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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) (PAGE 160)

Sunday 23rd March

Third Sunday of Lent

- 08.30 Mass for Margaret & Patrick Parker RIP (Fr L)
10.00 First Communion Session
10.30 Mass for Reg Jones RIP (Wheeliker) (Fr M)
Children's Liturgy
17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)

Second Collection for poorer parishes

Monday 24th March **Feria of Lent**

No Mass

- 19.00 PPC Meeting in the Hall

Tuesday 25th March

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

- 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls, especially my Dad (Jobin) (Fr L)
19.00 "We Dare to Hope" Lenten Course
20.00 Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 26th March **Feria of Lent**

- 09.00 Mass for Nap Pereira RIP Birthday (Fr L)

Thursday 27th March **Feria of Lent**

- 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Carolan) (Fr L)

Friday 28th March **Feria of Lent**

- 09.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Do Rego) (Dias) (Fr M)
Adoration until 10.00am
Confessions straight after the Blessed Sacrament is exposed

Saturday 29th March **Feria of Lent**

- 10.00 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr L)
Confessions
12.30 Baptism of Jake Adam Saldanha (Fr L)



CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR @ 1.00AM

Sunday 30th March

**Fourth Sunday of Lent/Laetare or Mid Lent
Sunday/Mothering Sunday**

- 08.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr M)
10.00 First Communion Session
10.30 Mass for Rose Mendes RIP & Paul De Souza RIP & Ana Rita De Souza RIP (1 month's mind) (Fr L)
Children's Liturgy
17.30 Mass for Holy Souls (Fr M)

**We will hand out a daffodil to all the ladies
at the end of Mass.**

Celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Today there is a second collection for Poor Parishes, formerly the Needs of the Diocese collection. This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese.

Next Sunday is Laetare or Rejoicing Sunday: It marks Mid-Lent and today we wear rose vestments and can have a few flowers. It is also Mothering Sunday or Mothers' Day when we celebrate our Mums. The servers will give out daffodils to all the ladies in the church during the Notices.

What's on during Lent?

19.00 "We Dare to Hope": Every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Children's Chapel.

20.00 Stations of the Cross: Every Tuesday.

We encourage parishioners: to sign up for different roles during Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Lists are on the noticeboard.

Help to cover statues: We need a couple of volunteers to cover the statues in purple cloths before the 5th Sunday of Lent. Are you free to help on Friday 4th April after Adoration finishes at 10.00am? Please let Cath know.

Altar Servers:

Practice for Holy Week – Wednesday 16th April at 6.00pm.

Practice for Easter Vigil – Holy Saturday 19th March at 11.00am.

Please add your names to the lists in your room

Good Friday: Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.00am. We encourage all children, especially First Holy Communion children and parents to come along and take part.

Decorating our Church: Help is needed on Holy Saturday 19th April at 11.00am to prepare our church in readiness for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Services. Jobs entail removing cloths from statues, changing the backdrops etc. to gold, decorating the pillars and font, to name but a few. Also, if you have a talent for flower arranging, your services would be put to good use too! Do come along and have a cuppa and maybe a hot cross bun. Approximately 1-1/2 hours.

Collections during Holy Week:

Retiring collection on Palm Sunday for Easter Flowers

Retiring collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places

Easter Collections are your personal gift to Fr Michael and Fr Luke

Book of Remembrance: At the back of the church by the Offertory Gifts, there is a Remembrance Book for you to add the names of your loved one so that they are remembered this Easter. It is brought up at the Offertory along with the Gifts. Lilies will be included in our Easter flowers.

Parish Easter Egg Hunt: We would like to hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after 10.30am Mass, but need volunteers to run it. Are there any parishioners who could help please? Maybe some young families? Please contact Cath: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk
We would also appreciate donations of Easter Eggs too please. If you can donate, please leave in the porch behind the Mass book trolley. Thank you.

Parish Pastoral Council: Our next meeting will be on Monday 24th March at 7.00pm in the hall. If you would like anything mentioned at our meeting, please do leave a note in the PPC box in the porch or drop an email to: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk Thank you.

Gift Aid: We still have some 2025/26 boxes which haven't been collected by parishioners in the porch.

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord: This is a very important celebration. It marks Our Lady's fiat or "let it be" to Angel Gabriel, accepting to the Mother of God's Son. At the moment of her fiat, she conceives Jesus in her womb. This is the beginning of our Salvation. In recent years it has fallen during Holy Week, when it could not be celebrated, but this year we can celebrate Our Lady's obedience and faithfulness to God.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Annie Biggs, Stelian, Claire Wansbury, Mary McGinty, Alan and Rene Fisher, Baby Jemima Rita James, Fr Jeff, Shirley Angerer, Josephine Treloar, Jacqueline Downey, Steve Smith, Annie and Gerry McDonagh Snr, Gerry McDonagh Jnr and Martin McDonagh, Keith Smith, Samantha Butler, Carole, Dean McClumpha, Mrs Chris Lynch, Ashleigh, Fr Michael, Kathy Blakemore, Kirsty, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Sally Pain, Florrie Pereira, Fr John Ryan (former Parish Priest of Crayford), Jo O'Donnell, Matthew Butler, Nadia Sheehy, Steve Pitt, Goretti Stone, Little Buster Sprules, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury and Roy Miller.

Hiring of Hall: Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Receiving electronic newsletter: Please email bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION: Donations for the Offertory Collection can be made in the usual way via the basket. Alternatively, you can donate via BACs to our bank account (details below). Payments can be made for Masses this way too. You can also make payments via our card machine, located in the porch. You can also pay for Repository items, Second Collections and Candles via this method too.

Please remember to Gift Aid if you are tax payer. Forms are situated in the porch on the lefthand side as you enter.

Payment online: Account No: 21089620 **Sort Code:** 51-70-14 **Account Name:** RCAS Bexleyheath

GIFT AID: If you are a tax payer, please consider gift aiding your donation. It's a simple process and means that we can obtain an additional donation of 25p per £1 from the tax man.

From the figures recently printed you can see that a small proportion of our donations are gift aided. All information is confidential between yourself and our Gift Aid Co-ordinator Janet Smith. If you have any questions, please email her on: bexleyheathgac@rcaos.org.uk. Thank you.

Update on Baby Jemima Rita James: We were delighted to hear from Hannah and Craig that Jemima has left hospital and is now at home with them. They are truly grateful for all the prayers that have been offered and look forward to having Jemima's Baptism here, hopefully at the beginning of May.

Registration Form: please remember to complete one of our registration forms if you are new to our parish or know that we don't have your details. They can be found in the porch on the wall (Census Forms). Thank you.

A note from Janet Gift Aid Organiser: The new boxes for 2025/26 are ready for collection in the porch. If you are no longer requiring the box please let me know. Many Thanks for your support. Janet

Food Bank Items: It would greatly be appreciated if you could donate any food items to support our local food banks at Trinity Place and Devonshire Road. Usual items are needed, rice, tinned meat & fish, pasta and pasta sauces, long life milk, rice, etc. If you can spare some nice treats too, that would be amazing. Please leave items in food bank box in porch. Thank you.

News from SPUC: Please see the Lives Worth Living flyer at the back of the church. It explains why you should tell your MP to vote against assisted suicide at the third reading. To find out more please visit www.livesworthliving.org.uk. There are also petition cards asking the UK government to adhere to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and a card - Yes to our hospices, No to assisted suicide. I will send them off on masse if you just sign. Best wishes Bexley SPUC'

Reconciliation Service to be held at St Stephen's RC Church, Welling on Saturday 12th April at 11am. (see poster)

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, July 12th, at St George's Cathedral: If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at mflse@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

Youth Festival Medjugorje Pilgrimage 2025: 4th-11th August 2025 led by Fr. Innocent Ezeonyeasi. The full cost of the pilgrimage is £770 including flights from Gatwick, half board accommodation coach transfers with a local guide. A deposit of £150 needs to be paid immediately to secure your place. Please feel free to share this information with friends & family, who may benefit from this. Please contact Noeleen for payment on 0203 808 5156 or contact the group leader Adamma Oguh (07957 211056 or adanmaoguh@gmail.com) for more information or book online using this link <https://marian-uk.com/onlineBooking1.asp?id=Medjugorje&tour=7028>

"A Day of Reflection with David Wells" – Saturday 5th April 10.30am – 3.00pm at St Stephen's Church, Welling: Our Communion prayer reminds us to wait in joyful Hope. What is hope, what difference does it make and why are we called by Pope Francis to be *Pilgrims of Hope*? Refreshments available from 9.45am. Please bring a packed lunch.

A Decree from Archbishop John

The Church of St John Vianney BEXLEYHEATH

is designated as a Jubilee Church in this Archdiocese of Southwark for the duration of the Jubilee Year – 24th December 2024 – 6th January 2026

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration at The Friars, Aylesford

Saturday 8th June

Pilgrimage – 5th July 2025 at St John Vianney

On this day, we shall be welcoming other parishes in our Deanery to join us for a prayer service at 1.00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. Please do keep this date in your diary.

Help will be needed in welcoming and serving the refreshments too. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk As there are 8 parishes in the Deanery so we are expecting quite a few Pilgrims.