



## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**First Sunday of Lent**

**(Year A)**

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

### **Mass Times**

Vigil Mass: Sat	6.30 pm
Sunday	8.30 am
	10 am
(Spanish)	11.15 am
	12.15 pm
	7 pm
Mon - Sat	10 am
	6.30pm

### **Sacrament of Confession**

Mon - Fri	6.15 – 6.30 pm
Saturday	10.45 – 11.15 am
	6.00 – 6.30 pm

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Mon – Fri 10.30 am – 11.15 am

**Rosary** – Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

**Legion of Mary** – Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Library. New members are welcome!

**Lectio Divina** – Every Saturday at 11am in the Founders' Room. Tea served!

**Charismatic Prayer Group** – Every Thursday 11am in the Founders' Room.

### **Saints Days**

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – Sts Perpetua & Felicity  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> – St John of God  
Thu 9<sup>th</sup> – St Frances of Rome

Total Offertory collection last Sunday was £1,445 and the Second collection for "Aid to the Church in Need" was £2,157. Thank you for your support & generosity.

**African Caribbean Group Meeting:** Will be held this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March in the Small Hall at 3pm. There will be food to share. All are Welcome!

**Lost Property:** If you have lost a Scooter, Please collect from the Parish Office!

**Sunday Reflection:** – The story of the fall of Adam and Eve, and the story of the tempting of Jesus, are two very sophisticated stories. They are essentially about making choices, about saying "yes" or "no" to God. The temptations which Jesus experienced were invitations to put aside His vocation and God-given mission, and to settle for power and self-promotion rather than self-giving service. Jesus was presented with the choice of either doing his own will or doing the will of His loving Father. Unlike Adam and Eve, Jesus made the irrevocable decision to do God's will rather than his own. So it wasn't easy for Jesus. He was without sin, but wholly human. However prayer, fasting and fidelity to the word of God helped him to overcome the attractive suggestions of the tempter. These Lenten practices can also school us in resisting temptations and keep us faithful to our calling to be first and foremost children of our loving God. Whatever we do for Lent, it would be a good idea to allow the word of God to get close. The word of God comes to ask us "where are you?" It also comes to show us and support the kind of people we could be. So take a little time – five or ten minutes each day – to let the word form us as it formed Jesus. Let the word of God find us so that we can escape from our hiding places and come into the peace of his presence.

**Season of Lent** – Lent began on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, Ash Wednesday. Lent is traditionally a Penitential season of Renewal in the Church leading to Holy Week and Easter; a time of Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving. Hopefully it is a time of "Growing in Faith". During Lent "Alleluia" is omitted in the Liturgy, and we don't adorn the Altar or Sanctuary with Flowers, as well as restricting the use of the Organ and other musical instruments. We hope and pray all Parishioners will have a good and Holy Lent.

**CAFOD Fast Day** – This Special Fast day in Lent this year is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Our fasting provides food for the World's poorest people. Let us unite together in helping CAFOD meet their needs. Our two Parish CAFOD Agents will make the Appeal this week-end at all the Masses: Trusha and Camilla. We are so grateful to them for making themselves available for this Appeal. We trust we will all respond generously to their Appeal. Please take your Lent Fast Day donation envelopes and show your support for CAFOD's work in Zambia. Our partners are helping the community to turn little fish into big opportunities to feed and educate their families. Hand in your donation envelopes during the second collection on weekend 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Together we can make a difference!

**Sincere Thanks** – The Representatives of "Aid to the Church in need" want to thank you all for your tremendous response and participation in their Appeal for the persecuted Christians in Syria and Iraq last Sunday. They were truly overwhelmed by your generosity and response. The final sum raised is now £2,157. This was truly marvelous. Well done to all who contributed and 'a big thank you' from ACN. They were touched by your generosity and interest. Well done.

**School Family Mass** – This Special Mass is on this First Sunday of lent at 10am. We invite our School and parish to unite together in the celebration of our Eucharist. We had a wonderful turn out of people and children on Ash Wed (also the 6.30pm mass). It was most encouraging. Let us support each other on our Lenten pilgrimage.

**Ministers of the Word** – Microphone training will be held at 11am and 12noon on Saturdays: 25<sup>th</sup> March & 8<sup>th</sup> April. Please attend one session.

**Mass for Bereaved Parents** – Will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm at Westminster Cathedral. It's a time to remember, pray, give thanks and to entrust deceased children to the Lord. All are Welcome to attend!

**St Patrick's Day Celebration** – St Patrick's Day is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March as usual our Parish Celebration will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Small Hall. Everyone is Welcome! Tickets are £5 each and proceeds from the event will go to help our Secretary Monica, take a child to Lourdes later this year. Please support Monica's good work!