

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

First reading

A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-inlaw priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am.' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slavedrivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you." And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

Second Reading

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.""



nings are welcomed, other times half and half! We welcome Lent as a time to make our faith fresh, but we know 7 from other Lents that it's hard to keep going, and it's for a long time! We might ask ourselves what Lent is really for.



The focus of Lent is not on what we give up but on what we are given. We focus our minds on the self-giving love of Jesus which we will celebrate in Holy Week. We allow



ourselves believe in this love. Often it's difficult to believe in the tender love of God. This conquers all else in the world; it is given in the mercy and compassion of God.

Lent pours the grace of forgiveness into our world, needed individually and as a people. We need to know that God is bigger than any of our sins, wars, violence and hatred. God wants his kingdom to come now. Lent is our time of saying 'yes' to a partnership with God in saving the world from the effects of evil and sin.

Pray a bit, read the gospel every day, do something good for another every day – this is the way to share in the saving love of God. Maybe we can ask what our Lent does for others rather than just what we are doing for Lent. It is a time of renewal, then it shows in love, forgiveness and care of others in our lives.

Donal Neary SJ



A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians The Gospel of the Lord

In Memoriam

We pray for: Pat Leigh, Killabban who died during the past week.

Anniversaries for 20 March 2022

Killeen (9am): John & Jane Doherty

Arles (10am): Paddy Brennan, The Strand

Michael Mooney, Ashfield

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am):

Friday 25th: Rita & Majella Hurley, Ballylinan

Anniversaries for 27 March 2022 Killeen (9am): Arles (10am): Tony Kennedy Ballylinan (7.30pm): Liam Davis (11.30am):

Thought for the Day

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.



A sincere word of Offering **Envelopes** thanks to all our distributors for giving up their time to help distribute the boxes.

Weekly Collections Sunday 13th March € 102.10 Arles: Offertory Envelope € 215.00 Ballylinan: Offertory € 259.35 € 510.00 Envelope Killeen: Offertory € 185.65 Envelope € 37.00

A sincere word of thanks to all those who contribute to the upkeep of our parish.

Arles NS Parents' Association

Easter Cake Sale

Arles Parents' Association are pleased to announce the return of our annual Easter Cake Sale. The Cake Sale will take place on Easter Sunday Morning, April 17th following 10am Mass in Arles Hall.

A raffle will take place on the morning also with raffle tickets for sale in the hall.

Ukraine Appeal

Throughout the weeks of Lent, Arles NS Parents' Association are organising a collection for the families in need in Ukraine. Anyone wishing to donate are welcome to drop items/donations into the school or to any member of the parents' association. Please contact the school on 0599147731 for further information.

Parish Office: (059) 862 5456

Parish Contact Details

r. Padraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

arlesparish@gmail.com

Parish Website: arlesparish.ie



Refreshments in Arles Hall

After our Mass for Ukraine next Sunday (10am) come join us for tea/coffee which will be served in the Hall.

Many thanks to Coolanowle Foodhall for suppling the refreshments





Pastoral Group will take place on Tuesday, 22nd March at 7pm in Killeen Church.

Carlow Flower Club

Carlow Flower Club are hosting a flower arranging demonstration by Diane

Gallagher on Tuesday 29th March, at 8.00pm in The Woodford Dolmen Hotel. Diane is a Teacher, Judge and Flower Arranger from Doddervale Club in Dublin so this should be a fantastic night. Entry Fee €7 and all arrangements will be raffled on the night.



Parish Collection for Ukraine

Taken up at all our weekend masses on

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th March

Your support would be much appreciated.

Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.

Amen

We continue to hold the people of Ukraine in our prayers for peace and stability in the region.



UKRAINIAN APPEAL -THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who so generously donated and gave of their time to support the recent appeal for the people of Ukraine which was held in Killeen Hall.

Guest speaker: Garda Graham Kavanagh

Killeen Community Alert **Public Meeting** Friday 25th March at 8pm in Killeen Hall

