

THIS WEEKEND		6th Sunday of the Year		Year B	
Sat 10th Feb	10.00am	St O	<i>Confessions + Exposition ends 10.30am</i>		
	5.00pm	St O	Mrs S Robinson, Joan Rainford Bernard Pope		
	6.30pm	St T	Malcolm Beale		
Sun 11th February	8:30am	St MM	<i>Latin Extraordinary Form Mass</i>		
	8:30am	St O	Norah Spencer		
	9.30am	St T	Kathleen Hatsell Maurice Richmond		
	11.00am	St MM	John Connolly, Paddy Killeen		
WEEKDAY MASSES		Divine Office Week 2			
Mon 12th February	9.15am	St T	Frances Hart		
	9.30am	St O	For all the poor souls at St O graveyard RIP		
Tues 13th February	9.15am	St T	John Embley		
	9.30am	St O	Patricia + Roger Holdcroft		
14th February Ash Wednesday	9.15am	St T	Tony + Margaret Kerrigan		
	9.30am	St O	James Lonsdale		
	12 Noon	ST MM	Kathleen Atkinson		
	7.00pm	St T	Special Intention (D+L)		
Thu 15th February	10.30am	St O	<i>Funeral Mass: Mary Leyfield</i>		
	7.00pm	St T	Kath Walker		
Fri 16th February	9.15am	St T	George Gore		
	9.30am	St O	Parishioner's Intentions		
NEXT WEEKEND		1st Sunday of Lent		Year B	
Sat 17th Feb	5.00pm	St O	John Fiddler		
	6.30pm	St T	Margaret + Thomas Conway		
Sun 18th February	8:30am	St MM	<i>Latin Extraordinary Form Mass</i>		
	8:30am	St O	For the family of Tim Upton and his soul		
	9.30am	St T	In thanksgiving 60 years of Marriage John + Audrey Baldwin Mary Millicent Alston		
	11.00am	St MM	John McCole, Eileen Leahy		

Confessions: 1st (St T) and 2nd (St O) Sat at 10.00am.

Web Site: www.catholic-penwortham-longton.btck.co.uk

Web Cam: <http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-teresas-penwortham>

The CATHOLIC CHURCH in PENWORTHAM + LONGTON

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6th Sunday of the Year

11th Feb 2018

'If you want to, you can cure me ...' 'Of course I want to, be cured!'



11th February is the 26th World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Pope Francis invites us to pray for all who are isolated and marginalised by ill health:

The image of the Church as a 'field hospital' that welcomes all those wounded by life is a very concrete reality ...

The Church's mission is a response to Jesus's gift, for she knows that she must bring to the sick the Lord's own gaze, full of tenderness and compassion. (Message for the 26th World Day of the Sick 2018, issued Nov. 2017)

It is this same compassion the Lord shows towards the leper in today's Gospel, by breaking down all the social and cultural barriers of his time.

As the Jews around Jesus were observing the same guidelines for self-preservation concerning lepers prescribed in the Old Testament (*First Reading*), lepers could not have been among the sick brought to Jesus in last week's Gospel (Mark 1: 29–39). So in this case, the unfortunate man has to come himself and beg Jesus for a cure. Once healed, however, the leper cannot stop himself sharing his news with others – and in this way, Jesus himself is now considered 'unclean', and also becomes isolated. We too, in praying the *Psalm*, can ask the Lord to cure us from all that separates us from others, by acknowledging our failings. In the *Second Reading*, Paul similarly encourages us not to separate ourselves from those who do not know Christ. We should avoid behaving in a way that might shock them, and instead model ourselves on the Lord.

This week, then, I may want to pray especially for all those around me who are suffering and feel isolated, asking the Lord to cure them in body and mind.

Parish Workers Social Night: It was wonderful to see so many enjoying a fun night out together. The barn dance was great, the food was great, the singing was great, the company was great. This shows our parishes at their best. Thank you to so many who do so much.

With you Always: There are two sessions this weekend. The next series begins on Mon 5th March.

St. Teresa's Ladies Association: A meeting will be held on Tue 13 Feb at 7.30pm to which all are welcome.

St MM Tea and Coffee after Mass: We need an extra volunteer to provide tea and coffee on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Can you help? This is such an important part of parish life, please think about it. It only means 12 times a year!

St T Meeting Room: The work will start on Monday 19th February. This means that the meeting room will be out of action until May 5th. There was a site meeting this week and the contractor (John Hamilton) has said that he would try to keep the toilet available for as much of the job as possible. There will be no tea and coffee after Sunday Mass at St T from the 2nd Sunday of Lent.

RCIA: We continue our preparation for those adults who wish to be baptised, be welcomed into the Church and make their 1st Communion or be Confirmed, on Tuesday 13th February at 7.00pm in St Teresa's Meeting Room. Please keep our 5 candidates in your prayer.

Knit-a-Bit is expanding and changing its name to "**Needles and Pens**" this is to include crochet, embroidery, colouring activities, arts and crafts, crosswords etc. We will be in the social centre from February 19th. Why not come and join us there from 10.00 until 12.00 every Monday? SVP will provide tea, coffee and a lift if required contact Catherine 740569.

St T and St MM: Gift Aid: On the weekend of March 3rd we will have a drive to encourage new gift aiders. More information to follow.

SOC Lunch Club. Due St. Oswald's Hall being used for the half-term Holiday Club on Fri 16th Feb we will not be able to have our Lunch Club as planned. We will, instead, be having it on Friday - 23rd February. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lent 2018:

Ash Wednesday Feb 14th. (No St Valentine's day in 2018!)

Ashes will be given at Mass:

9.15am at St T. 9.30am at St O. 12 noon at St MM and 7.00pm at St T.

Ash Wednesday is a day of **fasting and abstinence**. If you are aged 14 - 59 you must fast and everyone must abstain from meat.

Stations of the Cross:

Friday at St O after morning Mass. (None this week at St MM)

Sunday at St T at 4.00pm with benediction.

There is a list to sign up to lead the stations.

4 Thursday evening: exploring different spirituality that has influenced the Church: 7.30pm - 8.30pm. In St T Church.

22nd Feb: St Ignatius for lay people

1st March: the spirit of l'arche

8th March: Carmel for lay people

15th March: The Camino.

Holy Hours: At St O: Tuesday 6th March 2.15pm and Monday 19th March at 2.15pm. Fr Michael will lead these holy hours which are part of our preparation for the Eucharistic Congress.

Week of Guided Prayer: This takes place from Sunday 25th Feb until Friday 2nd March.

Sponsored Run/Walk/Bike: This year our Faith in Action sponsored event will be on Monday May 7th at 12 noon (Bank Holiday). Training will not begin until Easter. We are fund raising for the new meeting room this year.

Weekday Mass: We do our best to keep to the regular schedule of daily Masses. Why not try to come to an extra Mass in Lent. If you work there is always Thursday evening at 7.00pm at St Teresa's.

CAFOD Fast, Pray and Give Fast Day: Friday 23rd Feb. Your donations this year will make double the difference. For every £1 you give to CAFOD between 13th Feb and 12th May, the Govt. will give £1—up to £5 million.