

PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, Natal)

Monsignor Gordon Read

Telephone: 01376 570348

Email: kelvedon@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Web: www.kelvedoncatholicparish.org.uk

Address: The Presbytery, Church Street, Kelvedon, C05 9AH



PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th February 2012

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

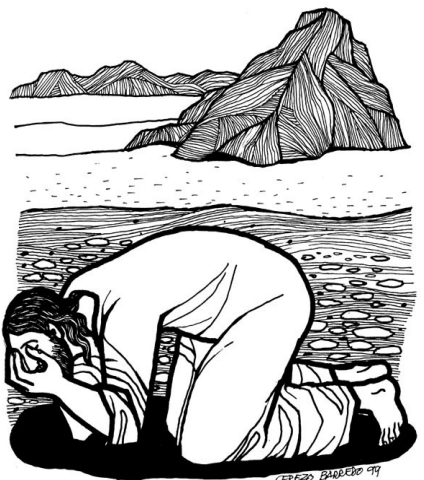
Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

First Reading: Gen 9:8-15

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24: 4-9

Second Reading: 1 Pt 3:18-22

Gospel: Mk 1:12-15



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: “We who are beginning the forty days of Lent must consider why this fast is kept for forty days. Moses fasted forty days to receive the law for the second time (Gn 34,28); Elijah fasted forty days in the desert (1Kgs 19,8); and humankind's Creator, coming to humans, took no food at all for forty days (Mt 4,2). We too, as far as we can, try every year during Lent to afflict our bodies by fasting..., so that, in the words of Paul, he may become a «liv-ing sacrificial victim» (Rm 12,1). A sacrificial victim is in fact put to death, and lives (cf. Rv 5,6), when a person without leaving this life slays in himself his carnal desires. A pleasure-loving body had drawn us to sin (Gn 3,6); let an afflicted one bring us to par-don. The author of our death, Adam, broke the commandments by eating the fruit of the forbidden tree of life. Let us who have fallen away from the joys of paradise through food, rise up to them again, as much as we can, through fasting. But no one should believe that this fast alone can suffice for him, the Lord says through the prophet: «Is not this the fast I have cho-sen? To break your bread for the hungry, and bring the needy and the vagrants into your homes. If you see some-one naked clothe him, and do not turn away from your own kin» (Is 58,6-7). Fast, then, by lifting up acts of almsgiving before God's eyes, by doing what you do with love of your neighbour, by being holy. What you take from yourself give to someone else so that your needy neighbour's body may be restored by the affliction of your own”, St Gregory the Great.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember **Olive Rivers, Maureen O'Keefe, Vincent Rooney, Adam Czesivkovski, Margaret Riley** and **William Farley** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Hayley Hetzel, Bill Sullivan, Trisha Parkin, Deborah Lee, Hilda Hawes, Pam Lowth, Hanni Kyan, Sheila Faulkner, Karen Kelly, Sarah Costello, Donovan Buahin, Mike Gibson, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Holder, Paul Brittain, Audrey Hopwood** and any unknown to us.

BIGGER BREAKFAST: This month's prayer breakfast for Kelvedon & Feering will take place on Saturday at the URC and be led by Feering Mission.

WE REGRET: To announce the death of **Mrs Marjorie Weir** of St Dominic's. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 29th February at Three Counties Crematorium.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On Fridays during Lent the children will lead the Stations of the Cross at Kelvedon at 5.00 p.m. All welcome.

UGANDA LOTTERY: The winner of this quarter's first prize of **£80.00** was **Marie Barrett**. The second prize of **£40** went to **Diane Batten**. If you would like to take part for the next quarter the subscription of **£13.00** is now due.

FINANCE: The Offertory collection for **Sunday 19th February - £981.88**.

THIS WEEK'S LENT STUDY: With our Friends from other Churches. Coggeshall: Monday 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. at Christchurch – Christian Church in ZIMBABWE; Mrs Mary Sachikonye. **Kelvedon & Feering: Tuesday 7.30 p.m.** at URC - **A Christian Country? Tiptree: Tuesday 8.00 p.m.** at URC and **Thursday 11.00 a.m.** at St Luke's - The people in the temple, Matt 21:10-17; Rev. Anne-Marie Renshaw.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: The Children's Liturgy will be stopping at the 11.00 a.m. Mass at Kelvedon and will be moving to the 9.00 a.m. Mass at Coggeshall from after Easter. This is due to personal circumstances. I would like to thank **Charlotte** and **Pat Ezra** for all they have done over the past few years. It is a much appreciated feature of our Mass at Kelvedon and I do hope that some parents will come forward to pick up the batten and run with it after Easter. If four or five were willing to take collective responsibility it would not be too much of a burden week by week.

PARISH MUSIC: As previously mentioned, Michael Wigley is stepping down from fronting the Parish Folk Group and the last Mass at which he will take this roll will be on Sunday 1st April which will also be Palm Sunday. We look forward to a good turnout and to making this a really memorable. Michael is not leaving the Parish and will continue to play a major role in many aspects of Parish life including Extraordinary Minister and Reader.

INTERFAITH QUIZ: Organised by the local Council of Christian and Jews, this will take place on 29th March 7.30 p.m. at St Pancras' Church Hall, Tacket Street, Ipswich.

CATHOLICS - The Series: A new three part BBC Four series on Catholic lives started on Thursday 23rd February at 9.00 p.m. and runs for 3 consecutive Thursdays. **Film 1** looked at the lives of '**Priests**'. Filmed at Allen Hall Seminary in Westminster, it presented a portrait of seminarians at the start and end of their priestly training. **Film 2 'Children'** moves north to the village of Chipping in rural Lancashire and the tiny Catholic primary school where 6 of the 33 pupils are preparing for their First Holy Communion. **Film 3 'Women'**, gains exclusive access to Westminster Cathedral where the Producer/Director Richard Alwyn interviews female members of the congregation, staff and volunteers about what life is really like as a woman in the Catholic Church in Britain today. *"Not to be missed" says the Archbishop of Westminster, Vincent Nichols.*

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY - FRIDAY 2ND MARCH: A child under 5 dies every 20 seconds because of diarrhoea caused by dirty water – CAFOD invites us to help people living without one of God's most precious resources – clean water. For this Lent only, the Government will match £pound for £pound every donation given to CAFOD, giving us the chance to help thousands more people gain access to water and other vital services. Please give as much as you can. Thank you.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: During Lent Eucharistic Adoration will be moved to a **Monday** evening (instead of Tuesday) from **7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.** at Kelvedon.

CAFOD LENT LECTURE: A reflection by **Donal Dorr**, Missionary, theologian, author, campaigner on Friday 30th March, Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, London SWE1 7HY. 6.00 p.m. Reception, 7.00 p.m. lecture commences. To reserve a place email jbarrett@cafod.org.uk or telephone 020 7095 5318.

SPRING YOUTH GATHER: A full day of team building, outdoor activities, and an opportunity to meet new people for Years 7-9. 31st March at Stubbers Outdoor Activity Centre in Upminster. The cost of the day is £20 and you will need to bring a packed lunch. Forms are available by calling 01277 265286. The Parish will cover half the cost. See Fr Gordon.

PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING: SION Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, **today, 26th February, 7.30 p.m. to 9.00p.m. Adoration 7.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.**

CLARE PRIORY: Wondering what to do for Lent? *On March 24th and 25th at Clare Priory, Rev Dr. Kieran O'Mahoney OSA will lead us towards a new understanding of: "The Cross, Resurrection and Faith," Over these two days we will be offered the opportunity to hear the message of salvation in today's language. For further details and to book a place please contact Kathy 01787 277326*

JUSTICE & PEACE: Practical Engagement in Justice and Peace. A training day to be held on **Saturday 10th March** at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark SE1 from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. There will be workshops led by members of Cafod, Pax Christi and others. Tea, coffee and soup provided or you can bring your own lunch. To book your place call 020 7928 9742 or email office@southwarkjandp.co.uk

BRES ANNUAL SPIRITUALITY MORNING: Wednesday 28th March, 9.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon at Cathedral House, Brentwood. **Fr Chris O'Donnell, O.Carm** theologian and author will speak about the *Year of Faith* entitled: "**Living Faith living Prayer**". Cost:£5 Email: marycronin@dioceseofbrentwood.org or telephone 01277 265285.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: Our Lady Help of Christians & St Helens Westcliff-on-sea are planning a LOURDES pilgrimage to coincide with the Brentwood Diocesan Pilgrimage 2012. We aim to follow the Diocesan pilgrimage schedule. July 22-27 inclusive (5 nights). Departs London City Airport and staying at the 4* Hotel Grand Hotel Moderne (Closest Hotel to the Sanctuary only 50 meters to St. Josephs gates). Full board en suite facilities to all rooms. £649 per person (based on 2 sharing). Discounted child fares. Single room supplements apply. Home for the opening ceremony of Olympic Games. Travelling with Anam Cara Travel Spiritual Director Fr. Joseph Whisstock. Telephone Sue Baillie 07979746707 for further details.

ANNUAL SPIRITUALITY DAY: This Lenten day will be led by **Fr Daniel O'Leary**, author, theologian, spiritual director. **Saturday 24th March** 10.00 a.m. Registration/Coffee **10.30 a.m.** start. Finish **3.45 p.m.** Cathedral Conference Centre. For advance booking, please contact 01277 265255 or email are&fm@dioceseofbrentwood.org

POPE BENEDICT XVI's THEME FOR LENT: The Holy Father's Message for Lent this year takes the theme: "Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works." (Heb 10:24) Pope Benedict stated that, "Christians can also express their membership in the one body which is the Church through concrete concern for the poorest of the poor. Concern for one another likewise means acknowledging the good that the Lord is doing in others and giving thanks for the wonders of grace that Almighty God in his goodness continuously accomplishes in his children." Jesus gives us a framework for fasting and almsgiving: that they are to be carried out secretly and discretely, without pretension, (Mt 6: 3-4) showing outwardly neither misery nor mortification. (Mt 6:16) This does not in any way contradict the public and communal character of these practices in the Church, but rather is necessary to spurn individual excess and caprice. Later, Jesus will expound on the Christian fast, in contrast with that of the Pharisees and the disciples of John: Christians, as relatives of the Bridegroom, "will fast in those days [when He is taken away from them]" and raised on the Cross. (Mk 2: 19-20). Lent is a forty-day journey, symbolically representing the forty years of the Hebrew people in the desert – it is a call: a) To meditate on the mystery of the Cross, that we might conform ourselves to the death of Jesus, (cf Rom 6:5) in light of a radical change in our lives; b) To be docile to the action of the Holy Spirit, who will transform us, as he transformed Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus; c) To adapt our lives with determination to the will of God, freeing ourselves from any egoism, lust for power, or avarice, by opening our hearts to the love of Christ and neighbour, especially the poor and indigent. Lent, as the Holy Father reminds us, is a providential time for us to recognize our frailty and welcome reconciliation, in order to orient ourselves to Christ. (from the Lenten Letter of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem).

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE: Those who attend weekday Mass will notice that the revised Missal has restored the prayer over the people before the final blessing at Lenten weekday Masses dropped in 1969. Its origin is quite complex and hard to pin down. The use of this prayer is ancient, found in both the Eastern liturgies of Syria and Egypt and in the West. It became part of the Roman liturgy very early on. We are at a "frontier" moment, the threshold of the sacred precinct of the church and the world. When properly formed we want the influence of our intimate contact with the divine to carry over into the outside world. Unlike the Post communion prayer, the object of the prayer is not "us". Instead, the priest prays for and over the people, not generally including himself as he does in the prayer after Communion. By the time of Pope Gregory the Great (+604) this *Prayer over the people* was only in the Lenten season, probably because this is perceived to be a time of greater spiritual combat requiring more blessings. Indeed it was extremely important for those who were *not* receiving Holy Communion, as was the case of those doing public penance before the Church. Lent is a time of spiritual combat. The Prayer over the people is meant to strengthen you on the threshold between the sacred precinct of the church and the world which you are charged both to shape and to endure.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 1

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUNDAY 26th February <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m. | Joan Rhodes All Parishioners Mamuel & May Issa (Anniversary) |
| MONDAY 27th February | Kelvedon Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. 7.30-8.30 p.m. | Celia Mason RIP <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i> |
| TUESDAY 28th February | Kelvedon Tiptree | 8.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. | Philangeli Association <i>Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration</i> |
| WEDNESDAY 29th February | Kelvedon Kelvedon | 7.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m. | <i>Stations of the Cross</i> Private Intention |
| THURSDAY 1st March <i>St David</i> | Kelvedon Coggeshall Coggeshall Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8.00-9.00 p.m. | Private Intention <i>Stations of the Cross</i> Private Intention <i>Parish Prayer Group</i> |
| FRIDAY 2nd March | Kelvedon Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. 5.00 p.m. | Maura la Roche RIP <i>Stations of the Cross for Children</i> |
| SATURDAY 3rd March | Kelvedon Kelvedon | 10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. | Kazimierz Sitkowski RIP <i>Tridentine Mass: Private Intention</i> |
| SUNDAY 4th March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 5.15 p.m. 6.00 p.m. | All Parishioners Bert Winch RIP <i>Stations of the Cross</i> Danny Mullane RIP |

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon with
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

| Liturgical Rotas 4th March | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors | Ministers of Welcome |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| COGGESHALL | Teresa Hall Sean O'Leary | Jill Hinds | Clare Gallant |
| KELVEDON | Pat Ezra Patricia Pike | Michael Wigley | Marie Sullivan |
| TIPTREE | Celia Butt Mary Mann | Valerie Bartlett | Jude Cody |
| FINANCE TEAM | Tom McNally & Tony Hinds | | |