
 for he is our God and we
 the people who belong to his pasture,
 the flock that is led by his hand. **(R)**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
 as on that day at Massah in the desert
 when your fathers put me to the test;
 when they tried me, though they saw my
 work.' **(R)**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-2.5-8
*The love of God has been poured into
 our hearts
 by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Cf. Jn 4:42.15
**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word
 of God!
 Lord, you are really the saviour of the
 world;
 give me the living water, so that I may
 never get thirsty.
 Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word
 of God!**

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42
A spring of water welling up to eternal life.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jn 4: 13-14
**For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
 the water I shall give will become in him
 a spring welling up to eternal life.**



GOSPEL REFLECTION



Sir, give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty. Jesus offers the Samaritan woman the Waters of Life, just as He offers us the Bread of Life. We experience physical hunger because of biology: the undeniable principle present in all life is the primal desire for continuance. To continue in our present state it is absolutely necessary to eat and drink. If we do not eat and drink we die.

Christ reveals the inner meaning of the very principle of continuance. He reveals to the Samaritan woman that our desire to continue our present existence masks a deeper, more existential desire: that of continuing forever.

Christ offers us the nourishment that provides us with the eternal continuance that we all fundamentally strive for: an inexhaustible well-spring within us, welling up to eternal life. However, for this we must be prepared to change; we must be prepared for another order of being. To draw from this well-spring, we must enter into Christ through faith and feed on Him in our hearts. The Sacrament of Baptism is our well-spring, and the Holy Eucharist our living water welling up to eternal life.

Celebrating the Christian Mystery

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

THE SACRAMENTS OF HEALING
 Through the sacraments of Christian initiation, man receives the new life of Christ. Now we carry this life "in earthen vessels," and it remains "hidden with Christ in God."¹ We are still in our "earthly tent," subject to suffering, illness, and death.² This new life as a child of God can be weakened and even lost by sin. CCC 1420

Monsignor Bruce Harbert – Thoughts on today's Mass

Today's Gospel opens with a simple request - Jesus is thirsty and he asks a woman for water to drink. But from there much greater thoughts arise, as the Preface says: what Jesus really wanted was for her to have faith in him. We read this story about water and faith because today begins the final stage of preparation for those who are to be baptised at Easter. Those already baptised are also challenged to renew the commitments they made at Baptism. On the Cross, about to die, Jesus would cry out 'I thirst', as we shall hear in the Liturgy of Good Friday. Christians hear that cry as expressing Jesus' thirst for the faith of the whole world. Water and fire are natural enemies, but the Preface goes on to say 'he kindled in her the fire of divine love'. As Pentecost follows Easter, so our Baptism is followed by Confirmation, so that God's Spirit may burn within us.

