

# PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

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## Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare*), Year C – 10 March 2013

**Entrance:** *Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast*

**Responsorial psalm:** *Taste and see that the Lord is good*

**Gospel:** *Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.' Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!*

**Communion:** *You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found*



The cross is the tomb which absorbs all human pride: "*Come thus far; I said, and no farther: here your proud waves shall break*" (Job 38:11). The waves of human pride break against the rock of Calvary and they can go no further. The wall God erected against them is too high and the abyss he dug before them too deep. '*We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body*' (Rm 6:6). The body of pride -- for this is the sin par excellence, the sin that gives rise to all other sins. '*He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross*' (1 Peter 2:24). He bore our pride in his body. But what concerns us in all this? Where is the 'gospel', the good and joyful news? It is that Jesus humbled himself also for me, in my place. '*If one man has died for all, then all have died*' (2 Co 5:14); one has humbled himself for all, therefore all have humbled themselves. Jesus on the cross is the new Adam obeying for all. He is the head, the beginning of a new mankind. He acts in the name of all and for the benefit of all. As '*by one man's obedience many will be made righteous*' (Rom 5:19), by one man's humility, many will be made humble. Pride, like disobedience, is no longer part of us. It is part of the Old Adam. It has become old-fashioned. The new thing now is humility, which is full of hope because it opens up a new existence based on giving, love and solidarity and no longer on competitiveness, social climbing and taking advantage of one another. '*The old creation has gone, and now the new one is here*' (2 Co 5:17). Humility is one of these marvellous new things. What, therefore, does it mean to celebrate the mystery of the cross '*in spirit and in truth*'? When applied to what we are celebrating, what is the significance of the ancient maxim: '*Acknowledge what you are doing, imitate what you are celebrating*'? It signifies that you should implement within yourself what you represent externally; put into practice what you are commemorating in the liturgy. I must give Christ '*the sinful body of my pride*', so that he can destroy it *de facto* just as he destroyed it by right once and for all on the cross. When I was a boy, the people of my region used to light a bonfire in the country at nightfall on the eve of certain feasts which could be seen over the hills. Each family would bring some wood and vine branches to keep the fire going while, around it, the rosary would be recited. Something similar must take place here this evening in preparation for the great feast of Easter. Each one of us should throw, in spirit, his load of pride, vanity, self-sufficiency, presumption, haughtiness into the great furnace of Christ's passion. We must imitate the saints in heaven as they adore the Lamb, for this is the model for our adoration here on earth. Revelation tells us the saints approach the throne in procession and fall down before him who is seated and they '*threw down their crowns in front of the throne*' (Rev 4:10). They cast the real crowns of their martyrdom, and we cast the false crown with which we have crowned ourselves. (Excerpted from *The Power of the Cross*, Raniero Cantalamessa OFM Cap, published by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd, London)

## Dates for Your Diary

Please come along and enjoy tea and coffee in the parish room after the Sunday morning Masses

**Tote numbers drawn for week 47 were 32, 15, 22 & 17 - no winner**

**Prize money for week 48 – £90.00 and four numbers to be drawn**

Welcome: to Fr Peter Harries, a Dominican friar, who will be at all Masses today to make the annual missionary appeal allowed by the Archdiocese

Second collection: for the missionary appeal

Tuesday Devotions: chaplet of Divine Mercy before Mass, the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary afterwards

Lent extras: during Lent we will have an extra Mass at 7:00 am every Wednesday and Stations of the Cross in the main body of the church each Friday at 6:30 pm

Catholicism: the second in the series of programmes, entitled 'Happy Are We: the teachings of Jesus' will be shown in the parish hall on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Refreshments provided. All welcome

Bible Study: in the parish house this Thursday at 7:00 pm – all welcome

Jumble Sale: on Saturday! Please come along and help with setting it all up, manning the stalls on the day or tidying up afterwards. Homemade cakes for the cake stall would be very handy too. Many hands make light work, as John Heywood, grandfather of the poet John Donne, wrote in 1546. (Yes, the saying *is* that old)

Your Gift Aid envelopes: for the new financial year are now available at the back of church for collection

From Kathy Davis: with sincere thanks to you all for your great kindness, your love, your prayers and your support in so many different ways, following the recent death of Ken. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Prayer Group: the next meeting will be on Monday 18th March, 7pm, in the Lady Chapel. We hope to have Exposition again at this meeting. All are welcome

Red Boxes: please can Red Boxes be handed into Father Cenydd or Peter or Mary Leach for counting. The Spring Mission Today magazines have arrived and are at the back of the church for Red Box holders and anyone interested in reading about the work of APF- Mill Hill. APF- Mill Hill plays a vital role in the mission of the Church, bringing God's love and renewed hope to the poorest and most in need through prayer and financial support with the Red Box collections. If anyone new would like a box please speak to Father Cenydd

Wanted: volunteers to hear children read at Our Lady's School; someone who can spare a couple of hours every week - a Disclosure and Barring service check will need to be arranged. Please call 01432 274 814

The Turin Shroud - An Icon Written in Blood: an illustrated presentation by John Cook. Beginning with prayers for Year of Faith in the School chapel, St Mary's High School, then over to the RE classroom; starting at 7.00pm on Monday 11th March – all welcome. New archaeological and scientific discoveries since 2005 mean that the story of one of history's most studied artefacts has developed dramatically!

Pastoral Care Project: a National Week of Prayer & Awareness of Dementia, 12-19th March 2013. Archbishop George Stack will celebrate Mass and the Sacrament of the Sick on Tuesday 19th March 2013 at 12:00 Noon in All Hallows Catholic Church, School Road, Llantrisant CF72 8PG.

News from Rome: the conclave that will elect a successor to Pope Benedict will begin on Tuesday, 12 March. The cardinals will celebrate a Mass *pro eligendo Romano Pontifice* in St. Peter's basilica on Tuesday morning. Then the cardinal-electors will enter the Sistine Chapel in the afternoon to begin their deliberations.

Prayer for the Election of a Pope: O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

# Week Following the Fourth Sunday of Lent

## Psalter: Week IV

9:30 am	Margery Weaver
11:30 am	Harry Forder
6:30 pm	
Monday 11 March <i>Lenten</i>	9:30 am Mass – Ernie Lomax
Tuesday 12 March <i>Lenten</i>	7:00 pm Mass – K & W Malec
Wednesday 13 March <i>Lenten</i>	7:00 am Mass – Private Int 9:30 am Mass – Holy Souls (CB)
Thursday, 14 March <i>Lenten</i>	9:30 am Mass – Ken Davis
Friday, 15 March <i>Lenten</i>	7:00 pm Mass – Mary O'Connor
Saturday, 16 March <i>Lenten</i>	9:30 am Confessions 10:30 am Mass – Special Int (TS)
Sunday, 17 March (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)	
9:30 am	John Farren
11:30 am	Nancy Harris
6:30 pm	<i>Celebrated by Fr Cenydd Marrison</i>

### Rota Schedule for 15 to 21 March 2013

<b>Flower Arrangers:</b>	No flowers during Lent
<b>Cleaners:</b>	Volunteers
<b>Ushers:</b>	9:30am Langford family 11:30am Volunteers 6:30pm Volunteers
<b>Readers:</b>	9:30am A Spanjers 11:30am M Langley 6:30pm M Woolaway
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	9:30am P King, P Buckley, (R Jones) 11:30pm D Lissaman, M Davies, E Cotterell 6:30pm L Johnson, C Sharland, A Staton
<b>Altar Linen:</b>	A Whitehead

### Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 24 marca godz 16:00

### Finance:

The collections on Sunday, 3 March came to **£501.11** – thank you

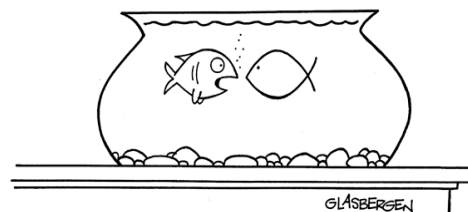
### **Please pray for:**

The sick, especially Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Pat Spence, Laurence Montagu, Rita Kennedy, Alex Spence, Karen Royer, Sue Watkins, Julie Martin, Katie Balnaves, Damian Brackley, Shelaigh Fawcett, Andrew Walker, Natalie Chadwick, Vincent Bohn, Dymphna and John O'Neil, Sylvia Jones, Sylvia Aiello, Angela Smith, Chris Turville, Olivia Thompson, Jason Houten, Barbara Hampton, Leo Hornby, Eva Zakrzewska and all in our prayer book

The recently dead, especially George Franklyn, Mavis Whitehead, Helena Karska, Maureen Hartley, Alice Deans and George Goodswen

Those whose anniversary falls in the month of March, including: Frank Gillich, June Lapsley, Joseph Miller, Philomena Doherty, Sylvia King, Margaret Davis, Geoffrey Lyons, Eileen Foster, Daniel Higgins, Henry Lavell, Boleslaw Chojnowski, Anthony Bunclark, Brian Halligan, Rose Hughes, Bridget Burns, John Lavell, Mark Valley, Shirley Maher, Bridget Robakowski, Robert Edward, Myrna Thomas and Harry Forder

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!' While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again! As she ran she once again began to pray, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!'



"Can't we talk about something besides religion for a change?"

A police recruit was asked during the exam, 'What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?' He answered, 'Call for backup.'