



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to St Martin's

THANK YOU - to all who supported Tuesday night's Mass and Fundraising Meeting, especially those who arranged the refreshments for us.

MGR PAUL DONOVAN RIP - we are saddened to learn of the death of one of our diocesan priests after a short illness, aged only 60. Our prayers are offered for him and the parish of St Augustine, High Wycombe at this time.

OFFERTORY COUNTERS - are all invited to a meeting on **Saturday 18th February** at 11am in the hall (with tea and pastries) during which John Jephcott will give a refresher of our procedures, and reveal an exciting new piece of technology to help with counting accuracy!

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES - These are available for £3 each. The directory is a year book from our diocese, and includes all the contact details and Mass times of all the parishes in the diocese.

GALWAY ASSOCIATION DINNER DANCE (FEB 18) Tickets are available from Anne Mead (01582 508699).

CARDINAL NEWMAN SCHOOL PTA - The Newman Fundraising Group of parents & carers are hosting an evening of live music and a raffle at O'Shea's Bar & Grill on Friday 24th February 2017 from 8-late. First prize is two executive box tickets at a London Irish Rugby home match! Please come along and show your support.

ACT OF WITNESS: in support of life & against abortion outside the L&D hospital on **Saturday 18th February 1-2pm.**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH COACH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES
23-29 July 2017 mixed-board (full board in Lourdes, bed & breakfast 2 nights) no overnight travel. Visiting Chapel of Miraculous Medal & shrine of St. Vincent de Paul in Paris, and shrine of St. Bernadette in Nevers. Cost: £529 + ins. per person sharing, £709 for single room + ins. Please contact St. Joseph's Presbytery for information 01582 571187.

CATHEDRAL CENTRE BROCHURES may be found in the porch. Bishop Peter wants to raise the money for a new cathedral centre for the benefit of the whole diocese, and is hoping many of us will be able to give a small amount each month by standing order. Please give if you can, and we hope to hold some fundraising events in the parish too.

CHARITY CLOTHING SALE - All brand new items, on **Sunday 26th February** after the 11am Mass, in aid of CAFFE.

MASS INTENTIONS - Please arrange special intention Masses well in advance, checking the diary with Fr Michael.

NEXT CONFIRMATION CLASS - Thursday 23rd Feb 7:15pm

NEXT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS - Friday 24th Feb, 5:30pm (Group 1) and Saturday 25th Feb, 11am (Group 2).

YOUCAT YOUTH (14+) - pre-Lenten get together on **27 Feb,**

SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2017

Sat 6:30pm Kathy Cronin, RIP

9:00am The People of the Parish

11.00am Eric Simpson, RIP

Monday - Feria

9:00am Freda Wright, Int.

Tuesday - Saints Cyril & Methodius, Patrons of Europe

9:00am Martin & Mary Miskell, RIP

Wednesday - No Mass Today

Thursday - Feria

6:30pm Mary de Roses, Ints.

Friday - Feria

9:00am Henry McPhillips, RIP

Saturday - Votive Mass of Our Lady

10:00am Anna Hawkins, RIP

10:30-11:00am *Confessions & Adoration*

5:30pm-6:00pm *Confessions*

Next Week - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 6:30pm Margaret Little, RIP

9:00am Tony Devlin, RIP

11:00am The People of the Parish

Charismatic Prayer Group: Friday 7:30pm in the Lady Chapel.

Legion of Mary: Friday 7:30pm in the Hall.

Lunch Club: Friday 11:30am in the Hall.

LENT 2017

AT ST MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH

ASH WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH - MASS AT 9AM AND 7:30PM

❖ **MONDAYS OF LENT 7:15PM.** All are invited to watch **Catholicism: The Pivotal Players DVDS** presented by Bishop Robert Barron. Each episode is about saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization. The first episode is about St Francis of Assisi on **Monday 6th March.**

See pivotalplayers.wordonfire.org for previews!

❖ **WEDNESDAYS OF LENT 9AM.** There will be an additional weekly Mass thanks to Fr Peter Maher.

❖ **FRIDAYS OF LENT 6:30PM.** Stations of the Cross will be prayed each week.

❖ **FRIDAY LUNCH CLUB.** Proceeds in aid of CAFOD.

❖ **SATURDAYS OF LENT.** Confessions are at 10:30am and 5:30pm.

- **Monday 10th April 7pm** The deanery Reconciliation Service with all the priests of Luton at St Joseph's.

- **Friday 10th February.** CAFOD Lenten Fast Day.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Shand who died on Tuesday 31st January, Her funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 21st February at 10am. *Requiescat in pace, Amen.*

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading - Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm – 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34.

They are happy who follow God's law!

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

God predestined wisdom to be for our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: *the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.*

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Matthew 5:20-22,27-28,33-34,37

*You have learnt how it was said to your ancestors;
but I say this to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples, 'I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord*. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



The Word this Week

Back in the 60s some groups 'adopted' Jesus Christ as an icon of rebellion, overturning authority and tearing up the rule book - possibly because of the frequent confrontations between Our Lord and the Pharisees. Today's Gospel, however, shows us Jesus not as rule-breaker, but as rule-fulfiller, bringing an even greater depth to the rule that had guided the people of Israel for centuries. Jesus does not throw out the rulebook - or as the first reading says, He does not command us to be godless! He challenges us in this Gospel to see how far our keeping God's Law will go: will it just be about the letter of the Law ('I have never killed anyone'), or will it look deeper ('Have I ever been angry? Have I been violent in my thoughts?'). The challenge of the Kingdom of Heaven is to keep the commandments first and foremost from within, so that our outward behaviour conforms to the requirements of God's Law.

Thank you to our Offertory Counters

This Week: Josephine & Tabitha

Next Week: Anne Harding & Breda Gavigan

Thank you to our Church Cleaners

This Week: Sunny, Clara, Charlotte & Paul

Next Week: Margaret, Mary & Linda

Useful Contact Details

+ Charlotte Seery (Parish Secretary)

secretary@stmartindeporeschurch.org.uk

+ **Parish Hall Bookings:** Contact Maura on 01582 724623
between 6pm-8pm.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

Collection: Sunday 5th February - **£1122.54**