



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF RUTLAND

ST JOSEPH, OAKHAM &

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, EXTON

Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Dye – email: stephendye@btinternet.com

Presbytery, Station Road, Oakham LE15 6QU - Tel: 01572 722308

Rev Deacon Raymond Keogh - Tel: 01572 755360

Eighth Sunday of the Year



26 th February	Vigil Mass	Saturday	4.30 pm	Holy Mass	Seamus Martin RIP
27 th February	Eighth Sunday of the Year	Sunday	9.00 am	St Thomas	All Parishioners
			10.30 am	Holy Mass	Dr Vijay Savant's Intentions
28 th February	Feria	Monday		Holy Mass	Daniel (Wudhus) Intentions
1 st March	St David, Patron of Wales	Tuesday		Holy Mass	Bridget McNulty's Intentions
2 nd March	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Wednesday	9.00 am – 10.00 am	St Joseph	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	Ash Wednesday		10.00 am	Holy Mass	Deceased members of the Lambert and Ferguson Families
			7.00 pm	Holy Mass	Deceased Clergy of Nottingham Diocese
3 rd March	Lenten Feria	Thursday	9.30 am	Holy Mass	Fr Stephen Pimlott's Intentions
4 th March	St Casimir	Friday	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Ann Burton's Intentions
			7.00 pm	Latin Mass	Mackenzie John Urquhart, Sybil Pamela Urquhart and Mackenzie John Urquhart RIP
5 th March	Vigil Mass	Saturday	4.30 pm	Holy Mass	Susan Ferguson's Intentions
6 th March	First Sunday of Lent	Sunday	9.00 am	St Thomas	All Parishioners
			10.30 am	Holy Mass	The Kulas Family
			5.00 pm	St Joseph	Stations of the Cross

CONFESSION TIMES:

Wednesday: 9.30 – 10.00 am

Saturday: 11.15 – 11.45 am

THIS WEEK'S ROTAS	Saturday 26 th February	Sunday 27 th February
Welcomers	Caroline Berrie and Eileen Worrall	Nola McGarrity and Gary Nicolle-Anderiesz
Readers	Annie de Kremer and Meryl Vincent	Nuala O'Rourke and Lorraine Perril
Coffee		Sylvie Nguyen
Flowers	Mich Sturley	
Church Cleaning	Jim and Mair O'Kane	
NEXT WEEK'S ROTAS	Saturday 5 th March	Sunday 6 th March
Welcomers	Tom and Belinda Reilly	Pauline Morton and Gary Nicolle-Anderiesz
Readers	Ron Streeter and Tom Reilly	Maureen Mildner and Nuala O'Rourke
Coffee		Phil Boak
Flowers	No Flowers during Lent	
Church Cleaning	Phil Boak, Rachel Jones and Chris Jones	

Parish Website	http://www.stjosephs-oakham.org	
English Martyrs Primary School Head Teacher	Willow Crescent, Oakham Alison Chambers	www.englishmartyrs.rutland.sch.uk Tel: 01572 722400
Children's Liturgy Group	For children up to First Holy Communion	10.30 am Mass in term time
Safeguarding Representative	Maria Marriott	rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk
Parish Support Group - HELP	Rosemarie Duncan	Tel: 01572 723873
House Faith Sharing Groups	Martin and Barbara Black	Tel: 01572 724918
Chair - Parish Pastoral Council	Jim O'Kane	Tel: 01572 755112 jjok1946@hotmail.co.uk
Parish Newsletter	Eileen Worrall	eileenworrall@hotmail.com

Please pray for the following who are ill: *Colleen Lully, Mary Hurst, Sarah Ennis, Marie-Jeanne LloydHughes, Philip Quinn, Teresa Thompson, Sharon Larkworthy, Halina Woolford, Myra Smith, Janet and Barry ChalmersStevens, Fr David Bowler, Annie Welsh, Floss Jepson, Joy Widdows, Krystyna Chritchlow, Sally Blythin, Richard Goodger, Jim Whalley,, Fr John Trenchard, Elisabeth Simpson, Florence Valentine, Alison Pepperdine. Neil Mackenzie, David Price, Fr Kevin Gradwell, Moira McCormick, Claire Smith, Fiona Ruddle, Calum Simpson and Angela Munton, John Shortmoor and Joseph Shortmoor. If you cannot see your loved one's name in this sick list online you need to sign a consent form – please email Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk.*

Anniversaries † *Angela Hindley-Bromann, Thomas Tutly, John Salthouse, Martin Stimson, Margaret Duffy, Patricia Dawson, Francis Kilkenny, Gertie Colin, James Cregan, Clare Ellis and Frederic Hudson*

Last week's collection

Envelopes	£74.50
Loose Plate	£89.60
Standing Orders	£630.00
Total	£794.10

Don't forget to join us for coffee after Holy Mass on Wednesday and Sunday.



First Holy Communion and

Confirmation Preparation classes take place on Wednesdays in the Meeting Room. First Holy Communion is at 4.00-5.00 pm; Confirmation at 5.30 pm.

Children's Liturgy resumes on 27th February. Look out for the blackboard in the foyer - if it's there, Children's Liturgy is on. Many thanks.

St Joseph's Parish Council There will be a Parish Council meeting on **Thursday 10th March**. If you wish to ask a question or suggest an item for the agenda, please submit by **Wednesday 2nd March** to Jim O'Kane via email at jjok1946@hotmail.co.uk

Help If any of our parishioners who are drivers would be willing to transport other parishioners to hospital appointments, doctors appointments etc., please contact Rosemarie Duncan on 01572 723873 or email martinduncan352@gmail.com

ASH WEDNESDAY marks the beginning of Lent and is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. There will be two Masses that day, which will include the blessing and imposition of ashes.

LENT The message of Lent is made clear in the liturgy for Ash Wednesday. As we are given ashes on our foreheads, we will hear the priest say, "Repent, and believe in the Gospel". These are powerful words. They are in direct opposition to most of what we will see and hear around us every day. We do not live in a society where many people are Catholics. It is not like living in Medieval England when the Church was the focal point of every town and village and where the seasons of the Christian year were part of life for everyone. In order to create a sense of the importance of Lent, we will have to develop it within our own hearts and in our homes and families.

In Lent we should take extra time to pray. We should bring back into our lives things that we may have allowed to fade out: praying every morning when we rise, every night before going to bed, saying the Rosary during the day, saying Grace at meals. We could make this Lent a time when we really reflect on the importance of what we are doing when we receive Holy Communion. Do we make a proper thanksgiving afterwards? Or do we hurry away from Church, leaving before the Mass ends so as to be first in the exit from the car park? Do we start to chatter with friends while still in the Church as Mass ends and while others might still be praying? Our Lenten traditions help us to share with Jesus his experience of the desert.

During Lent we could recall the Church's instruction that we make every Friday a day of penance. We are meant to perform some penitential act – for example, refrain from meat or from some favourite snack or treat. Do we? In Lent, we should be performing some serious and genuine act of penance – giving up sweets or coffee or alcohol or TV. If we find ourselves saying "Oh, I don't have any sins for which I need to do penance" are we sure we are telling the truth about ourselves?

We begin the season of Lent this Wednesday.

Stations of the Cross each week in Lent on Fridays at 10.45 am. We will share this Lenten Devotion on alternate Fridays with the parishioners of All Saints, beginning at All Saints on Friday 4th March. On Friday 11th March, we will be in St Joseph's and alternative Fridays. On all Sundays in Lent, we will also make the Stations of the Cross at 5.00 pm in St Joseph's.

Men's and Women's Lenten Retreats The Diocese is organising a retreat for women on Saturday 12th March (at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Nottingham) and a retreat for men on Saturday 19th March (at the Briars in Crich). The women's retreat will be lead by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and will be focused on "Make the tent you live in larger; lengthen its ropes and strengthen its pegs!" – how we live out our faith in all areas of our lives and the people we interact with. The men's retreat will take as its theme "Friendship with Christ and Friendship in Christ", exploring how we can grow in friendship and fraternity. Please email adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk for more information and to book your place.

CAFOD Recycling - "Live simply so that others may simply live" If you have any of the following unwanted items, do please put them in the box in the porch to support the wonderful work of Cafod - any coins, old jewellery, stamps, old cameras, watches. These will be sent to Cafod once we have 5kg. Cafod will then receive the money once they are recycled. Do please take a leaflet on the shelf near the box in the Church porch listing other items you may donate. Lets fill the box and help the poor!

Used ink cartridges - Please pop these in the little box labelled cartridges. They too are a great source of income for Cafod. Over £70,000 has been raised so far!! Just amazing!

Lateral flow tests If anyone would like any lateral flow tests, please get in touch with Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk

Three Ways to Help the Parish (note from the PPC)

Gift Aid

If you contribute regularly to the Parish and pay tax, please join our Gift Aid scheme. It enables us to claim back tax on your contribution and is a great help to the Parish but doesn't cost you anything. Incidentally, if you are in the scheme and have stopped paying tax, please tell us. Maria, the Parish Secretary, can be contacted by email at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk or by phone on Tuesday to Friday mornings 01572 722308.

E-mail communication

It is a great help to us if we are able to contact parishioners by e-mail. Not only are we able to communicate urgent information like a change of Mass time too late for the newsletter or the closure of the car park for some reason but also to inform you of future events and links to relevant websites with much more space for information than in the newsletter. In order to help parishioners who have not been able to physically attend for some reason, the newsletter and thoughts on the readings are sent out weekly by email. Once again, please contact Maria and let her know your email address if you haven't given it before or have forgotten whether you have or not or have changed it in the past three years. Also, please join our St Joseph's Facebook group if you can.

Help within the Parish

We need help in two areas.

The first is in the formal running of the Parish. The appearance of the Church and grounds and the smooth running of the service is the result of a lot of hard work – by Fr Stephen and Deacon Raymond of course but also by all the parishioners. We need more volunteers for cleaning the Church, doing the flowers, counting the collections, welcoming and reading.

The second is help from parishioner to parishioner. We have a parish organization called HELP run by Rosemary Duncan which is the hub for putting parishioners in touch with one another. This could involve doing shopping, mowing the lawn, driving to a hospital visit, chatting over a cup of tea or just making a phone-call. You will not be asked to help too often as we are lucky in that demand is mercifully low at present but it would be a great help if we had a longer list of people to call on. Once again, please contact Maria.

Thank you for reading.

Facebook Don't forget St Joseph's has a Facebook page on which future events can be advertised, members can be alerted to, for example, changes in service times, and ideas can be put forward. If you would like to join, please email Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk

Planned Giving Scheme - Envelope holders If you are concerned about not being able to donate weekly, you may wish to contribute via the parish bank account. If so, please contact Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Book of Remembrance This is an ongoing project, so if you wish to have the names of loved ones inscribed in our book, please contact Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk

Our Sick List If you would like someone to be added to the Sick Parishioners list, please contact Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk

Mass Intentions If you wish to have a Mass said for anyone living or deceased, please contact Maria at rcchurchoakham@live.co.uk

Please note: Any cheques made out to the Parish should read **St. Joseph's Oakham RCP**. Thank you.