

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

www.sfachurch.org.uk

01564 782498

Second Sunday of Lent (C)

17th March 2019

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Intentions of the Fildes' Family

Second Collection for CAFOD

Monday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Tuesday [St Joseph, Husband of the BVM, Patron of the Universal Church]

9.00 am Marjorie Parsons

Wednesday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Thursday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Welfare of Peter McCarthy

Friday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am

7.00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

Please pray for the sick in our parish and for those who have died: **Marie Onion; Sr Coletta; Mary Florence Higgins; Timothy Francis O'Sullivan** (anniversaries)

Last Week's Collection: £3377.40. Thank you.

Bible Study on Tuesday at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of flowers to decorate the church at Easter, please put your contribution on the plate at the back of church.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place between 25th and 31st May. Information

leaflets and booking form are available in the church porch or can be downloaded from the diocesan website, www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk.

If you would like to volunteer, especially if you are medically qualified, or if you know someone who is sick and would benefit from the pilgrimage, please contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office at Cathedral House.

Since, in the biblical account in Genesis, man was created on the sixth day, his first full day would have been the Sabbath. Curious, isn't it, that God called man to rest even before he began to work? Personally, I think God was trying to teach us an important lesson from the very beginning about faith.

The danger of unbelief is subtle. We often prefer to labour as slaves rather than work as sons trusting in our Father's grace. We are tempted to reduce the Father's law to a servile code. Jesus thus reminds us, 'The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath' (Mark2.:27).

This sheds a whole new light on Creation. God's intention is so pure. Everything he does is for our good, our joy. God could have made everything in an instant, effortlessly. He did not need six days to create, nor one to recuperate. Truly, God did not need to make anything at all. When he decided to bring the human race into existence, it was not due to boredom or loneliness. The Father, the Son, and the Spirit have shared the most intimate family life and love from all eternity. He did not need more fellowship, and God did not lack any glory.

God created and redeemed us to share in the grace and glory of divine sonship. The Lord worked for six days and then rested on the seventh for our sake, not his, as a healthy pattern for us to imitate, one that fits our nature perfectly. After all, the Father should know.

From Scott Hahn, *The Father Who Keeps His Promises*
