



# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

## **Parish Office Opening Hrs**

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm

(Lunch Hour 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

## **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.

**Ministers of the Word**: Microphone training, Please attend 11am/12noon on 8<sup>th</sup> Apr.

**Eucharistic Ministers**: Could all Ministers available for the Easter Services, Please add their names on the list which will be displayed on a table in the Colonnade showing which Mass/Services they can cover. Thank You!

**Sunday Reflection:** – “Laetare” Rejoice because you have travelled over half-way on your Lent journey. The document on the Liturgy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council states, “The Lenten season has a two-fold character. 1) It recalls Baptism or prepares for it 2) It stresses a penitential spirit. By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the Paschal Mystery after a period of closer attention to the word of God, and more ardent prayer”. This captures the essence of Lent. The word of God this Sunday highlights a beautiful Baptismal theme. In the Gospel passage from St John we hear Jesus giving sight to a blind beggar. The climax of the story comes when the man makes a profession of faith in Jesus, “Lord, I believe”. His journey from blindness to sight symbolizes the journey from unbelief to faith, which is a journey from darkness to light. In giving sight to a blind man, Jesus shows that he is “the light of the world”. Writing to the Baptized Ephesians, St Paul says, “Once you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord” (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading). Sadly, while the blind man opens more and more to the light, the Pharisees, who are physically sighted, become more and more spiritually blind. In our baptism we too have been chosen by God and enlightened by Christ. Rejoice as you travel on the journey.

**Happy Mothers' Day** – Blessings to all Mothers, Grandmothers and those who found themselves in this role. Well done for all your love & hard work. Hope you have a good day! Thank you for such dedicated love.

**St Peregrine Mass** – The healing Mass of St Peregrine is on next wed 29<sup>th</sup> Mar at 6.30pm. Come along to pray for all who are ill, especially those suffering from Cancer.

**Lenten Alms:** This is a traditional fund in our Churches every Lent. This Year our Cardinal Archbishop wants to combine it with the Cardinal's Appeal 2017: “As you know, Lent is one of the most important seasons of the Church year and a time characterized by the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Each of these is intended as a help in our desire to open our lives more radically to God and to seek the renewal of God's life within us, especially through repentance and renewal, experienced sacramentally in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Each year I have followed the tradition of naming a number of causes to which Lenten Alms will be applied. Over the last few years this has been for the work of Caritas in the Diocese. This year I seek to give the Lenten Alms Appeal the same aims as the Cardinal's Appeal. This Appeal seeks to provide funding for programmes and projects, in the Diocese, in: Youth and Evangelisation, Marriage and Family Life, Service in Society, especially among those on the margins”.

**Easter Talk** – To help us all prepare well for Holy week and Easter, our Christian Formation Committee has organized some sound teaching in the form of a talk on “The Spiritual Significance of Holy Week and Easter”, on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March in the Founders Room at 7.30pm. This will be given by Sister Gemma Simmons CJ, Senior Lecturer in Pastoral, Social Studies & Theology at Heythrop College, University of London. She is an international lecturer and speaker in Catholic education and Spirituality. It promises to be an excellent presentation and is open to all parishioners to attend.

**A Film worth Seeing!** The Christian formation Committee will be showing the film “Karol: A Man who became Pope” on this Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> in the Founders Room at 4pm. “This is a beautiful moving tribute to a man who taught love and practiced what he preached”. Tea & Cakes will be served. We hope this venture will be well supported by the Parishioners. All Welcome!

**Gift Aid & Planned Giving** – Weekly Offertory Envelopes available for collection next Saturday/Sunday in Colonnade. New Year begins 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Gift Aid Envelopes are only for use of Parishioners who are Income Tax Payers.

**Our Prayers** are with all Victims of violence and their families. Blessings and Peace to all!