

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

www.sfachurch.org.uk

01564 782498

Third Sunday in Lent (B)

7th March 2021

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday **No Saturday evening Mass at present**
Sunday 9.30 am People of the Parish

Monday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Shahida Asghar

Tuesday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Betty Wattrus

Wednesday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Intentions of Kevin McCarthy

Thursday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Helen Murray

Friday [Lenten Feria]

9.00 am Intentions of the Kuzminski Family

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 those who have died: **Kathleen Caffery; Sr Gertrude; Philomena Mary Dalmaine; Canon Raymond Walsh (former parish priest)** (anniversaries)

With regard to Holy Week, we must bear in mind the continuing requirement to have liturgies that are short, so that the faithful are in church together for the shortest time possible. Accordingly, on Palm Sunday, there will not be an outdoor procession. Palms will be distributed individually as you enter the church and will be blessed in a simple rite. The shorter version of the Passion Gospel will be read.

On Maundy Thursday, there will be Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper but no Altar of Repose.

On Good Friday, the afternoon celebration of the Lord's Passion will not include individual Veneration of the Cross, and the evening Stations of the Cross will not end with the veneration of the Relic of the True Cross.

There will not be an Easter Vigil. Instead, there will be two Masses on Easter Sunday, at 9.30 and 11.00 am. There will be the Renewal of Baptismal Promises at these Masses, but individual candles will not be distributed.

All the above is provisional and may be modified according to the circumstances prevailing at the time.

After Easter, we will look at the possibility of resuming the Saturday evening Mass, but only if the numbers who attend the Sunday morning Mass look set to reach or exceed our present capacity of 40; at present, they are averaging 25.

We were made 'in the likeness of God.' But in the course of time that image has become obscured, like a face on a very old portrait, dimmed with dust and dirt.

When a portrait is spoiled, the only way to renew it is for the subject to come back to the studio and sit for the artist all over again. That is why Christ came – to make it possible for the divine image in man to be re-created. We are made in God's likeness; we are remade in the likeness of his Son.

To bring about this re-creation, Christ still comes to men and lives among them. In a special way he comes to us in Church, his 'body' to show us what the 'image of God' is really like. What a responsibility the Church has, to be Christ's body, showing him to those who are unable or unwilling to see him in providence or in creation. Through the Word of God lived out in the Body of Christ they can come to the Father, and themselves be made again 'in the likeness of God.'

St Athanasius (296-772 A.D.)