



1. This weekend we celebrate the **Second Sunday of Lent**. The readings can be found on page 155 of the Parish Mass Books. **There is a retiring collection today for the CAFOD Lent Fast Day, and envelopes are available in the church porch if you'd like to Gift Aid your donation.**
2. During Lent we have a number of special events – extra Masses, Stations of the Cross, spiritual and historical talks, and extra opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration and Confession – **see the accompanying poster for more details**
3. **We especially draw your attention to the 'Evening of Mercy' on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Please see the attached flier.** This is an opportunity to experience the love of God for you, through prayer, music, Eucharistic Adoration and the opportunity for Confession. Followed by a social gathering in the church crypt.
4. **Every three years, our Diocese encourages us to hold a Planned Giving Campaign. Over the coming weeks we ask all parishioners to reflect prayerfully on their commitment to our parish. As a parish and as individuals, we have been blessed with many, varied gifts. Biblical Stewardship calls us to share our gifts of time, talent and financial blessings with our parish community and our world. These gifts come from God, so let us strive to return a sacrificial, not token, portion to Him.**
5. The East Hill Supper Club which is run every Tuesday by the Companions of Malta at St Mary's Magdalen's Catholic Church is looking for donations of food and other staples. The supper club runs an informal food bank for people who, although not homeless, are nonetheless on the edge of poverty and extreme loneliness. **We would greatly appreciate it if any Holy Ghost Parishioners felt able to donate tins of food, dried foodstuffs, shower gel, biscuits etc. to this worthy cause.** A box will be left in the narthex of our church and the team will collect the contents on their way to East Hill late Tuesday afternoon. Please get in touch with the Parish Office if you would like any further information.

6. **The 'Forty Days for Life' campaign** consists of a peaceful, prayerful public witness outside an abortion centre, where a small group of volunteers pray on the other side of the road, while one or two people offer practical help and support to mothers going in. A vigil is being held outside the MSI abortion centre in Brixton from Ash Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> February) until Palm Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup> April), every day from 8.00 am till 8.00 pm. You are invited to join this prayerful act of witness, and to support it through prayer and fasting (additional information on posters in the church porch).
7. **Families who will be applying for places in a Catholic school** – Primary, Secondary or Sixth Form – in the near future should make sure they fill in a 'Mass attendance form' every Sunday (or Saturday evening) during term time. Forms are available at the back of church and, once completed, should be left in the tray provided. These forms are used by the clergy to assist them in completing school reference forms when asked – most schools require evidence of 3 years weekly Mass attendance.
8. The following resources come highly recommended - do follow the links for more information:

#### **Celebrate**

A Catholic ministry that provides resources, online courses and in-person gatherings to help families come together and get to know and live our wonderful faith.

Starting soon (March 25th, weekly for 5 weeks at 8pm for 45 min) is an online 'parenting for faith course' for those with babies and toddlers. It is never too soon to start passing on the riches of our faith, even to our youngest family members!

[Parenting for Faith — Celebrate Trust](#)

#### **The God who Speaks**

A website with wonderful resources for Catholics who want to find out more about the Word of God in the Bible, celebrate the seasons and saints of the Catholic Church and much, much more!

[The God Who Speaks](#)

#### **Light of Truth: Live Catholic Formation for Everyone**

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph provide one-off seminars and short courses, online, for individuals and/or groups on a range of inspiring topics for example: 'The Sacrament of Confession - Biblical discovery of God's mercy' (10<sup>th</sup> March) and 'The Bible- the Word of God is a light for our lives' (14<sup>th</sup> April)- click here to check them out!

[Join now | Light of Truth](#)

9. And lastly –

## Help raise funds for Holy Ghost School in partnership with the PTA

**We are collecting good quality used clothing items for RE-USE:**

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

**(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)**

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing, ***the PTA have arranged for a collection on March 8th.*** All the bags will be weighed and the school will be paid for the total weight collected.

**The more we weigh the more we raise!**

**Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit**

***Drop off your donations from March 3rd to 7th in the Church Porch***

Use your own bags or pick up Bag 2 School bags in the church porch – once the clothes have been removed from the bags the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling. ***Great opportunity to clean out the wardrobes and raise money for Holy Ghost School.***