## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention in March 2021: Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God .

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**Bishop Patrick's Lenten Talks -** You are invited to join Bishop Patrick and people from across the diocese this Lent in reflecting on our relationship with God. To be a disciple of Jesus means to know and love him, but to also know we are known and loved by him too. Bishop Patrick will give two talks on Zoom exploring God's Love for us and how we can respond to it.

1. Knowing the Heart of God (clearing false images of God that we may carry around with us) - Thursday 11th March, at 7pm

2) Knowing the Love of God (understanding our identity as God's sons and daughters) - Thursday 25th March, at 7pm.

Each talk will include input from Bishop Patrick, a time for questions and answers, and small group discussion. You can register for one or both talks on the diocesan website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

**Listening with Love** is a resource inviting people to reflect on the impact of abuse on individuals and the Church. Although we're releasing this material for Lent 2021, it can be used at any time. https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/listening-with-love/session-one-listening-with-love/

**Pope Francis in Iraq:** Pope Francis makes his historic first visit to Iraq from 5 - 8 March 2021. It's the first visit of any Pope to the country. The theme of the visit focuses on unity and mutual respect. It is inspired by the Scripture passage from Matthew 23: 8 "You are all brothers." Follow the Visit ,You can follow the visit by using the links on the Vatican webpage.

**Lent Encounter:** You can join the Bible Society's Lent Encounter course for 40 days by clicking here. https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-lent-encounter/

Ignatian Scriptural Stations of the Cross: To pray at home, as a Lenten spiritual exercise. It's a little different from what you might be used to! The Stations in this version, following an original suggestion of St. John Paul II, don't exactly match the 14 stations in your church building. They offer also a way of contemplating the Gospel scenes of each Station, or moment, of Jesus's journey to the Cross. https://www.pathwaystogod.org/scriptural-stations-cross Dementia Prayer Week – 12th -19th March: Advance notice of the national Dementia Prayer Week from 12th to 19th March. Frances Molloy of the Pastoral Care Project has asked that this information be published in all the dioceses of England and Wales. For more information and resources to mark Dementia Prayer Week please visit https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week.

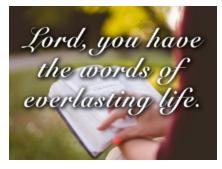


Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A business man travelled to India to purchase exotic carpets and furniture for his store back in England. He went to bazaars and markets in some of India's most out-of-theway villages. One day, he passed through a market where people were selling birds. He noticed one man who had about five pigeons all tied by their necks to a pole in the ground. All those pigeons would do was walk in a circle with their heads down all day around that stick. The business man felt so sad for those poor birds that he decided he would buy them from the merchant and set them free in the town square.

The man was excited to see what the birds would do once he freed them from the cage. He imagined they would stretch out their wings and fly away as fast as they

could. However, when he opened the cage, they stumbled out and went back to walking in circles again. The man couldn't believe his eyes. He tried pushing them to see if they would fly away. He tried picking them up and throwing them into the air. But all they wanted to do was go back to walking in circles like they had done in the market. It turns out that they had been tied to that pole for so long that they knew nothing else. Even when they were free to fly away, they didn't know how.



So, the business man learned that it is one thing to free someone and it is another thing to teach him how to be free. Like those pigeons in India, we can fall back into old habits of sin. But we can always return to the path of freedom. God created us to be free. We find freedom by putting Him at the center of our lives and following His commandments.

God Bless Fr. Wilfred Pereppadan SCJ

7th March 2021 - 14th March 2021	Holy Mass & Services Intention of Mass	Church	Other Events
Saturday 6th March Lenten Feria 3rd Sunday of Lent Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25	6.00 pm Mass: Annita Carnassale Cuono RIP (Live-streamed)	СС	
Sunday 7th March 3rd Sunday of Lent Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25	10.00 am Mass: People of the Parish 10.00 am Mass: Jennings - Thanks- giving (One Mass Live-streamed)	CC OLSP	
Monday 8th March Saint John of God, religious	6.30 pm Adoration 7.00 pm Mass: Private Intention MCJC (Streamed)	CC CC	
Tuesday 9th March Saint Frances of Rome, religious	9.00 am Mass: Brian Etches RIP (Streamed)	СС	
Wednesday 10th March Lenten Feria	10.00 am Mass: Eileen McQuaid RIP (Church Open to the Faithful)	OLSP	
Thursday 11th March Lenten Feria	10.00 am Assunta De Santis - Burial at Redhill Cemetery 7.00 pm Mass: Private Intention MCMC (Live-streamed) (Church Open to the Faithful)	СС	
Friday 12th March Lenten Feria	9.00 am Mass: (Streamed)	СС	
Saturday 13th March Lenten Feria 4th Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday 2 Ch 36:14-16.19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21	9.30 am Mass & Baptism of Beau & Penelope Lynch 6.00 pm Mass: Margaret Boott RIP (Live-streamed)	OLSP CC	
Sunday 14th March 4th Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday 2 Ch 36:14-16.19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21	10.00 am Mass: People of the Parish 10.00 am Mass: Rita McMahon - Birthday (One Mass Live-streamed)	CC OLSP	

Response: You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

Please pray for: Assunta De Santis whose Funeral takes place on Thursday, 11th March at Redhill Cemetery. May she rest in peace. Amen.
Consecration to St Joseph: We continue our intercession to St Joseph for 33 days leading up to celebrate the Feast Day of St Joseph on the 19th March 2021.
St Patrick's Day cards are on sale at St Patrick's Church at £1.50 per card.

Two new Asymptomatic Testing Centres, for people not displaying Covid-19 symptoms, will open at the Portland Centre, on Muskham Street in The Meadows on Tuesday 2 March & at Clifton Community Centre, on Southchurch Drive in Clifton on Thursday 4 March. No need to book, just turn up. For further information please visit: www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/asymptomatictesting Your Financial Contribution to the Church: The Church's income has been seriously reduced by the pandemic and I would ask all Parishioners who do not yet donate by Standing Order to do so as we go into the new Financial Year. This is the safest, simplest & most efficient way for you to donate. Forms (available at the back of Church) should be completed & returned to the secretary. If you wish to continue using envelopes, please confirm this with the secretary by phone or email as soon as possible. In order to save money and in line with 'Live Simply' we are reusing unused envelopes from last year which will be distributed shortly. As we continue with the National Lockdown we are fortunate that Public Worship and Private Prayer can continue according to the Regulations already in place under Tier 3. Please refer to both Churches' website for more, detailed information. Masses will continue as will live streaming of all Masses on the parish YouTube channel but: • everyone must wear a mask (unless exempt) • hands must be sanitised on entry, exit & before Holy Communion received only in hand • seating arrangements remain socially distanced. Please subscribe to our parish channel: https://youtube.com/channel/UCC6yA1fDZnmNIW1jGybrN-Q You still need to book for the live Masses, using the Diocesan on-line Mass booking system: massbooking.uk Booking opens 7 days before each Mass. To contact the secretary, Catherine during lockdown, please email her or ring her on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9.30 am to 3.00 pm on 07984 345606. Head teacher Vacancies: 1. Good Shepherd Catholic Voluntary Academy, Woodthorpe, closing date 15th March & 2. Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, Carlton closing date 17th March 2021. Both vacancies are full-time & permanent to start August 2021. To arrange a virtual conversation about these roles, please contact Mrs Karen Richards, Executive Assistant to James McGeachie at k.richards@ololcatholicmat.co.uk . Visit vacancy page www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/ vacancy/headteacher-2/ or -3/ & return to vacancies@olocatholicmat.co.uk