

**The Churches of Our Lady of Victories Cinderford,
St Margaret Mary's Coleford,
St Joseph's Lydney & Sacred Heart Sedbury.**
Parish Priest Fr. Barnabas Telephone Coleford (01594) 833173
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Second Sunday of Lent Sunday 25th February 2018 (Year B-II)

This Sunday

Coleford - Sat 6pm
Cinderford - 9am
Lydney - 11am

Next Sunday

Coleford - Sat 6pm
Cinderford - 9am
Sedbury - 11am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - 9am Coleford
Wednesday - 9am Cinderford
Thursday - 9.30 Lydney
Friday - 9am Sedbury

CAFOD Lent collection will take place this week. If you wish to see how your donations help others, please visit cafod.org.uk/lent. If you are a UK tax payer, please use a Gift Aid envelope so that your donation can be doubled by the UK Government.

TEAS, COFFEES & CAKE SALE: Teas, Coffees & Cake Sale will take place in Our Lady's TODAY after Mass. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Jo William's Funeral Tuesday 27th Feb 12 noon at St. Joseph's, Lydney.

Tuesday's During Lent Exposition will take place in Coleford on Tuesday's during Lent. This will follow the Morning Mass until 12 noon - the time that Coleford Church is normally open.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Stations of the Cross will take place in Our Lady's on Wednesday at 3.00p.m. as well as each Wednesday during Lent. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Lenten Talks - for the 5 Wednesday's of Lent, not Holy Week. Deacon Paul & Fr. Barnabas will take some of the questions raised by the questionnaire. These will be in the hall in Coleford. Start 7pm with a cup of tea, talk to begin by 7.15pm and we aim to finish by 8.30pm. The second topic will be Mission, then: Prayer & Faith, End of Life and finally Sacraments. The question we couldn't answer about the difference between Jewish and Christian Books in the Old Testament see: <http://catholic-resources.org/Bible/Heb-Xn-Bibles.htm>

The **Lydney FOCUS bible study and prayer group** will meet for 4 sessions in Lent. The sessions are at St Joseph's church on Thursday afternoons at 2.30pm. They start on Thursday the 1st of March and the following 3 Thursdays. This is a very friendly ecumenical group and all are welcome.

The **Women's World Day of Prayer** is on Friday 2nd March. This year the Catholic and Anglican congregations are jointly hosting the service at 2pm at St Margaret Mary Church in Coleford. EVERYONE is welcome. After the service please join us for refreshments in the Church Hall.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in Our Lady's on Friday 2nd March at 3.00p.m. All are welcome.

Cinderford Women's World Day of Prayer Service is held at the Forest of Dean Community Church, Station Street, Friday 2nd March at 3pm. The women of Suriname have prepared the Service on the theme 'All God's Creation is very good'. Everyone is welcome and to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Sue Frodsham's Funeral Saturday 3rd March 10.30am St. Joseph's, Lydney.

There will be a **Lenten Supper** in the Church Hall after the 6pm Mass at **St Margaret Mary, Coleford on Saturday 3rd March**. EVERYONE WELCOME. There will be delicious soup and cheese and biscuits. All donations will go to CAFOD.

Parish Survey 2018 - results In previous newsletters we have published a précis of the results of the survey questionnaires completed in Jan. Lots of interesting answers were given to the three questions and we would like to share these with you. Over the next three weeks we will display for your information the tables of data that fed the analysis (one question each week) on the notice boards at the rear of the Church. You can see all the topics raised and the frequency by which they came up in each Mass centre. They are also available on the Parish web-site. We are trying to address the concerns and questions raised already. During Lent we will be conducting a series of talks covering the most important issues you raised. After Easter we hope to be setting up opportunity for discussion and study of further aspects raised by our congregations. The major topic of how the Church faces the challenges of the modern world - the topic that was considered really important judging by the number of responses - needs careful planning but it is hoped that this can be covered by a series of events later in the year.

Home Visiting Unfortunately the meeting that was arranged to explore how we set up the home visiting group was hampered by very poor weather and attendance was very low. This meant we are currently unable to put plans into practise just yet. Our thoughts and ideas for this ministry have been shaped by the responses to the recent survey questionnaire and we feel this group, once up and running, can provide a real service to our Parish community. So, we will persevere with our planning and re-convene at a later date; once Spring is here and the lighter nights make coming out in the evening easier. If you are one of those who originally volunteered to be part of this ministry or if you think you'd like to be involved, please get in touch with Steve Dunford (01594 562638) or Fr Barnabas. They would be pleased to hear from you and can give you more information on what is in the planning stages at present.

PARISH DINNER: The Parish Dinner is now booked at the Belfry Hotel Littledean, for Saturday, 19th May at 7.00 for 7.30p.m. Further details will be available soon about the Menu and cost. Please enter this date in your diary as it is a good opportunity for the majority of parishioners to meet.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church Newent is arranging a retreat from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th May at Brownhill Convent cost for the weekend approx. £85 and £14 for the day. If you would like to join us, please contact Tom on 01989750665

Liturgy Newsletter Launched. The Diocesan Liturgy Office have just launched the first in a quarterly series of Liturgy Office newsletters. The intention is to keep you abreast of what's happening on the 'liturgical front' for the coming months with resources and information, along with a little catechesis and some practical suggestions, to hopefully enhance the liturgical celebrations in our parishes. <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/liturgy-newsletter-launched/>

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.