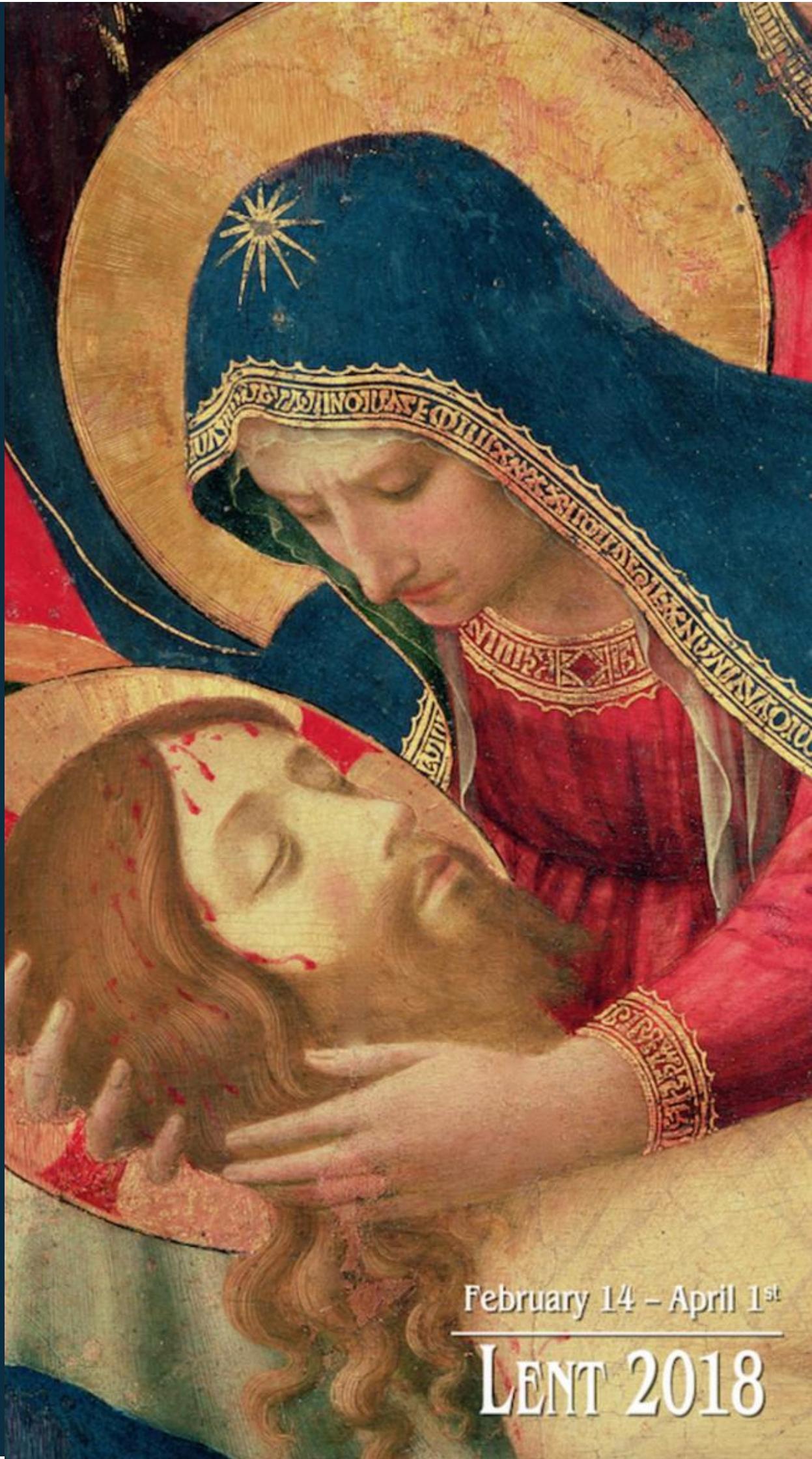


PARISH OF THE HOLY REDEEMER
HUDDERSFIELD



February 14 – April 1st

LENT 2018

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Various times on Wednesday 14 February

Mass and the Distribution of Ashes will be at:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.30am | Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Family and St. Patrick's Churches |
| 10.45am | St. Patrick's School |
| 12.15pm | St. Patrick's Church |
| 7pm | St. Patrick's Church |

Throughout Lent, there will be the usual weekday and Sunday Masses in the parish.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Various times throughout Lent

Throughout Lent, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **before all weekday morning Masses**, as well as at St. Patrick's Church on **Fridays 10am- 12.30pm** and **Saturdays 10.45am-12noon**, unless otherwise stated in the Parish Newsletter.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Fridays & Saturdays throughout Lent (starting 16 February)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on **Fridays** at:

6.30pm-6.45pm Holy Family Church

and on **Saturdays** at:

10.45am-11.45am St. Patrick's Church

5pm-5.45pm St. Patrick's Church

5.15pm-5.45pm Our Lady of Lourdes Church

LENTEN DAY OF RECONCILIATION

From 9am until 5.45pm on Saturday 17 March

In addition to the times above, there will also be the traditional **Lenten Day of Reconciliation** at St. Patrick's Church.

Throughout the day, priests will be available to hear your Confession at any point during the day (except during the time of the lunchtime Mass, **12noon-12.30pm.**)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Various times on Lent Fridays (starting Friday 16 February)

Stations is a way of meditating upon the suffering and death of Christ. It will be available at the following times and places:

10am Our Lady of Lourdes Church

6.45pm Holy Family Church

7pm St. Patrick's Church (**except 16 March, due to 40 Hours**)

VESPERS & BENEDICTION WITH LENTEN REFLECTION

3.30pm on Lent Sundays (starting on Sunday 18 February)

Vespers is the Evening Prayer service of the Catholic Church. It includes a hymn, psalms and prayers, all contained in a booklet. In addition, there will be a Lenten reflection as well.

Vespers will conclude with Benediction; the whole service takes approximately thirty minutes, and will take place in St. Patrick's Church on the Sunday afternoons of Lent, from the **first Sunday of Lent** and up to and including **Easter Sunday (1 April.)**

FORTY HOURS

From 2pm on Friday 16 March until 7.30am on Sunday 18 March.

Forty Hours' Devotion is a time of grace and a period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and continuous silent prayer before the Lord and will be held in St. Patrick's Church. Please sign up to the rota, which is available now (at least two people need to be present for each hour.) The church will not be open to 'passers by' during darkness.

'WALK WITH ME' PRAYER BOOKLETS FOR ADULTS

Available from the weekend of 10-11 February

Walk with Me is a **FREE** booklet of daily meditations, which encourages prayer and reflection. They are written in an easy and accessible style. The booklet will be available at the back of each of the churches while stocks last. Please take a copy and use it throughout the Lenten period.

'MY DAY BY DAY' PRAYER BOOKLETS FOR JUNIORS & INFANTS

Available from the weekend of 10-11 February

Once again there will be the Junior and Infant versions of the Lenten booklet **My Day by Day**; these are also **FREE** and available at the back of church while stocks last!

'WALK WITH ME' CHILDREN'S LENTEN CALENDARS

Available from the weekend of 10-11 February

Children's Lenten calendars are also available. These A4 sheets will help infant and junior school children follow Christ through Lent until his resurrection at Easter. Once again these items are **FREE** from the back of church, and available while stocks last!

FASTING

Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday

These are days of **penance, fasting and abstinence**. This can mean doing without a meal, eating less or more simply. During the whole of Lent this can mean giving up certain treats such as sweets, crisps, alcohol, television etc. This reminds us of our Lord's fasting in the desert and our hunger for God.

CAFOD: LENTEN FAST DAY

Fast Day: Friday 23 February & Collection: weekend of 24-25 February

The traditional **CAFOD Lenten Fast Day** is on **Friday 10 March** and will be followed a retiring collection over the weekend of **11-12 March** for you to donate to CAFOD.

There will be envelopes available, for those who wish to Gift Aid their donation, from the weekend of **24-25 February**. Those donating should be aware that the government is offering to fully match Gift Aid donations made this Lent, so every pound will be doubled.

CAFOD: GOURMET SOUP KITCHEN

Saturday 10 March

In addition to the **Lenten Fast Day** collection, there will also be a fundraising **Parish Gourmet Soup Kitchen**, which will be in the St. Martin de Porres Parish Centre at 30 New North Road on **Saturday 10 March** from **12.30pm**. **All** are welcome.

LENTEN DAYS FOR MINISTERS

Day for Readers: Saturday 3 March

Day for Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Saturday 17 March

These **Lenten Days of Reflection and Training** provide an opportunity for those who undertake these very special ministries of the Church, to reflect on the responsibilities of their ministry, the message of Lent, and the needs of the parish.

Both of these events will be held in which will be in the St. Martin de Porres Parish Centre at 30 New North Road and will run from **10.30am-1.30pm**, with an opportunity to attend Mass together at **12noon**, followed by a buffet lunch.

PRAYER

Throughout Lent

We are all asked to set aside time each day in prayer, this is even more important during Lent. So please remember to make room in your daily schedule for the Lord.

ALMSGIVING: AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Throughout Lent

Almsgiving is one of the three pillars of Lent, a commitment to help practically our fellow Christians.

This year we will be sponsoring the work of **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** - an organisation that works in more than 140 countries, helping Christians who are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. Thanks to support from parishioners like you, they are able to support more than 5,000 projects every year, helping the Church's mission. From training seminarians for the priesthood to providing transport to help priests and sisters reach the remotest communities, or building much-needed chapels.

However, our parish's focus for 2018 will be to support the **Dalit Christians in India** and specifically ACN's work to rebuild Dalit churches, razed to the ground by extremists.

So we are asking you, at the beginning of Lent, to put aside in your homes an **Almsgiving Bowl**, and in it collect your Lenten offerings over the weeks of Lent and then bring the collected contents of the bowl on **Palm Sunday weekend (24-25 March.)**

Find out more about **Aid to the Church in Need** on their website: www.acnuk.org

POPE FRANCIS' 2018 LENTEN MESSAGE

God in his providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a 'sacramental sign of our conversion.' Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth.

What are we to do with our Lent this year?

By devoting more time to **prayer**, we enable our hearts to root out our forms of self-deception, and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as something from which they themselves would benefit. This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God himself. When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of his children. If through me God helps someone today, will he not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.

Finally, **fasting** disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up; it makes us more attentive to God and our neighbour. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

With affection and the promise of my prayers for all of you, I send you my blessing. Please do not forget to pray for me.



Franciscus