

CONFESSIONS Saturday after morning mass until 11:15am and
before the vigil mass from 5:30-6:15pm

ST ANTONY'S CHURCH FOREST GATE
First Sunday of Lent A - 26th February 2023

MASS INTENTIONS 25th February–5th March 2023

Saturday 25th Feb 2023	6.30pm	(Vigil) Bridget Hehir RIP
Sunday 26th Feb 2023 First Sunday of Lent A	8.30am	Roy Barker RIP
	10.00am	Anne-Marie & Ignatius Moise RIP
	12 Noon	People of Parish
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	4.30pm	Tamil Mass
	6.30pm 7.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour Mass
Monday 27th Feria	7.45am	Chriistjose Intentions Aron & Amanda Intentions
	10.00am	Peter, Paul Carvalho RIP
Tuesday 28th Feria	7.45am	Dennis Castellás & Lily MacFarlane
	10.00am	Dulcie Castellás Nathaniel Charles RIP
	8.00pm	St Antony's Novena
Wednesday 1st March St David	7.45am	Brenda King RIP
	10.00am	Brian Morris Lina Treacy Thanksgiving
Thursday 2nd Feria	7.45am	Felomina Perez RIP Private Thanksgiving Intentions
	10.00am	John & Jennifer Maughan & Family
First Friday 3rd Feria Lent Fast Day Women's Day of Prayer	7.45am	Prudence Roderick RIP
	10.00am	Shelly Thanksgiving
	9.30pm	Sacred Heart Confraternity followed by All Night Adoration
Saturday 4th Feria	10.00am	Joseph Rajendran C C George RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 5th March 2023 Second Sunday of Lent A	8.30am	Jeanette Boyce RIP
	10.00am	Jacob Healy
	12 Noon	Winborne Charles
	3.00pm	Spanish Mass
	6.30pm	Solemn Holy Hour
	7.30pm	Mass

Our First Reading today is from the book of *Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7*: Eve and Adam eat from the tree that was forbidden to them by God.

The Responsorial Psalm is *Psalms 51*. A prayer for mercy.

The Second Reading is taken from *Romans 5:12-19*: Through the obedience of Jesus, many will be made righteous.

The Gospel Reading this Sunday is from *Matthew 4:1-11*: Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted by the devil.

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus went to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

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Formed.Org and Lenten Programs

Did you know that we have an amazing source of catholic Formation available in our parish, for free?

Two years ago we launched in our Parish an exciting new online data base called **FORMED** that we would like to make available to all our parishioners. This is basically a “*Catholic Netflix*” that will provide Bible and faith formation of all kinds. Children’s programs, films, documentaries, lives of the saints.... A wealth of information and formation for the development of you and your family’s faith.

It’s not for free we are counting on the financial support of all those who will be using this incredible tool to deepen their faith with a wealth of information and knowledge this programme gives. Pulling together the best in Catholic movies, Bible studies, documentaries, children’s programs, cartoons on the lives of the saints, audio books and much more. All based on themes to help us grow in our love and knowledge of God. **FORMED** provides a trusted and engaging entertainment alternative in support of a Catholic lifestyle. Encountering and sharing our content has never been easier. Share the platform with your fellow parishioners, send a subscription to a friend and help them engage via their mobile, tablet, or connected TV device.

Here are just some of the fascinating Lenten programs on Formed for Lent;

- **RETURN: Lent with Father John Burns (for men)**
- **RESTORE: Lent with Sister Miriam James (for women)**
- **FEARLESS: 5 Ways to Manage Fear with Chris Stefanick**
- **Lent with Brother Francis (for children)**

How do I sign up?

Parishioners simply need to go to formed.org/signup and where you see “**Find your Parish or Organisation**” type in *St Antony’s* ... and the address of our parish should appear. Click on that and it will then ask you for your name and email and you are in to browse the hundreds of programs on offer.

Brentwood Cathedral Lent Lecture, "The pain, passion and privilege of supporting Christians who are suffering persecution" to be given by Baroness Caroline Cox at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 1st March at 7.00 p.m. Free Entry. No need to book. All welcome.

We pray for the SICK of our Parish, Families & Friends– and all at home or in hospital, and all who care for our sick.

First Friday 3rd March 9.30pm Mass followed by **all night Adoration.**

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2023

This week a large group from our parish will leave to Israel to follow in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus in the land where he was born, grew up, walked, suffered, died and rose from the dead. This land, the Holy Land, is a blessed place and please pray for us as we set off, that the many graces God wants to give us may be received and bear fruit in all those who are coming on the pilgrimage. We also will be praying for each one of you every step of the way.

St Patrick’s Day

Friday 17th March live music from midday, Irish coffees and food available at St Antony’s Club, Upton Ave, E7 9PN

Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal Thank you for your generosity
£1233.50 was collected for the Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD’s Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope (available at the back of the Church) or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD’s development and emergency response work all over the world. **There will be a second collection after all Mases next weekend 4th/5th March, envelopes available at the back of the Church. Thank you.**

Office Vacancy (term-time plus 5 days) - St Peters RC Primary School, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, are seeking an experienced School Office Receptionist with Administration and Finance responsibilities. Please call the office for more information Tel. 0208 270 6524. Closing date 6th March.

Thank you for your continued support

- **online donations link:** <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/donations/saop>
- **Donations can be made parish web-site** www.stantonyforestgate.com
- Payment direct into the parish bank account using online banking
- **Catholic Church Forest Gate St Antony’s: Acc No: 11390953 /Sort Code: 40-13-22**
- **Contactless using QR Codes located around the Church**