



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 14th February 2021

1st Reading – Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

Psalm – You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Gospel – Mark 1:4-45

The leper is declared unclean and must live outside the camp. A life of forced seclusion, deprived of the normal status afforded to everyone else in society. A leper does not belong. Jesus encountering the leper in today's Gospel not only restores the leper's physical health, but alongside it he restores the person's dignity and a place within society, where the cured man no longer needs to stay outside the camp but can belong once again. Jesus gives to the man much more than just physical well-being.

The remarkable thing is the exchange that takes place between the leper and the Lord. Instead of the leper having to stay outside the camp, it is now Jesus who 'could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived' as the Gospel puts it. One could say that Jesus is the one who now does not belong, and yet the crowds still come to him.

As we enter into the holy season of Lent this Wednesday, this swapping of places between Jesus and the leper takes on real significance for us. The Lord is taking on our sicknesses, our sins on His shoulders, and He is willingly beginning to pay the price of our salvation. Through His wounds we are healed, and the rejection of Jesus will culminate on the Cross, when He is taken outside the city to be crucified for our sins. Jesus chose to go through all this to reveal the extent of His love and power and the question for us this Lent is what will we choose to go through for His sake. He suffered the consequences of bringing new life to the leper, are we ready to suffer for the same cause? What will be the price demanded of us if we wish to be as life giving as Jesus was in today's Gospel? Whatever the answer may be, let us pray together with the psalmist today: 'You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation'. Let us remember this season of grace, this time of penance is a time of joy, given to us to renew ourselves and have our dignity and health restored. We continue to pray for one another that we'll make the most of the opportunities this time brings.

Lenten Online Events – Please look at our website for details of various events taking place during this Lent. We are planning to have Stations of the Cross every Friday evening at 7.30pm, a series of Lenten reflections on St. Francis of Assisi and Conversion on Saturdays 2pm-3pm via Zoom beginning on the 20th February, an evening for our YouChat members (including a quiz) on Wednesday 24th February at 7.30pm, and a Parish Social on Zoom on Wednesday 3rd March 7.30pm. Please put these dates in your diaries and SEE YOU THERE!!!

Parish donations – Our website provides you with details of how you can support our parish financially during this time, whether you are a member of our GIFT AID scheme or not. If you are a tax payer, please take a moment to fill in the relevant form you will find on our website – all at no cost to yourself, but helping us immensely. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

CAFOD Lent Appeal



To help people like Abdella

Text LENT to

70460

to donate £10 to
CAFOD's Lent Appeal

Or visit

cafod.org.uk/give

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10*.

**Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice*

CAFOD LENT - Sponsored walking

But there are other more exciting ways to donate. How about walking for water? Why not seek sponsorship to walk 10000 steps (c. 5 miles) a day during the 40 days of Lent. All you need to know about walk for water can be found at - <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 14th February

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Nellie Quirke
5.30pm	OFS

Monday 15th January

7.30am	Holy Souls
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Tuesday 16th January

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Wednesday 17th January

Ash Wednesday (Day of Fast and Abstinence)

7.30am	Helen Towey R.I.P.
7.30pm	Br. Ade's Intentions

Thursday 18th January

7.30am	In Thanksgiving
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Friday 19th January

7.30am	Winnie Joyce
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Saturday 20th January

8.00am	John & Natasha Joyce & Family
6.30pm	Ruth & Joel DaCunha R.I.P.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley**. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.