

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2012

LITURGIES & ACTIVITIES

The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady, Rosevean Road,
Penzance, Cornwall. TR18 2DX. 01736 362619

www.penzancecatholicchurch.org

Sacred Heart & St. Ia,
Tregenna Hill,
St. Ives, Cornwall. TR26 1SE.

St. Joseph the Worker,
Commercial Road,
Hayle, Cornwall. TR27 4DE.



Welcome happy fast of Lent.

Lent is time. Forty days of time for God. Time when we can look at our lives and see how we can return to a right relationship with Him. Time is given to all of us. How we use it, is the question. Listening and reflecting on the Word of God is a sure way of growing in his grace . This leaflet shows many opportunities across the parish that we can use to help us in this holy season. I hope you will all take as full a part as possible in the Lenten programme so that we can all be renewed in the Easter Mystery.

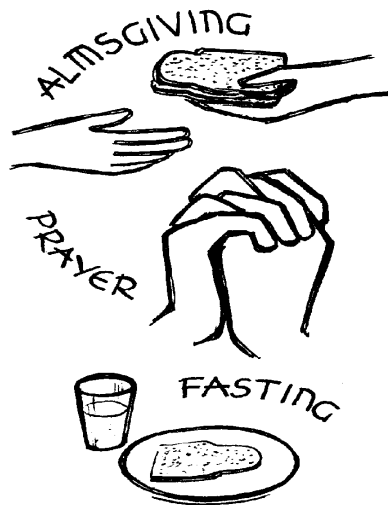
Fr.Philip.

Lent begins:

ASH WEDNESDAY – 22nd February. *A day of Fasting & Abstinence.*

MASS TIMES:

Penzance: 10.00 am (*with the school*)
7.00 pm (*with selected verses from Allegri's famous Miserere Mei.*)
St Ives: 9.30 am
Hayle 7.00 pm



STATIONS OF THE CROSS - *Fridays during Lent, throughout the Parish.*

Penzance: 7.00 pm *The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady*
St Ives: 3.00 pm *Sacred Heart & St. Ia. (N.B. Good Friday 11am)*
Hayle: 7.00 pm *St. Joseph's & St. Elwyn (C. of .E) on alternate Fridays.*

LENT LUNCHES

Penzance: On Saturdays 12 - 1.15 pm (*Preceded here by Mass in our Church at 11.30 a.m.*)

25 Feb: St Mary's C. of E in Chapel Street.
3 Mar: Parish Hall at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.
10 Mar: St John's C. of E in the Parish Room.
17 Mar: Madron Chapel.
24 Mar: Chapel St Methodist Church Hall.
31 Mar: St Peter's Church Hall, Newlyn.

Hayle: Wednesdays at 11.45 - 1.15 pm in Phillack Church Hall. £2
St Ives: Thursdays at 12 - 2.00 pm in Bedford Road Methodist Church Hall.

LENT COURSE: Lectio Divina: meditations using the Sunday Readings.

Penzance: Mondays 7.30 pm in Parish Hall.
St Ives: Wednesday's 10 am during Exposition.
Hayle: Mondays 11.15 am at the Convent.

Pope Benedict, in his message for Lent invites us to reflect on our journey of faith, and on the importance of Christian life. His message is based on the theme from Hebrews 10:24 ***“Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works.”***

The Lenten season offers us once again an opportunity to reflect upon the very heart of Christian life: **Charity**. Our trust has to be in Jesus as our High Priest who has won us forgiveness and opened up the pathway to God.

Embracing Christ bears fruit in a life structured by the three theological virtues; it means approaching the Lord ‘sincere in heart and filled with **faith** (v.22) keeping firm in the **hope** we profess (v.23) and ever mindful of living a life of **love** and good works (v.24). In a long message he also adds *“today in general, we are very sensitive to the idea of charity, and caring about the physical and material well being of others, but almost completely silent about our spiritual responsibility towards our brothers and sisters.”*

CAFOD – LENT FAMILY FAST DAY - Friday 2nd March.

Please encourage family, friends and work colleagues to take part. Every 20 seconds a child dies from **dirty water**. You can change this. **This Fast Day Give it up! Will you thirst for change this Lent?**



Bishop Christopher, in his message also focused on issues of faith, and strongly recommended this exercise: organising a daily exercise of “examination of life” – to identify what is going on daily in the way we live and to give thanks for what is good and ask forgiveness and to correct what is not good. In this context a thoughtful and well prepared celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation is a ‘must’. No Lent is really observed without that.

LENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES – Thursday 29th March

Penzance: Thursday 29th March 7.00 pm. This is for all parishioners of Holy Family Parish (*with visiting priests from our Deanery.*)

Also in our area: Falmouth Tuesday 27th 7.00 p.m.
Camborne Wednesday 28th
Truro Friday 30th all at 7pm

There are the usual Saturdays in Penzance 11am- 11.25.
Sat 3rd & 31st March in St Ives & Hayle.

Alternatively, you can ring to make an appointment; 01736 362619.



Something else to reflect on during Lent...

“Only in silence can God’s love sink in”. (Pope Benedict)

The Bishop of Aberdeen sent this excellent Pastoral Letter recently:

We live in a noisy world. Our towns and cities are full of noise. There is noise in the skies and on the roads. There is noise in our homes, and even in our churches. And most of all there is noise in our minds and hearts.

The Danish philosopher Kierkegaard once wrote: *‘The present state of the world and the whole of life is diseased. If I were a doctor and I were asked for my advice, I should reply: “Create silence! Bring people to silence!” The Word of God cannot be heard in the noisy world of today. And even if it were trumpeted forth with all the panoply of noise so that it could be heard in the midst of all the other noise, then it would no longer be the Word of God. Therefore, create silence!’*

‘Create silence!’ There’s a challenge here. Surely speaking is a good and healthy thing? Yes indeed. Surely there are bad kinds of silence? Yes again. But still Kierkegaard is on to something.

There is a simple truth at stake. There can be no real relationship with God there can be no real meeting with God, without silence. Silence prepares for that meeting and silence follows it. An early Christian wrote, ‘To someone who has experienced Christ himself, silence is more precious than anything else.’ For us God has the first word, and our silence opens our hearts to hear him. Only then will our own words really be words, echoes of God’s, and not just more litter on the rubbish dump of noise.

‘How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given.’ So the carol goes. For all the noise, rush and rowdiness of contemporary Christmases’, we all know there is a link between Advent and silence, Christmas and silence. Our cribs are silent places. Who can imagine Mary as a noisy person? In the Gospels, St Joseph never says a word; he simply obeys the words brought him by angels. And when John the Baptist later comes out with words of fire, it is after years of silence in the desert. Add to this the silence of our long northern nights, and the silence that follows the snow. Isn’t all this asking us to still ourselves?

A passage from the Old Testament Book of Wisdom describes the night of Israel’s Exodus from Egypt as a night full of silence. It is used by the liturgy of the night of Jesus’ birth:

‘When a deep silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, leapt from heaven’s royal throne’ (Wisdom 18:14-15).

'Holy night, silent night!' So we sing. The outward silence of Christmas night invites us to make silence within us. Then the Word can leap into us as well, as a wise man wrote: 'If deep silence has a hold on what is inside us, then into us too the all-powerful Word will slip quietly from the Father's throne.'

This is the Word who proceeds from the silence of the Father. He became an infant, and 'infant' means literally 'one who doesn't speak.' The child Jesus would have cried – for air and drink and food – but he didn't speak. 'Let him who has ears to hear, hear what this loving and mysterious silence of the eternal Word says to us.' We need to listen to this quietness of Jesus, and allow it to make its home in our minds and hearts.

'Create silence!' How much we need this! The world needs places, oases, sanctuaries, of silence.

And here comes a difficult question: what has happened to silence in our churches? Many people ask this. When the late Canon Duncan Stone, as a young priest in the 1940s, visited a parish in the Highlands, he was struck to often find thirty or forty people kneeling there in silent prayer. Now often there is talking up to the very beginning of Mass, and it starts again immediately afterwards. But what is a church for, and why do we go there? We go to meet the Lord and the Lord comes to meet us. 'The Lord is in his holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before him!' said the prophet Habakkuk. Surely the silent sacramental presence of the Lord in the tabernacle should lead us to silence?

We need to focus ourselves and put aside distractions before the Mass begins. We want to prepare to hear the word of the Lord in the readings and homily. Surely we need a quiet mind to connect to the great Eucharistic Prayer? And when we receive Holy Communion, surely we want to listen to what the Lord God has to say, 'the voice that speaks of peace'?

Being together in this way can make us one – the Body of Christ – quite as effectively as words.

A wise elderly priest of my diocese said recently, *'Two people talking stop forty people praying.'*

'Create silence!' I don't want to be misunderstood. We all understand about babies. Nor are we meant to come and go from church as cold isolated individuals, uninterested in one another. We want our parishes to be warm and welcoming places. We want to meet and greet and speak with one another.

There are arrangements to be made, items of news to be shared, messages to be passed. A good word is above the best gift, says the Bible. But it is a question of where and when. Better in the porch than at the back of the church. Better after the Mass in a hall or a room.

There is a time and place for speaking and a time and place for silence. In the church itself, so far as possible, silence should prevail. It should be the norm before and after Mass, and at other times as well. When there is a real need to say something, let it be done as quietly as can be. At the very least, such silence is a courtesy towards those who want to pray. It signals our reverence for the Blessed Sacrament. It respects the longing of the Holy Spirit to prepare us to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

And then the Mass, with its words and music and movement and its own moments of silence, will become more real. It will unite us at a deeper level, and those who visit our churches will sense the Holy One amongst us.

'Create silence!' It is an imperative. May the Word coming forth from silence find our silence waiting for him like a crib! 'The devil', said St Ambrose, 'loves noise; Christ looks for silence.'

Special Lenten Focus:

Give up harsh words: use generous ones.

Give up unhappiness: take up gratitude.

Give up anger: take up gentleness and patience.

Give up pessimism: take up hope and optimism.

Give up worrying: take up trust in God.

Give up complaining: value what you have.

Give up stress: take up prayer.

Give up judging others: discover Jesus within them.

Give up sorrow and bitterness: fill your hearts with joy.

Give up selfishness: take up compassion for others

Give up being unforgiving: learn reconciliation.

HOLY WEEK 1-8 April: including the Sacred Triduum.

PALM SUNDAY – 1st April. Including the blessing of Palms.

Hayle: 6.00 p.m. (**Saturday - 1st Mass of Sunday**)
Penzance: 9.00 a.m. & 11.00 a.m.
St Ives: 9.15 a.m.

MONDAY in HOLY WEEK
MASS – 10.00 a.m. in Penzance.

TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK
MASS – 10.00 a.m. in Penzance. (Haven Chapel.)

WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK
MASS – 9.30 a.m. in St. Ives.
MASS OF THE SACRED CHRISM – 5.00 p.m. in Plymouth Cathedral.

*We hope to arrange a coach, shared with Camborne to enable those interested to go.
Please sign the lists in each church if you wish to go.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM: in the Parish Church, Penzance.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER – 7.30 p.m. including the Mandatum.
(Watch of the Passion until 11pm, closing with Night Prayer.)

GOOD FRIDAY *Day of Fasting & Abstinence.*

OFFICE OF READINGS & MORNING PRAYER – 10.00 a.m. (Sung, Lady Chapel)
(Walk of Witness in Penzance from 11.30 a.m.)
(Walk of Witness in St. Ives - 12 noon. Preceded by Stations of the Cross 11am)
(Stations of the Cross in St Joseph's, Hayle - 12 noon.)

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION – 3.00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY

THE EASTER VIGIL. 8.30 p.m. including baptism & reception of candidates into the Church.

EASTER SUNDAY – Including renewal of Baptismal Promises.

Penzance: 9.00 a.m. & 11.00 a.m.
St Ives: 9.15 a.m.
Hayle: 11.00 a.m.

(Special care should be taken to ensure that the Sacred Triduum is celebrated with adequate liturgical resources and only in the Parish Church – from the Pastoral Re-organisation Document, Plymouth Diocese.)