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Please contact Fr Philip through the relevant Parish Office;

CAFOD -LENT CHALLENGE. Calling all fit parishioners to partake in a Lenten Triathlon. We want to recruit a Team who will be able to swim, cycle and run or walk a certain distance in Lent and then record their achievements on the board in the Hall. Our Team members will need sponsorship.....so that involves everyone! Please contact Mary Dignan if you would like to partake.

LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION - LENT CONFESSIONS

Penance Services with Bp. Declan at @ 7pm - **Thursday 30 March** (*Corpus Christi, WSM*).

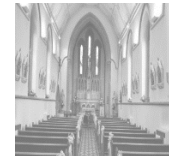
PRAYER GROUP After Friday 31st March St Peter’s Prayer Group every 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 10.30am at Apartment 1, Woolrich House, The Waterloo, Cirencester. Tel: 01285 671156. If you are coming, please let Geraldine know. Everyone is welcome. If you would like us to pray for someone or something in particular, please let us know.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES The Clifton Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes is taking place this year in late August. The group will be led by Bishop Declan with pilgrims coming from all over the Diocese to embark on this journey. Details can be found on the Diocese website under Upcoming Events or by contacting lourdes@cliftondiocese.com/0117 902 5590 for an information pack. Please be aware the deadline for deposits is 31st March 2023, with payment is full by 31st May 2023.

VOLUNTEER READERS Our usual rotas only cover Masses of Sunday on Saturday night and Sunday Morning. Special weekday events and shared events between the two parishes are not covered. Much has already been arranged for Holy Week, but we still need a Volunteer from St Peter’s for Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and a Volunteer from St Peters’ for the Great Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter. We are still seeking to cover some slots with St Michael’s folk, so be warned! Willing Victims should contact the relevant Parish Office.

LENT V – PASSIONTIDE

I AM THE RESSURECTION
 AND THE LIFE – THE RAISING OF
 LAZARUS



St Peter’s RC Church 7 St Peter’s Road Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 1RE	St Michael’s RC Church, Silver Street Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8DH
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LENT V SUNDAY Passiontide begins (YEAR A) -

Sat 25 th Mar	6.00pm Vigil Mass in St Peter’s
Sun 26 th Mar	9. 00am Mass in St Michael’s (pro populo) 11.00am Mass in St Peter’s (Gwen Saunders RIP)

WORSHIP THIS WEEK –Lent Week V

Mon 27 th Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria</u> FR PHILIP’S DAY OFF - BOTH PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
Tues 28 th Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria</u> 9.30am Mass in St Peter’s (Richard Gate RIP)
Wed 29 th Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria</u> 10.00am Way of the Cross in St Peter’s 10.00am Mass in St Michael’s
Thu 29 th Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria</u> 9.30am Mass in St Peter’s
Fri 30 th Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria/The Seven Sorrows of the B.V.M.</u> 9.30am Mass in St Peter’s 12.00noon Way of the Cross in St Michael’s
Sat 31 st Mar	<u>Late Lenten Feria/Lazarus Saturday</u> 9.30am in St Peter’s`

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION - LENT VI – (YEAR A)

Sat 1 st Apr	6.00pm Blessing of Palm & Vigil Mass in St Peter’s
Sun 2 nd Apr	10.00am Ecumenical Palm Liturgy under Tetbury Market Hall, Procession of Christ the King and Passion Mass in St Michael’s

12.00Noon Palm Liturgy in the hall, Procession of Christ the King and Passion Mass in St Peter's (pro populo)

CONFESSIONS

In St Peter's: Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm
In St Michael's: Wednesday 10.45am to 11.15am
& by Appointment; please ring to arrange. Thank you

DATES FOR THE DIARY

• **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE EASTER OCTAVE WILL BE AT NOON, IN BOTH CHURCHES, TO GIVE FR. PHILIP A CHANCE TO REST UP A BIT.**

LENTEN LUNCHESES – After Stations of the Cross, why not join us in the hall for 'homemade soup'. TACT (Tetbury Area Churches Together) have been instrumental in arranging these lunches in previous years, but unfortunately this stopped due to COVID. Last year, a few of St Michael's parishioners thought it would be a good idea to start again ["And it is!!! Fr. P]. Please join us and support the two usual causes CAFOD and Christian Aid.

LENTEN STATIONS - THE WAY OF THE CROSS Don't "give something up" (except sin!) TAKE SOMETHING UP!!!. Examples include attending Mass midweek or a weekly Stations of the Cross; Fr Philip invites parishioners of both parishes to join, together in St Michael's Church for Stations of the Cross on Friday @ 12.00noon and on Wednesday mornings in St Peter's @10.00am, as part of our preparation for Easter. Volunteers to lead the Stations always welcome.

"WHY DID JESUS DIE?" - 3 Scripture-Based Sessions for Lent The Passions are very familiar stories, but John Huntriss will put the pieces together to tell the Passion/Easter story. He will also look at the details we hear read each year, but may have never stopped to consider. A good preparation for Holy Week and Easter. John Huntriss leads three Scripture based Lenten sessions **at St Gregory the Great, Cheltenham**. John has been leading Scripture sessions around the diocese for many years and is a superb scriptural scholar and communicator. The **Wednesday 29th March at 7.00m.**

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION: There will be a talk on **Tuesday 4 April at 2.30pm**, in the lounge of Sacred Hearts' Hall, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 9AU. Dr Giles Mercer, formerly Headmaster of Stonyhurst and Prior Park and also author of William Brownlow's biography, will speak to us on: **St Alphege & the Anglo-Saxon Church** All are welcome: £3 (members & students free) Enquires to Stephanie Jamison, tel: 01242 539810.

RESTAURATION OF THE CHALICE AT MASS Bishop Declan informs us that the Bishops' Conference has decided to restore the Chalice and Communion under Both Kinds at Mass from Maundy Thursday. As with Readers, we shall need Volunteers at first, because we have no rotas. If you are willing, please contact the relevant Parish Office. No one has to receive under both kinds, if they are not comfortable with this.

MASS PROPER FOR LENT V (Year A)

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning, rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

WORSHIP FOR HOLY WEEK AND THE 'TRIDUUM'

Mon 3rd Apr_ **IN HOLY WEEK – Fig Monday**

9.30am Mass in St Peter's

12.00Noon St Michael's

Tue 4th Apr **IN HOLY WEEK Temple Tuesday**

9.30am Mass in St Peter's

12.00noonMass in St Michael's

Wed 5th Apr **IN HOLY WEEK – Spy Wednesday**

8.00am Mass in St Peter's

11.00am Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral

6.00pm Mass in St Michael's

THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

THE FIRST DAY – the Table, the Garden and the Cross

Thu 6th Apr **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord Supper in St Peter's, followed by the Gethsemane Watch at the Altar of Repose

Fri 7th Apr **GOOD FRIDAY**

10.30am Ecumenical Service to start the Walk of Witness in St Peter's

3.00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion in St Peter's

**6.00pm “Maria Desolata”, revisiting the Stations with Our Lady
in St Michael’s**

THE SECOND DAY – The Resting, Waiting and Praying

Sat 8th Apr Great and Holy Saturday – Christ’s Sabbath

The Church around the world watches and waits in prayer, whilst the Saviour descends to the Realm of the Dead to rescue the souls of those gone before

THE THIRD DAY – The Empty Tomb and the Rising Again

THE RESURRECTION OF O.L.J.C. IN THE FLESH – THE FIRST
SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

Sat 8th Apr **9.00pm The Great Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter in St
Peter’s Church.**

Sun 9th Apr **9.00am Mass of Easter Morning in St Michael’s**

11.00am Mass of Easter Morning in St Peter’s

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK Very few of us have been spared the experience of bereavement. We can therefore guess how Martha and Mary of Bethany were feeling, that swirling mixture of emotions. Martha is angry and resentful, when she comes out of the house to greet the Lord. Anger is a natural and normal part of grief. She picks the right person to shout out. We do not always! Mary, who sat at Lord’s feet when He visited before is sullen and full of self-pity, remaining in the house and not coming out until He asks to see her. The sisters’ faith in Jesus is still there, despite the whirling emotions, so they follow Him to the grave.

The scene is both graphic and aromatic.! We are told that decomposition has begun and the unpleasant smell can be detected. There can be no doubt that Lazarus is well and truly, coffin-nail dead. This makes his raising all the more remarkable! This is more than the amazing, medical resuscitations in hospitals. Lazarus is called back from the realm of the dead, where he has been for 4 days.

This wonderful, miracle story is a foretaste of Easter and most welcome, but the truth is that Lazarus will die another natural death. This is the old life restored, not the new and better life of Easter. This is not the full conquest of death and sin, which the Lord will accomplish in His Triduum Passover. That freedom and joy is hinted at in Christ’s order to the bystanders to unbind Lazarus. May God release us from our sins and negligences and help us to do our necessary dying in this world, before we leave. May we die to sin and live to righteousness.