

WHAT TO DO IN LENT? – A REMINDER!

PRAYER-FASTING-ALMSGIVING

PRAYER

Each Friday there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 6 00 pm till 8 00 pm You could pop in for part of that time. Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available except on Friday March 22nd. **On Friday April 12th the other priests from our Local Missionary Area will also be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6 pm – 8 00 pm.**

If you work in Manchester you can pop into St Mary's Mulberry Street (The Hidden Gem) [*more hidden than St Peters but less of a gem!!*] for Mass at 8 00 a.m. or Midday or Stations of the Cross at 1 00 p.m. On the Wednesdays of Lent a Lenten Retreat at 6 00 p.m. 'Loves own story – yours also.' A meditation on the Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross.

On the web look at www.pathwaystogod.org

or www.sacredspace.ie or www.pray-as-you-go.org

You could just make some time to pray the rosary or look at the gospel reading of the day.

FASTING

Giving something up for Lent is another good discipline especially if you fast from sin! If you have a particular area of your life which causes concern e.g. heavy drinking or watching unsuitable images on the internet then give it up for Lent.

Each Friday there will be simple lunch of soup and bread rolls after midday Mass from March 15th.

Proceeds go to Fr Ned's South American Chimbote Mission

ALMSGIVING

This is tied up to fasting so that if you give something up that then saves you money then you give the money to a charity such as Cafod. Throughout Lent we will have Family Fast Day envelopes available for a retiring collection at the Easter Masses.

RENEWAL OF FAITH

The days of Lent are essentially a journey to Easter '*from ashes to the living font*' when we renew our baptismal promises at the **Easter Vigil**. Have you ever been to the Easter Vigil? No? Then come this year on **Saturday April 20th at 9 00 p.m.** It will take about 90 minutes but it's the most important celebration of the Church's Year.

'*Beloved Disciples*' is a Café programme on Thursday mornings in the Parish Centre that began on March 14th at 10 30 a.m. finishing in time for Mass at 12 noon.

Fr Tony McGrath is giving 2 talks in St Christopher's Romiley on March 19th and 3rd April on the Parables of Mercy in St Luke's Gospel.

LENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION – Our Lady & St Christopher's, Romiley, Saturday 30th March from 10.00am – 3.30pm. Fr Chris Thomas from the Irenaeus Project in Liverpool who spoke at the Celebrate conference in Macclesfield last year will lead the day. Beginning with Mass at 10.00am the day will include talks, discussion, and the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please bring a packed lunch – tea, coffee and biscuits provided. It would be very helpful if you could let Our Lady & St Christopher's know you are attending by emailing stchris52@gmail.com Thank you."

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HAZEL GROVE – LENTEN REFLECTIONS

The dates for this year's series of reflections are 13th March in the Baptist Church; 20th March in the Methodist Church; 27th March at St Peter's; 3rd April in Norbury Parish Church and 10th April in the United Reformed Church. All the meetings commence at 7.30pm. This year the Theme is 'Daring to see God now. All are welcome to these sessions which have proved very enjoyable in previous years.'

**Whatever you do, do something extra in Lent
DON'T WASTE THE OPPORTUNITY LENT PROVIDES**