



**Double Edition Newsletter: Fourth Sunday of Lent— 10th March 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Lent— 17th March 2024**

**OUR PARISH VISION**

***"In communion with Jesus Christ and 'in companionship' with one another, 'to pray, bless' and 'sow the seed' of the Good News, for 'the greater glory of God'."***

In our catechetical journey on the vices and virtues, today we come to the last of the vices: *pride*. The ancient Greeks defined it with a word that could be translated as 'excessive splendour'; pride is self-exaltation, conceit, vanity. The term also appears in the series of vices that Jesus lists to explain that evil always comes from the heart of man (Mk. 7:22). The proud man is one who thinks he is much more than he really is; one who frets about being recognised as greater than others, always wants to see his own merits recognised, and despises others, deeming them inferior to himself.

From this first description, we see how the vice of pride is very close to that of vainglory; *of all vices, pride is the great queen*. It is no accident that, in the Divine Comedy, Dante places it in the very first level of purgatory: those who give in to this vice are far from God, and the correction of this evil requires time and effort, more than any other battle to which the Christian is called.

In fact, within this evil lies the radical sin, the absurd claim to be like God. The sin of our first parents, recounted in the book of Genesis, is for all intents and purposes a sin of pride. The tempter tells them, "when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God" (Gen. 3:5). Writers on spirituality are especially attentive in describing the consequences of pride in everyday life, illustrating how it ruins human relationships and pointing out how, this evil, poisons that feeling of fraternity that should instead unite men.

Here then is the long list of symptoms that reveal a person's succumbing to the vice of pride. It is an evil with an obvious physical appearance; the proud man is haughty, he has a 'stiff neck', that does not bend. He is a man easily led to scornful judgment; with no reason, he passes irrevocable judgments on others, who seem to him hopelessly inept and incapable. In his haughtiness, he forgets that Jesus in the Gospels assigned us very few moral precepts, but on one of them he was uncompromising; never judge. You realise that you are dealing with a proud person when, on offering him a little constructive criticism, or making a completely harmless remark, he reacts in an exaggerated manner, as if someone had offended his majesty; he goes into a rage, shouts, interrupting relations with others in a resentful manner.

There is little one can do with a person suffering from pride. It is impossible to talk to them, much less correct them, because ultimately, they are no longer present to themselves. One just has to be patient with them, because one day their edifice will collapse. An Italian proverb goes, 'Pride goes on horseback and comes back on foot'. In the Gospels, Jesus deals with a lot of proud people, and He often exposed this vice even in people who hid it very well. Peter flaunts his full-throated faithfulness, "Even if everyone forsakes you, I will not!" (Mt. 26:33). However, he will soon be like the others, fearful in the face of death that he did not imagine could be so close. And so, the second Peter, the one who no longer lifts his chin but weeps salty tears, will be healed by Jesus and will finally be fit to bear the burden of the Church. Before he flaunted a presumption that was better not flaunted; now he is a faithful disciple whom, as a parable says, the master can put "in charge of all his possessions" (Lk. 12:44).

Salvation comes through humility, the true remedy for every act of pride. In the *Magnificat*, Mary sings of the God who by His power scatters the proud in the 'imagination (*arrogant self belief*) of their hearts'. It is useless to steal anything from God, as the proud hope to do, because after all He wants to give us everything. This is why the apostle James, writes to his community, wounded by infighting originating in pride, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (Jas. 4:6).

So, dear brothers and sisters, let us take advantage of this Lent to fight against our pride.

(Pope Francis, General Audience, Wednesday, 06<sup>th</sup> March 2024)

**Pope's Intentions March 2024: For The new Martyrs**

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

**LET US PRAY:**

**FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:** Catherine Lloyd, Maria Ma Thamby, Conny Morrissey, Caroline Bridge, Sofia Jones, Brian Manning, Peggy Doust, Thessel (Tessa) Carter, David Hardcastle, Cynthia Lobendhan, Alex Fahey, Val Cocksedge, Tamara Coelho, Mary Conlan, Terry Keane, Yvonne Whitecross, Rose Nott, Stuart Lee, Joyce Fahey, Christopher Browne, Bob Davies, Kieran O'Gorman, John Treacey, Grazia Lassogna, Dermot Keane, Owen Keane, Sylvia Nahrwold, Peter Chan, Fr. Paddy, Ralph Eden, Maggie Jones, Michelle Bigley.



**HOLY SOULS: Those whose anniversaries occur this week** Jessie Arthur, Dave Davies, Thomas Testa, Auguste Bellot, Margherita Grosse, David Nott, Elsie Flavin, Barry Searle, William McGannan, Norah Turner, Darren Johnston, Heather Fonseca, Jim McCay, Matilda Campbell, Caroline Wales, Horace Skipper, Rita Shakespeare, Mary Hildreth, Betty Reeves, John M'Culloch, Deirdre Bhatti, Mary Burke, Anthony Orna, Edward Ockendon, Meg Brewerton, Sheila Clarkson, Bernadette Duncan, Frank Fadden, Mary Jennings, Lilian Lobendahn, Alberta Davies, Mary Anne Callaghan, Klaudia Yeltsin, John Devereux, Helen Monypenny, Timothy Spillane, Joseph Salvin, John Vincent, Robert Krarup, Fr. Edmund Daly

| MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS              |        |  |
|--|--------|--|
| FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT                  |        |  |
| SATURDAY 9th March                     | 6pm    | Pro Populo   |
| SUNDAY 10th March                      | 9am    | Pat Carson R.I.P. (Carson Family)  |
|  | 11am   | A. Alpin R.I.P. (C. Alpin)   |
| MONDAY 11th March                      | 7pm    | Salwa Haddad R.I.P. (Haddad Family)  |
| TUESDAY 12th March                     | 9:15am | Benedicta & Piedade Fernandes (Seby, Hilda & family)                               |
| WEDNESDAY 13th March                   | 7pm    | Michael Curley & Michael McHale R.I.P. Birthday Remembrance (Helen Philip- Watson) |
| THURSDAY 14th March                    | 9:15am | Edie & Michael McHale R.I.P – Wedding Anniversary (Maureen & Jock Anderson)        |
|  | 9:45am | Way of the Cross   |
| FRIDAY 15th March                      | 7pm    | Bartholomew R.I.P. (Mrs. Ramos & family)   |
|  | 7.30pm | Way of the Cross   |
| SATURDAY 16th March                    | 9:15am | God's Grace and Wisdom (Honorine Boua)   |
| FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT                   |        |  |
| SATURDAY 16th March                    | 6pm    | Pamela Brown R.I.P. (Heather Walton & Family & Mal & Linda Boyle)                  |
| SUNDAY 17th March                      | 9am    | Mary & Matthew Ojo R.I.P. (Ojo Family)   |
|  | 11am   | Pro Populo   |
| MONDAY 18th March                      | 7pm    | Benjamin & Espicosa Nunes R.I.P. (C. Ramos & family)                               |
| ST. JOSEPH                             |        |  |
| TUESDAY 19th March                     | 9:15am | Jose Menezes R.I.P. - Birthday Remembrance   |
| WEDNESDAY 20th March                   | 7pm    | Joseph Dominic Philip R.I.P. (Helen & Jodie)                                       |
| THURSDAY 21st March                    | 9:15am | Sean Coffey R.I.P. (Mary McNulty & Family)   |
|  | 9:45am | Way of the Cross   |
| FRIDAY 22nd March                      | 7pm    | Mary Nunes R.I.P.— First Anniversary (C. Ramos & family)                           |
|  | 7.30pm | Way of the Cross   |
| SATURDAY 23rd March                    | 9:15am | Emma Polet R.I.P. (Helen Shewan)   |
| PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD |        |  |
| SATURDAY 23rd March                    | 6pm    | Pro Populo   |
| SUNDAY 24th March                      | 9am    | Carmen Manché R.I.P. (Angela & Richard Valle)                                      |
|  | 11am   | Louis & Lora Ebejer R.I.P. (Ojo Family)  |



### Second Collection: 17th March— Collection for Poor Parishes

Hello from the **St Dominic's Line Dancing Team**. We have some spaces just become available for anyone who is interested to join. The Line dancing classes take place in the Narthex every Thursdays from 6pm to 7pm. Please call Edwin on 07482571535. Please note it is first come first serve basis.

### LENTEN PROGRAMME

| <b>Way of the Cross</b>                              | Thursdays after 9:15am Mass   |
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|  | Fridays after 7:00pm Mass   |
| <b>Reconciliation Service</b>                        | Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm  |
| <b>Confessions (during Lent)</b>                     | Any weekday during Lent after Weekday Mass  |
|  | Sundays after 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.  |
| HOLY WEEK LITURGY                                    |   |
| <b>Palm Sunday - Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b> | Vigil at 6:00pm   |
| Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> March                       | Masses at 9:00am and 11:00am  |
| EASTER TRIDUUM                                       |   |
| <b>Maundy Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>        | 8:00pm — <b>The Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>   |
| <b>Good Friday , 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>           | 3:00pm – <b>Commemoration of the Passion of Our Lord</b> followed by <b>Adoration and Vigil</b> |
|  | 7:00pm – <b>The Seven Last Words of Jesus</b>   |
| <b>Holy Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>          | 10:00am – <b>Way of the Cross</b>   |
|  | 9:00pm – <b>Easter Vigil</b>  |
| <b>Easter Sunday , 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>         | Masses at 9:00am and 11:00am.   |