

**MASS TIMES:** Bourton (B) Stow (S)

**3rd March: EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Sat. evening 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Vigil Mass** 6 pm (B) with hymns.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Mass with Hymns and Music. 9 am (S)

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**Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> March:** St Casimir 9 am (S)

**Tue. 5<sup>th</sup> March:** Weekday in OT. 10 am (B)

**Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> March: ASH WEDNESDAY, Day of Fast and Abstinence, Mass with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes,** 6 pm (S) with hymns.

**Thur. 7<sup>th</sup> March:** SS Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs. 10 am (B)

**Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> March:** St. John of God, Religious. 9 am (S)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6 pm (S)

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March:** No morning Mass.

Confessions after any Mass/ by arrangement.

**NEXT SAT/SUNDAY: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Sat. evening 9<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Vigil Mass 6 pm (B) with hymns

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Mass with Hymns. 9 am (S)

**MONEY MATTERS**

Last Sunday 23/24 Feb: Bourton: £87.90; Stow: £126.37 Other: £38.50.  
**Total: £252.77**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

The sick, including: Lisa Dinardo, Ted Smith, Doreen Clegg, Susan Heyford. Margaret Bruce. **Diocese:** the priests and people of St. Patrick, Corsham

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Deanery Confirmation Service in Cheltenham in early October. Our candidates will be prepared by me: let me know if you would like further info.

**ADULT BAPTISM**

I have one adult who is being prepared for Baptism at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. It is not too late to join the course. Contact me for further info.

**THE SEASON OF LENT**

The Clifton Diocesan Liturgical diary provides some useful guidelines and commentary on the season of Lent. It says: *'Ash Wednesday is the Church's solemn call to keep the season of Lent. (It) is not simply a time of personal devotion and renewal. It is a time of community renewal as we seek to renew hearts and souls together. Ashes are blessed and distributed after the homily of the Mass.....these ashes will be ritually washed away in the new waters of the Easter Vigil. The ashes (used on Ash Wednesday) are those of branches of the olive, palm or other tree, which have been blessed on Palm Sunday of the previous year.*

**FASTING AND ABSTINENCE GUIDELINES**

The Church does have clear advice, which is: *'Fasting is observed by all aged 18 and older who have not yet celebrated their 59 birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed...*



*Abstinence is observed by all aged 14 or older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Almsgiving in conjunction with fasting and abstinence, and linked with a greater intensity in prayer, opens our awareness to the needs of others for whom fasting and abstinence are a way of life by virtue of their socio-economic status.*

Note from Fr. Stephen: **Abstinence** is observed on all Fridays unless they are solemnities. **Abstinence and Fasting** = Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. **What about Sundays in Lent? Are they part of Lent?** St. Augustine 'No', Sunday is special. Other authorities say 'yes'. The mathematics of the 40 days is too complicated to go into here! You must make your own choice as to whether you observe Lent on Lent Sundays!

PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. KENELM, BACK WALLS, STOW ON THE WOLD, GL54 1DR    PRIEST IN CHARGE: Fr Stephen Lambert Email: sulharcomb@aol.com

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