



St Thomas Aquinas and St Stephen Harding Catholic Church

Diocese of Shrewsbury Deanery of Telford and East Shropshire

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Newsletter 17 – 24 March 2024

5th Sunday of Lent Year B Weekdays Year 2

Date	Market Drayton	Intention	Newport
Saturday 16 March			Vigil Mass 5.30pm
Sunday 17 March 5 th Sunday of Lent	Mass 11am	Robert O'Connor RIP	Mass 9.15am
Monday 18 March St Cyril of Jerusalem	Mass 10am	Priest's Intention	
Tuesday 19 March ST JOSEPH	Zoom Evening Prayer 7pm		Mass 10am Stations of the Cross 7pm
Wednesday 20 March Feria	Mass 10am 10.30 Stations of the Cross	Priest's Intention	Mass 10am
Thursday 21 March Feria			
Friday 22 March Feria	Stations of the Cross 7pm		Mass 10am 10.30 Stations of the Cross
Saturday 23 March			Vigil Mass 5.30pm
Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	Mass 11am	People of the Parish	Mass 9.15am

Congratulations to Fr Lee Bennett on his appointment as Parish Priest of the parishes of Market Drayton and Newport.

We send our prayers and good wishes to both Fr Lee, Helen and family

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) from 9.15 before each weekday Mass, or by appointment with Fr Lee

In Passiontide, crosses and images are veiled to heighten the focus on the Passion and suffering of Jesus Christ

Readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent year B Psalter week 1

Ent antiphon Give me justice, O Lord, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.

From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

1st reading Jeremiah 31: 31-34. *I will make a new covenant and never call their sin to mind.*

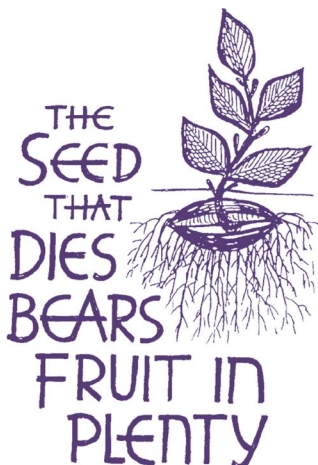
Response A pure heart create for me, O God. x3

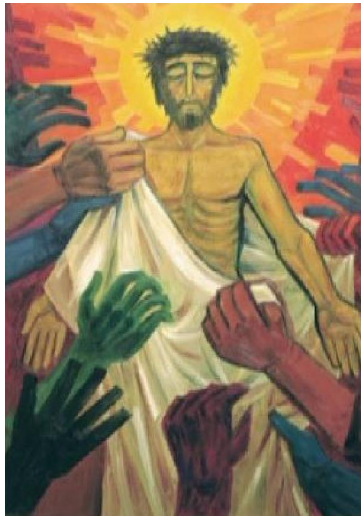
2nd reading Hebrews 5: 7-9. *He learnt to obey and became the source of all salvation.*

Acclamation Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Gospel John 12: 20-33. *If a grain of what falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Comm ant Amen, amen, I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.





Stations of the Cross
10. Jesus is stripped

Please keep the following parishioners in your prayers ... Eddie Hickey, Freya Jackson, Fr Anthony Wild, John O'Rourke, David Smith, Niall Gallivan, Doreen Dodd, Faye Hargreaves, Mary Goodwin, Julian & Dawn Huxley, Shane McGroggan, and all sick and housebound of the parish.

The Pope's Intentions for Prayer March: For new Martyrs Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Please pray for the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Morocco, Sudan, Nigeria, Uganda, Yemen and Iraq and all those in countries affected by natural disaster, war, unrest and conflict; pray for an end to war, and for peace.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 Brochures and booking forms are available on the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or on (07773 324264. Parishioner Kevin Read-Jones asks if anyone going is interested in sharing a taxi to the airport etc (07974 412617 or 01630 801323)

Brian Francis Darling The ashes from Brian Francis Darling, who died 8 April 2008 were interred in the new graveyard at St Swithun's Church, Cheswardine. Mr Michael Hendry is updating the graveyard records to assist St Swithun's PCC, the Cheswardine Parish Council and the Shropshire Family History Society. If you have

any details about this gentleman, particularly as to why he was located in Shropshire, he would be most pleased to receive them. Please contact him at chipnall1@gmail.com.



Foodbank Lent Appeal Can you take part in our Lenten Challenge? By giving up 40p per day for 40 days of Lent you can raise enough to support a local family in crisis this Easter. All you have to do is find an old jam jar and start collecting! Please see poster in the porch.

Attention
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all Gift Aid Donors The tax year 2023/24 will be coming to an end on 5th April and the Parish will undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Helen McSherry know by email by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in 2023/24. Please also let us know if you have changed your address.

Offertory Envelopes 2024-25 The boxes of envelopes for next financial year (2024-25) will be available to collect shortly. **Any Parishioners who kindly leave cash donations on a Sunday**, please can we ask you to give careful consideration to donating via an Offertory Envelope/ Standing Order and gift aiding it (if you are eligible to)? The process is very simple, you can either set up the Standing Order yourself through on-line banking or complete a form and hand it to your bank. Both forms are available on the Church website/from the Church Porch. Please contact Helen McSherry at ssthomasandstephen@gmail.com if you need forms sent to you or for further information on Offertory Envelopes. We would very much appreciate your support with this. Thank you.

Offertory	10.03.24	Loose plate £81.70	Envelopes £56.00	Standing Orders £181.06	Total £318.76	Thank You
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Holy Week 2024 Confessions 45 minutes before each weekday liturgy

Holy Week 2024 & Easter Triduum		Market Drayton	Newport
Saturday 23 March			Palm Sunday Vigil 5.30pm
Sunday 24 March	Palm Sunday	11am Mass	9am Mass (note time)
Monday 25 March	Fig Monday		
Tuesday 26 March	Temple Tuesday		Mass 10am
		7pm Zoom Evening Prayer	7pm Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 27 March	Spy Wednesday	Mass 10am	10am Mass
Thursday 28 March	Maundy Thursday	5pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper	8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Watching
Friday 29 March	Good Friday	12noon Celebration of the Passion	10am Stations of the Cross
		7pm Maria Desolata	3pm Celebration of the Passion
Saturday 30 March	Holy Saturday		8pm Easter Vigil
Sunday 31 March	EASTER DAY	11am Mass	9.15am Mass

Please take this newsletter home with you and share it with others