



# St. Patrick's Parish

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Fr Francis Okereke

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14<sup>th</sup> February 2016  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C**  
Page 71 in the Mass Book

Mass Times this week		
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	Lent Week 1
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	Lent Week 1
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	Lent Week 1
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	Lent Week 1
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	Lent Week 1
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	10am	Lent Week 1
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	6pm Vigil	Second Sunday of Lent
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	10am	

**No Mass** during the week although there may be Mass at the end of the week if Fr Francis is available. Masses are available at  
Cathedral: 8.15am, 1pm, 5.15pm  
St Aloysius: 8am, 12.30pm, 5.45pm  
St Peter's: 10am

**Rosary and Morning Prayer** each day in the church house at 10am

**Funeral arrangements** will be covered by priests from St Aloysius.

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP** Thursdays 7pm

## RECENT COLLECTIONS

7<sup>th</sup> February £385.90

## 200 CLUB WINNERS: Well done!

£100	Jamie Quinn	£50	Aiden Keenan
£25	Jean Rizzo	£25	Angelina Rizzo

## THE SEASON OF LENT

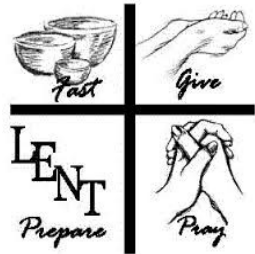
Lent opens formally today and continues for 40 days to Holy Thursday.

There are some changes that mark this season in our church building:

- Purple is the colour of the season.
- Flowers are not used (**please do not hand in flowers**)
- Musical instruments are only used to support singing
- The Gloria is omitted except on Solemnities and Feasts

There are some changes that mark this season in us. We focus on **Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving**

Pope Francis has asked that the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy.



**SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE.....** Helping families to flourish  
By giving, reflecting and acting with SCIAF at Lent, your parish is transforming the lives of people like Loko Gufu, a widowed mum of six from Ethiopia. She said: "My life has begun to flourish like a plant with enough water." You can read her inspirational story at [www.theweebox.org](http://www.theweebox.org)

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE: WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT 2016?

Can you consider taking part in 40 Days for Life – a Christian Profile Campaign to raise awareness about the crisis of abortion in our country. It has three parts:- 1 Prayer & Fasting. 2 Peaceful Vigil. 3 Community support. This campaign is not looking for financial aid but is looking for a personal public prayer witness. You are being asked to consider adopting helping 40 Days for Life as your Lenten Penance. To sign on or find out more contact [rosedocherty@Hotmail.com](mailto:rosedocherty@Hotmail.com)

**A LENTEN REFLECTION FOR TEACHERS** will take place on Wednesday, 17 February 2016, 7.00 pm until 8.30 pm, in St Andrew's Cathedral, 196 Clyde Street, Glasgow.

**AGAP LENTFEST EXHIBITION** portraying in art the Year of Mercy here in St Pat's until 27<sup>th</sup> March.

## **LENTEN STATION MASSES 2016 at 7pm**

Tuesday 16th February: St Joseph's, Helensburgh

Friday 19th February: St Maria Goretti's

Tuesday 23rd February: St Augustine's

Friday 26th February: Our Lady and St Helen's (7.30pm)

Tuesday 1st March: St Eunan's

Friday 4th March: Our Lady of Lourdes

Tuesday 15th March: St Brigid's

**Friday 18th March: Corpus Christi – our Deanery**

**NEWMAN ASSOCIATION TALK** - Thursday 25 February 2016. "The Catholic Imagination of George Mackay Brown". A talk by Dr Linden Bicket. The Ogilvie Centre, St Aloysius Church, Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RE at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 25 February 2016. All welcome. Non-members: admission £3 - includes refreshments.

## **CALMING THE STORM- A LENTEN RETREAT**

A Lenten day of prayer, reflection and stillness in a busy world on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 from 10.15am -3.00pm at Our Holy Redeemer's Church House, South Bank Street, Clydebank, G81 1PH. This is an opportunity to take time out during Lent, experience different types of prayer, peace and quiet, and to reflect on your own experiences. Cost for the day is £20 and includes tea/coffee and lunch. To reserve a place contact Oonagh Coultas on 07920 065584 or email [parishpriests@msn.com](mailto:parishpriests@msn.com). Details on [ohrhouse.org.uk](http://ohrhouse.org.uk). A car will be running from St Pat's. If interested see Luisa after Mass.

**LENTEN TALKS AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAYS AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.** Reflecting on the richness of God's mercy in the Jubilee Year. See notice board for details

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION TALKS** available during Lent in various parishes. See notice board for details.

**THE PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART IS ONCE AGAIN PROMOTING THE "SHORT TERM PLEDGE FOR LENT"**. Prayer leaflets available at the back of the church. There is also a Lenten evening retreat led by Fr Eamon Sweeney in St Patrick's Church, Coatbridge on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 7.00pm. All welcome. See notice board for details.

## PARISH FUNDRAISING

Funds raised are split 50/50 between the Parish and the Mission Project in Nigeria.



Our **cake and candy** stall will be NOT be on during Lent. We don't want to tempt you!



## THE DESERT

The desert, scripture assures us, is the place where God is specially near. God sends his angels to minister to us when we are in the desert and in the garden of Gethsemane.

The desert, as we know, is the place where, stripped of all that normally nourishes and supports us, we are exposed to chaos, raw fear, and demons of every kind. In the desert we are exposed, body and soul, made vulnerable to be overwhelmed by chaos and temptations of every kind. But, precisely because we are so stripped of everything we normally rely on, this is also a privileged moment for grace. Why? Because all the defence mechanisms, support systems, and distractions that we normally surround ourselves with so as to keep chaos and fear at bay work at the same time to keep much of God's grace at bay. What we use, to buoy us up, wards off both chaos and grace, demons and the divine alike.

Conversely, when we are helpless we are open. That is why the desert is both the place of chaos and the place of God's closeness. It is no accident that people feel God's presence so unmistakably just at a point in their lives where they have lost everything that could support them. They are in the desert. Scripture assures us that it is there that God can send angels to minister to us. *(Ronald Rolheiser)*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**Sick:** Muriel Bennett

**Recently Dead:** James Dempsey

**Anniversaries:** Neil O'Brien