

Jubilee

This weekend I'm celebrating with you all the fortieth anniversary of my ordination as a priest, the Ruby Jubilee. In biblical times, a jubilee was a time for cancelling debts, forgiving offences and reconciling differences, a time for rejoicing in God's goodness and showing mercy to others. I can't think of anyone who owes me money and I've never been inclined to hold grudges so I don't have a list of people that I need to forgive, but I'm sure that, over the last forty years, I must have offended and let down many people in all sorts of ways and I hope they will feel able to forgive me, as God forgives us all.

In 1978 I was young, over-confident and full of hope. It was the year of three popes, the third being John Paul II, who responded to the National Pastoral Congress in Liverpool in 1980 by visiting our country in 1982 when huge crowds greeted him with great enthusiasm. Today we live in a different world and a different Church. We are more conscious of our own need for healing and forgiveness.

Pope Francis has made mercy the guiding theme of his pontificate because he wants all the poor, hungry, sick and oppressed people of the world to feel God's mercy through the actions of Christians and all people of good will and because he wants every member of the Church, especially those exiled from it by their own actions or by their sense of being judged and condemned, to feel that mercy through the loving welcome of active church members. Like St Paul writing to the Philippians, he wants to pray for all of us with joy because we have helped to spread the Good News and he is confident that the One who began this good work in us will bring it to fulfilment.

In the Rite of Ordination, the bishop prays those same words of St Paul over the candidate, 'May God who has begun the good work in you, bring it to fulfilment'. It's a pointed reminder that it is God, and not the individual, who is doing the good work, and that it will come to fulfilment in God's time. Forty years is a very short time in the grand scheme of things. I'm certainly older, possibly wiser, immensely grateful for all the love and support I've experienced and still full of hope.

Fr Chris



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Monday 10th December	9.00am	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 11th December	8.30am	Rosary
St Damasus I	9.00am	Eucharistic Service & Exposition
	2.00pm	Funeral Service: Joseph Rooney
	7.00pm	RCIA Preparation
	7.30pm	Novena
Wed 12th December	8.30am	Rosary
<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	10.00am	Requiem: Audrey Pakenham
	1.30pm	School Carol service
	7.00pm	Baptism Preparation
Thursday 13th December	8.30am	Rosary
<i>St Lucy</i>	7.00pm	Carol Service
Friday 14th December	8.30am	Rosary
<i>St John of the Cross</i>	10.00am	Requiem: Marjorie Pitt
Saturday 15th December	9.00am	Eucharistic Service & Exposition
	12.00pm	Baptisms (by appointment only)
	5.00pm	Confessions
	6.00pm	Mass
Sunday 16th December	10.00am	Mass
	12.00pm	Baptisms (by appointment only)
	6.00pm	Mass

Sunday 9th December 2018
2nd Sunday of Advent



Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially Marie Donnelly, John Moore, Elsie Hawley, Joseph Furey, Marjorie Pitt, John Black, Betty Johnson, Chris Carter, Joe Goodwin, Jim Ferguson, Flo Ferguson, Maggie Bore, Elsie Hawley, Terry Daley, Joe Goodwin, Vera Shannon, Kathleen Davis, Betty Scriven, Teresa Molloy, Mary Pierce, Margaret Bore, Elizabeth Johnston, Terry Daly, Raymond Scully, Joseph Rooney, Edward Kane, Betty Burke, Edward Kane, Lorraine Wilson, Ann Gallagher, Richard McGlory,

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Teresa Fallon, Frederick William Fallon, Anne Schumacher, Fr Tom Leigh, Sr Eileen McGarry FMA, John Henry Smith, Joseph Foley, Thomas Begg, Christina Begg,

Please pray too for all those who are lonely or housebound, for those who are sick, at home or in hospital, and all those visited by our Eucharistic Ministers.



St Teresa's Carol Service will take place on **Thursday 13th December at 7pm.**

Tickets are available from the piety stall, St Teresa's school, the parish office and Sedgemoor Hub or simply pay at the door. Donation £4 per ticket which includes refreshments. All proceeds to Whitechapel Centre. See poster at back of church for further details.



WELCOME We are delighted to welcome Eric Peter Kowalski, Igor Jakubiak & Jessica Rose Dineley who were all Baptised into our faith community last weekend.



Christmas Party at SJB! TICKET COLLECTION

If you have not already done so please collect your ticket for the party from the piety stall at the weekend where they will be in an envelope with your name on. From Monday they will be in the parish office for collection. The party is at St John Bosco Arts College on Wednesday 12th December from 12.00 until 2.50pm.

FLOWERS. There are envelopes in church for your donations towards the cost of flowers to decorate our beautiful church at Christmas.



Debt Advice Service

Do you have debt problems? Why not call into the Priests house on Tuesday's from 10am to 2pm.

WINNING NUMBERS for draw on 5th December 2018

11; 13; 23; 24

NO WINNER of the Jackpot of £586
(subject to re scrutiny)

Estimated Jackpot for the next draw on 12th December 2018 is £782

Two consolation prizes of £25 each:
140188; 141402



Many thanks to all who support our Parish Lottery and to the Team who run it for us. Your support is really appreciated!

SOCK APPEAL

The Friends of St Eugene group are having the sock appeal again this year for the homeless. When you are doing your Christmas shopping maybe you could buy an extra pair or packet of adult socks for the appeal? There is a box at the back of church for you to put your sock donations in. All your donations will be greatly appreciated.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

with Archbishop Malcolm McMahon at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on **Friday 14th December 2018 at 2.00pm.** Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gibberd Room and everyone is most welcome. For further information please contact the Pastoral Formation

Foodbank Many thanks to those who continue to contribute to our Foodbank Appeal. All of the food collected is desperately needed and is passed on to the distribution centre. Food can be dropped off at the priests house or put in the box at the

35th ANNUAL CAFOD FUN RUN or WALK!

Run or Walk with family & friends!
Thursday 27th December 2018.

Where? Wavertree Athletics Centre, L15 4LE (Mystery Playground)
12.00pm Registration

Entry £5 kids, £10 adults. £20 family. Starts at 1pm
Further info at Liverpool@cafod.org.uk or 0151 228 4028 or simply turn up for 12pm and register on the day!

