



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

Fr Michael Patey • 366 Leagrave High Street • Luton • LU4 0NG

01582 663706 • fathermichaelpatey@gmail.com

www.stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk

@stmartins1962

Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday.

From **2:00pm – 3:30pm**, come and join the Divine Mercy Devotions in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, with procession, enthronement and veneration of the image; talks, a testimony and confession; including the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in song – then tea in the Hall.



THE REPOSITORY will be closed on Saturday, but will be open after both masses on Sunday. There is a good selection of communion and confirmation items, but they are selling fast, so come and make your purchases without delay, to avoid disappointment.

ACT OF WITNESS in support of life and against abortion outside the L & D Hospital on Saturday 29th April 1 – 2 pm. Please come to pray for all those involved. In case you wish to make a note of the remaining dates for 2017 they are: 24th June, 9th September, 28th October, 9th December.

SOLITUDE SATURDAY - is next Saturday, 29th April 2017 at St. Clare's Convent, 3 Abigail Close, Luton. The day begins with prayers before the Blessed Sacrament at 10am and ends at 3pm. Feel free to come and go as you please. You are welcome to experience this Solitude. As parking is limited at Abigail Close, please park immediately inside Abigail Close and walk round to No. 3.

FUNDRAISING ITALIAN NIGHT in aid of Glanfield Children's Lourdes group at St Joseph's parish centre. Friday 5th May from 8pm till late. Tickets £8 per adult, £6 children under 16 years. Price includes Italian meal (English on request) and live entertainment. Tickets available from Mary Maybury 01582 754850 or 07866 989254.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES are on Saturday 6th May and Saturday 13th May at 3pm.

PLEASE PRAY AND GIVE THANKS for the many children who will be baptised in the coming weeks. Over twenty at the last count! There will be baptisms at 12:30pm for six consecutive Sundays. All welcome to support, serve and pray.

BISHOP PETER will be coming on Tuesday 23rd May for our confirmation Mass.

A '**GROTTO**' OF OUR LADY is planned for the Church grounds. More details coming soon.

NEXT CONFIRMATION CLASS – Thurs 4th May 7:15pm

NEXT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS – Fri 28th April, 5:30pm (Group 1) and Sat 29nd April, 11am (Group 2)

SUNDAY 23rd April 2017

Sat 6:30pm	The People of the Parish
9:00am	Margaret Moloney, RIP
11.00am	Esther McDonnell, RIP
2:00 – 3:30pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
Monday – ST GEORGE	
9:00am	Nora & Tom O'Brien, RIP
Tuesday – ST MARK	
9:00am	Mary O'Toole, RIP
Wednesday – No Mass Today	
Thursday – Weekday of Easter	
6:30pm	Service of the Word with Holy Communion
Friday – Weekday of Easter	
9:00am	Colin O'Donoghue, RIP
*** 'LAST FRIDAY' HOSPITAL MASS RETURNS ON MAY 26 ***	
Saturday – ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, Patron of Europe	
10:00am	Mary & Hughie Lyons, RIP
10:30-11:00am	Confessions & Adoration
5:30pm-6:00pm	Confessions

Next Week – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sat 6:30pm	Mary O'Toole, RIP
9:00am	Patrick 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: Returns Friday 5th May

Thursday 27th April 2017
National Day of Prayer & Fasting For Life

A great prayer for Life is urgently needed. St John Paul II



Join us each month in Prayer and Fasting:

Fasting
Fast from all food except bread and water for the day
Or
Fast from a particular food or luxury, e.g. chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes, TV.
Fast from whatever you can give your state of health etc, but make sure it is something that involves a sacrifice to yourself.

Prayer
We are asking people to say a Rosary (or an extra Rosary if you say it daily already).

You could also offer an extra effort such as going to Mass (or an extra Mass) on the day, or going to Adoration. You can even pray before a closed tabernacle if Adoration is not available near you.

Our Lady Mother of Good Counsel
Fast Day 27th April

And He said to them: This kind (of demon) can go out by nothing, but by prayer and fasting. (Gospel of Mark 9:29)

On Thursday 27th April, the 49th anniversary of the legalisation of abortion, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. **Pray especially that 'bubble zones' will not be introduced around abortion 'clinics'.**

For information on the day of Prayer and Fasting contact;
The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740.

And the people of Ninevah believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it. (Jonah 3:5,10)

This poster was produced by Sackcloth and Ashes at The Good Counsel Network

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading - Acts 2:42-47

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Second Reading - 1 Peter 1:3-9

In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel - John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Word this Week

Often people forget that Easter is not just a day, but a season - the longest in the Church's year, in fact! We are given fifty glorious days of Spring and Summer to prolong our baptismal joy, fifty glorious days of basking in the light of the risen Saviour. It seems a shame that after the efforts we put into Lent we don't celebrate Eastertide with the same enthusiasm.

The readings of this Season have their origins in the instruction given to converts in the early Church: in Lent, the readings were the basis of catechesis on the forthcoming baptism; in Easter the readings are 'Mystagogy' - a type of teaching where the newly baptised ('neophytes') learn through taking part in the celebration of the sacraments and hearing the word. On the Sundays we hear who Jesus is, and on weekdays hear about Baptism and the Eucharist. This 'Mystagogy' is not just to nourish the neophytes, but to help all of us deepen our life in the risen Lord Jesus.

This Sunday we are with the disciples in the Upper Room, where eight days after the Resurrection Jesus comes among them - as he comes among us.

St Martins De Porres Charismatic Renewal Group



SEMINAR TOPICS

- Seminar 1 - God's love- 21st April 2017.
- Seminar 2- Salvation-28th April 2017
- Seminar 3-New Life- 5th May 2017
- Seminar 4-Receiving God's gift-12th May 2017
- Seminar 5-Baptism in the Spirit-19th May 2017
- Seminar 6-Growth-26th May 2017
- Seminar 7-Transformation in Christ-2nd June 2017

COME! JUST AS YOU ARE AND BE BLESSED

Thank you to our Offertory Counters

This Week: Team 2: Abiola, Linda & Clara

Next Week: Team 3: Josephine & Tabitha

Thank you to our Church Cleaners

This Week: Team 3: Michael Williams

Next Week: Team 4: Sunny, Clara, Charlotte & Paul

Useful Contact Details

+ Charlotte Seery (Parish Secretary)

secretary@stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

Good Friday Holy Places Collection: £309.50

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS EASTER OFFERING