



Ss Joseph & Teresa Parish, Wells,
(Also serves St Michael, Shepton Mallet)
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 Parish Priest: Fr Philip Thomas

LENT IV – MOTHERING OR LAETARE SUNDAY

Sunday Worship

Sat. 21st March 6.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday in **Wells**
 (Ethel & Francis MacSwiney RIP; Jack Rogerson RIP)
 Sun 22nd March 9.00am Solemn Mass in **Wells** (Bernard Horton RIP)
 11.00am Sung Mass in **Shepton** (Pro Popolo)

Confessions Normally, the holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays from Noon to 12.30pm in Shepton and from 5.00pm to 5.30pm in Wells.

Next Week – Lent V

Sat. 28th March 6.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday in **Wells**
 (Benjamin & Emma Willis RIP – Foundation Mass)
 Sun 29th March 9.00am Solemn Mass in **Wells** ()
 11.00am Sung Mass in **Shepton** (Pro Popolo)

Weekday Worship in Wells

Mon 23rd March Lenten Feria
 9.30am Mass ()
 Tue 24th March Lenten Feria
 9.30am Mass ()
 Wed 25th March **SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**
 9.30am Mass ()
 Thu 26th March Lenten Feria
 9.30am Mass ()
 6pm Mass
 Fri 27th March Lenten Feria
 9.30am Mass (), *followed by Stations of the Cross*
 Sat 28th March 7.00pm Mass in the Extra-ordinary Form ()
Lenten Feria
 9.30am Mass ()

The collection for the Fabric Fund raised £162.89

This weekend we welcome Fr Peter Walters who will make an appeal on behalf of a charity based in Colombia: 'Let the Children Live'

DETAILS OF WORSHIP FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER These details for Wells and Shepton are available on a separate sheet, available at the door on your way out. Please keep it safe somewhere. We would appreciate anyone who could help us place this sheet in hotels and tourist information points.

ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME Canon Francis Ryan (1985), William Webb (1989) Jill Burden (1999), Louis Siigne (2000), Royston Palmer (2006) Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Weekday Worship in Shepton

Mon 23rd March Lenten Feria
 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Tue 24^h March Lenten Feria
 9.15am Mass ()
 Wed 25th March **SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**
 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Thu 26th March Lenten Feria
 9.15am Mass ()
 Fri 27th March Lenten Feria
 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC

LENT GOSPEL ENQUIRY Why not come along and experience one of our sessions? The next will be on Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm in the church and we shall be discussing the Year B gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Lent (John 12:20-33) This is not 'dry' Bible Study. We use Fr Nicholas King's lively translation and inter-active study guide to learn a little about the context in which the Gospel was written and to share ideas about how it relates to us today. A different person leads the discussion each time: this week it's Dereck Titchen. Photocopies are provided. All welcome. It's not too late to join!

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING We plan to hold a coffee morning in aid of **Reaching the Unreached** on **Saturday 18th April** from 10.30am to 12 noon in the Side Chapel. There will be a raffle and cake stall as well as delicious coffee and biscuits. Please come to help the very poor families in Southern India.

9.00AM SUNDAY MASS MUSIC

<i>Hymns</i>		<i>Mass setting:</i>
Opening hymn	64	Sanctus 470
Presentation	529	Memorial Acclamation
Communion	703	Agnus Dei 473
Final hymn	591	

"CLEANING THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS!" We need to prepare the inside and outside of church for Easter. The Easter BIG CLEAN will be on **Saturday 4 April from 11.00am, after the Penitential Service for Children and Families**. There will also be a list of outside tasks for people to sign up. It goes without saying that, if we have enough volunteers, no collars will have to be felt!!



TO PONDER OVER DURING THE WEEK **John**

3: 14-21 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave

his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does what is true comes to the light, that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been wrought in God

- *Question of the week* 'Lifted up' - Crucifixion? Resurrection? Ascension? Glorification? Or all four?

FUTURE DREAMS, PRESENT REALITIES A day for young people at St Augustine's School, Trowbridge, Saturday 20th June. Parishes are being asked to send between 2 and 6 representatives in the age range 16-25 to take part in a day with Bishop Declan which will look at how the new diocesan pastoral guidelines apply to young people. Representatives will be asked to consider the role they can play and will have the opportunity to share their ideas and hopes with the Bishop. If you would like to represent the parish at this meeting please speak to Fr Philip.

RISEN WITH JESUS A day of prayer and quiet reflection on a post-Easter theme, organised by the diocese, to be held at the Poor Clares' Convent, Woodchester, Saturday 25th April. Further information from notice board.

FOR SALE Fr. Philip is trying to sell his silver SAAB. It was recently repaired and overhauled. It would need taxing but is in good condition. It would be ideal for a learner or first car.

CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM OR RECEPTION AT EASTER

Barring emergencies and ill-health, we hope to have a Reception at the Easter Vigil Mass [*to be followed by a Resurrection Party*] on Holy Saturday night and Holy Baptism and Reception at the Noon Mass on Easter Monday [*Mass will be at Noon throughout the Octave in Wells and Shepton*]. PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CANDIDATES AND THROUGHOUT LENT.

'THYSPACE' RETREAT Aged 20-35? Want to make space for God? Need time for reflection? A weekend retreat led by Fr Stephen Wang (lecturer in Philosophy at Allen Hall Seminary in London) will take place at Nympsfield, Glos on 3rd – 5th July . For further details contact Nicola Harris nharris@nailsea.n-somerset.sch.uk , tel 01275 342828

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO TAIZE 18th – 27th July 2009. Taizé is near Cluny in central France and was founded after WWII as a place of reconciliation. It has become a place of particular importance to young people. In the past the diocesan pilgrimage has proved to be a wonderful opportunity for young adults to discover more about God and meet with old friends and make new ones. The age range is 17-30 years and the cost is £190, all inclusive. For more detail see the Youth noticeboard or contact Fr Kevin Hennessey (01453 713254) or Ann Fowler (0117 9025593)

DATES AT A GLANCE

Thursday 26 th March	7.30pm Church	Gospel Enquiry
Sunday 29 th March	After 9am Mass	CWL cake stall
Wednesday 1 st April	7.30pm Church	Gospel Enquiry
Saturday 4th April	10.15am Church	Reconciliation Service for Children & Families, including 1st Confessions.
Saturday 4 th April	11.00am Church	THE BIG CLEAN
Wednesday 8th April	11.00am Clifton Cathedral	Chrism Mass with the Lord Bishop
Saturday 18 th April	10.30am Church	Reaching the Unreached coffee morning

WORKING IN HEALTHCARE? The Catholic Medical Association is organising a conference in Bristol for all Catholic health professionals on Saturday 25 April. For further details please visit www.cma-bristol.org .

CWL CAKE STALL Bearing in mind that the Lenten disciplines do not apply to Sundays and Solemnities, the parish's branch of the Catholic Women's League will be holding a cake stall after the 9.00am Mass **next Sunday 29th March**, Lent V. All proceeds will be given to the Wraxall Children's Hospice.

NEED SPACE FOR YOUR FAMILY? Catholic family selling spacious 7 bedroom house in Frome, Somerset. Within catchment of excellent Catholic primary and secondary schools. Within commuting distance of Bath, Bristol, West Wiltshire, Mendip and South Somerset. Visit www.twynyho.co.uk or phone 01373 473761 for more details. A percentage of the sale price will be donated to Catholic charities. Michael & Kay Rhodes Family 67 Lower Keyford Frome Somerset BA11 4AS

A PEOPLE ON THE MOVE We are on a spiritual journey, aided by God in the communion of saints, but also a journey to God, with Christ as our companion along the way. It is good advice to travel light. Our heavenly Father does not want us to be weighed down with sin or guilt, which is why He sent his Son. The Beloved Son gave us the sacrament of reconciliation and penance to soothe our aching feet and relieve our burdens. Lent can become a kind of retreat or examination of conscience. The Church still sees an annual confession as part of our Easter duties, and modern developments have not abolished this part of our Lenten practice.

- Lent IV*** Holy Cross in Jerusalem, a Cistercian abbey and basilica, which houses some of the relics of Christ's Passion.
- Monday** Holy 4 Crowned Martyrs on the Caelian Hill, a fortified church that is home to a community of Augustinian nuns.
- Tuesday** St Lawrence in the House of Damasus. This church is in the corner of the Papal Chancelry building, which is home to the Church's law courts, the Roman Rota and the Apostolic Segnatura.
- Wednesday** St. Paul outside the Walls. The "English Basilica", where Fr. Philip was ordained deacon. This Benedictine abbey attached to the basilica has an English Abbot, Dom Edmund Power OSB
- Thursday** Ss. Sylvester & Martinus on the Colle Oppio, this sits above the ancient house church of Equitius. It is in the keeping of the Calced Carmelites.

Friday S. Eusebius in the Fish Market, on the 'Esquiline Hill.

Saturday S. Nicholas in Prison, a non-Parish church, where Mass is often offered in the Extra-Ordinary Form

V Sunday of Lent St. Peter's Basilica on the Vatican Hill, a church that needs no introduction. It has the longest processional route of any stational church.

SOCIETY OF MARY This Anglican society, with a wide ecumenical membership, will join us in SS Joseph & Teresa for Compline and Rosary, followed by refreshments on Thursday 14th May, Feast of St Matthias the Apostle. Praying in the company of Our Lady and the Apostles is a particular theme of the Easter season, so please come and take part in this opportunity for growth and learning.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - THEOLOGY AND CEREMONY Until the 1950's the Mandatum or Foot Washing ceremony was not seen by many Catholics, as it happened outside Mass. Two distinct theological understandings have been present over the centuries, since it was first performed in the 8th century at Reichenau Abbey in Germany.

The first theology sees it as relating to the service of leadership in the contemporary community, where the abbot, abbess, bishop or parish priest washes the feet of his or her subjects, to show that leadership is a ministry or service performed for the Church today. It is this ancient understanding that makes the Abbess or Mother Superior of a women's order wash her sisters' feet, even when a priest is present for Mass.

The second theology is the one that now appears in the Roman Missal. It sees the Foot Washing as relating to Christ and the apostles and the institution of the sacrament of Holy Order. For this reason, this ancient understanding requires that the feet are those of men [viri] only.

These two ways of understanding things are not mutually exclusive, of course. They are often presented today as contradictory, where heterodox views get in the way of the purely Christian. It has become more controversial since the ceremony was introduced to Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. Although the Church entirely accepts the second view, we shall perform the ceremony with the first view in mind. 12 volunteers are sought from among the men and women of our parish. Teenagers should consider themselves included in this invitation.

