

The Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St John, Goring-on-Thames
& Christ the King, Woodcote

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SUNDAY 20 MARCH 2022

SUNDAY III OF LENT

Monday 21	Feria	Goring	Sat 6pm Tony Jones (anniv.)
Tuesday 22	Feria	Goring (Latin)	8.00am Parish & people
Wednesday 23	Feria (St Turibius of Mongrovejo)	Goring	10.00am Private intention (FrJL)
Thursday 24	Feria	Woodcote	11.30am Private intention (FrKM)
Friday 25	ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	Woodcote	4.00pm <i>Vespers & Benediction</i>
Saturday 26		Goring	No Mass today
Sunday 27	LENT IV (<i>LAETARE</i>)	Goring	6.00pm Leonid Mrych (anniv.)
		Woodcote	9.30am The 'Dwyer family (JA)
		Goring	12.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
		Woodcote	12.00pm Private intention
		Goring	10.00am In thanksgiving (IV) <i>Holy Hour from 9.00am</i>
		Woodcote	12.00pm Private intention
		Goring	6.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
		Goring	12.00pm <i>Confessions</i>
		Goring	6.00pm Private intention <i>Confessions from 5.00pm</i>
		Goring (Latin)	8.00am Parish & people
		Goring	10.00am Private intention (FrKM)
		Woodcote	11.30am Private intention (FrJL)

The priests are always delighted to receive requests for Mass intentions. Please let us know about the ill, the housebound and those who need the Sacraments at home. The Rosary is prayed 15 minutes before the daily Mass. Mass is streamed on the parish page on Facebook. Thank you for your generosity to the Catholic Church in so many ways, not least financial.

EASTERN EUROPE

LENT

REFRESHMENTS

PLEASE PRAY ...

There are two important messages from the diocese which I have printed on the back of this newsletter. Please look closely at them. The Pope will lead the world in prayers for peace and make a formal consecration to Our Lady on Friday at 4pm GMT. This will be streamed on the internet but as yet we do not know precise details. I will pass them on when we have them. We will do well to join him.

The other concerns the many generous responses to the appeal for accommodation for refugees. Obviously there are several agencies and charities involved in this but it would be good to join the diocesan response. Please have a close look. Father Hudson's Care is co-ordinating things, hand in hand with the Ukrainian communities in the diocese. The two largest communities are in Coventry and Wolverhampton but I will investigate what may be happening through Portsmouth diocese as Reading is obviously closer to us.

Parish film night on Tuesday at 7.30pm. We will watch *Of Gods and Men* which was the subject of my homily three weeks ago the First Holy Communion class meets on Thursday at 4pm. Fr Tom's Needs Box is back for clothes or dried food. Stations will be prayed on Wednesday and Friday.

A GREAT DAY

Friday is the Annunciation of Our Lord, which was New Years Day for much of our history. This is the day when the Word became Flesh, a fact of great importance for everything that Christians believe about the sanctity of life—what the mystics talked of as the Redeemer in the Womb. Mass at 10 and 12.

MARGARET PEAT, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret, Lady Peat, known to her friends as Dodo, who has died at the age of 100. She was a devoted parishioner here some years ago. She will be buried next Monday with her late husband in Ashampstead.

Please stay if you can for a cup of coffee or tea and the opportunity to meet each other after the 10am Mass. Thank you to this morning's helpers.

THREE PILGRIMAGES

(1) to Walsingham. The diocesan pilgrimage has been reinstated after two years away for Saturday 14 May. Mass is at 1pm. Fr Hartley has invited us to join his pilgrims from Thame who will be leaving at 8am. See FrK.
(2) to Lourdes with the diocese of Birmingham, 29 May to 3 June. Details from Fr Kenneth.
(3) to Oberammergau with Goring Fine Arts, 8 to 20 Sep. Details from Rosie Mortimer.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

The Oratory Preparatory School is advertising for a Receptionist and asked me to put a word in the newsletter. Full details on the school's website.

CUDDLY TOYS

If your little one gets restive, there are some soft friends lurking in the Galilee who may help!

... among the sick for William, Margaret, Jeanie, Rosemary, Anne-Marie, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Gill, Joan, Lavinia, Lyall, Tony, Patricia, Kevin, Dora, Grazyna, John, Linda, Patsy, Annabelle, John, Emily, Rose, Ilene, Richard, Catherine, Patrick, Anne, Malcolm, Ida, Charlotte, Denis, Henry, Teresa, Peter, Paul, Charlie, Jemima, Eddie, Barry, George, Fr Patrick, Maryrita. *Please keep us updated.* Please pray too for three other parish friends who are ill.

... for those who have died recently, among them Margaret Peat, and for Tony Jones, Bridgid Howard-Allen and Sheila Mary Lowe whose anniversaries fall this week.

THE VOTIVE LAMPS

... burn during March for James and Teresa McAllister and family, the Brown family, for Peter Vlck and for Edward, Margaret and Jonathan Beckett.

NO MASS ON MONDAY.

In an emergency contact Fr Jacob or Fr John at Dorchester.

FROM THE DIOCESE

Many people want to help those who are having to leave their home country of Ukraine, who will be offered refuge in this country until it is safe and possible to return.

The Archdiocese and Caritas Archdiocese of Birmingham have asked Father Hudson's Care to coordinate the many generous offers of help. This is so that we can put in place a welcome that will be so important to the individuals and families in this tragic situation. Always working with others, Father Hudson's has been welcoming asylum seekers, refugees and migrants for over 30 years.

Some of you will know of Brushstrokes, the Sanctuary, Fatima House and Sophia House and parish Community Sponsorship schemes. Those already working with asylum seekers, refugees and migrants from all round the world and most recently from Afghanistan will share their expertise and knowledge.

Father Hudson's will offer a diocese-wide approach, working closely with the existing Catholic Ukrainian communities based in Coventry and Wolverhampton to offer a coordinated response to any one forced to leave Ukraine due to the war.

Father Hudson's and the Ukrainian communities anticipate being able to be the organisations that can link offers of help to refugee Ukrainian individuals and families.

Please note if you have a connection with the Ukrainian communities based in Coventry or Wolverhampton please contact them directly, rather than Father Hudson's.

If you do not have a connection with these Ukrainian communities, please contact Father Hudson's using the contact details below.

Your help

We know that we will need:

Accommodation in people's own homes or homes that belong to individuals or to parishes/the Archdiocese.

If you wish to offer accommodation, please contact Father Hudson's on (01675) 434000 between the hours of 8.30 – 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30 - 4.30pm on Friday.

Or, within or outside of these hours please email Maria Gallagher on mariagallagher@fatherhudsons.org.uk providing a phone number that you can be contacted on.

Or ring, text or WhatsApp 07966 935533 outside of these hours, please leave a voicemail and number if unanswered.

There are three important steps regarding accommodation:

(1) **Your offer** - Father Hudson's will be the point of contact for this.

(2) **Matching** - where the offer of accommodation is matched to a Ukrainian refugee family or individual. The national body, Caritas Social Action network, is recommending the use of an organisation called Reset, which has worked for a number of years supporting the Community Sponsorship scheme for refugees. Father Hudson's will assist you in contact with Reset. It is also possible as time goes on that Caritas organisations in Ukraine, Poland and other European countries will assist.

(3) **Support once a Ukrainian refugee individual or family is matched** - at the moment it is unclear to what extent Local Authorities and other agencies will be able to assist. Father Hudson's, from its experience, knows that this ongoing support matters greatly. As central government, local government and other agencies clarify the nature of this support we will keep you fully informed.

Language help - if you speak Ukrainian or Russian these skills will be of incredible value, even if you live a long way from where the individuals/families will live (phone/Zoom etc.) - contact as above.

Other skills - as time goes on, some or all families will value support with developing their English-language skills (Esol), and possibly professional help, such as counselling - contact as above.

A local parish community contact - whilst the host individual or family will do much to provide a welcome it is important that they are supported in this by their parish community and we are looking for one or more parish members to offer to be a point of contact. **We are not asking you to contact Father Hudson's or the Ukrainian communities yet**, only when we have a clearer idea of where those seeking refuge here will actually live. We do not want to raise expectations only to find that offers of help are not used because there is no Ukrainian refugee individual or family living nearby. Once we know, we will communicate further.

Please note regarding the donation of goods, neither Father Hudson's nor the Ukrainian community in Coventry have the facilities to manage the donation of goods. The Ukrainian community in Wolverhampton is involved to some extent in this and you may wish to contact them to see what goods they most need, if you have some links there. However, once families and individuals do arrive in this country they will undoubtedly need the donation of goods and it is hoped that parish communities where these individuals and families will be offered a temporary home will be able to support them in this way. Our parish communities have a great tradition in doing this. **Please share this message with parishioners** - it is also available on the Diocesan website www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/ukraine

HYMN TO ST JOSEPH

- Hail! Holy Joseph, hail!
Chaste spouse of Mary, hail!
Pure as the lily flow'r
In Eden's peaceful vale.
2. Hail! Holy Joseph, hail!
Father of Christ esteemed,
Father be thou to those
Thy foster Son redeemed.
3. Hail! Holy Joseph, hail!
Prince of the house of God!
May His best graces be
By thy sweet hands bestowed.
4. Hail! Holy Joseph, hail!
Comrade of angels, hail!
Cheer thou the hearts that faint
And guide the steps that fail.
5. Hail! Holy Joseph, hail!
God's choice wert thou alone;
To thee the Word made flesh,
Was subject as a son.
6. Mother of Jesus, bless,
And bless, ye saints on high
All meek and simple souls
That to Saint Joseph cry.

FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Solidarity in Prayer with the People of Ukraine

The Bishops of England and Wales have agreed three moments of prayer for the people of Ukraine and for peace in our world. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary this coming Friday, 25th March – the Solemnity of the Annunciation – and I shall be making an Act of Consecration in the Cathedral on the evening of Friday 25th to unite our Archdiocese with the Holy Father's Act.

You may also wish to join in this Act of Consecration together with your parishioners next Friday or to follow the Holy Father's Act of Consecration which will be broadcast worldwide by *Mondovisione* at 4pm UK time.

Two other moments have been agreed as outlined in the attached document to take place during the Sacred Triduum and further information will become available in due course.

A PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

This is long, long overdue, not least as we have two sets of annual accounts to present thanks to the lockdown. **Would an evening or a Saturday morning be easier?** Please let me know your thoughts.