



Saint John Henry Newman

Parish: Latchford, Grappenhall & Thelwall.

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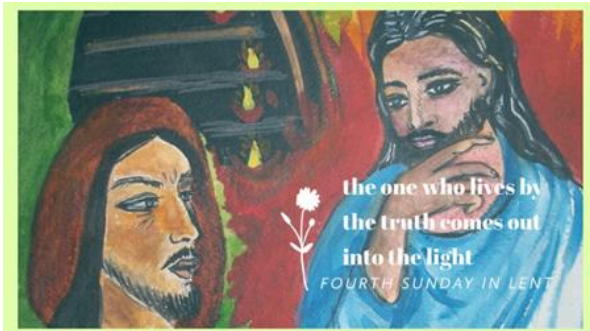
where heart speaks to heart

WEBSITE:

www.newmanparishwarrington.com

9/10 March 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Page 162)



Nicodemus was a Jewish elder who wanted to know the Master. Do Jesus' words to him, God so loved, help us to see the true face of God? He has always looked at us with love, and for the sake of love he came among us in the flesh of his Son. He

went in search of us when we were lost. In Jesus, he came to raise us up when we fell. In Jesus, he wept with us and healed our wounds. In Jesus, he blessed our life forever. The Gospel tells us that whoever believes in him will not perish. In Jesus, God spoke the definitive word about our life: you are not lost, you are loved. Loved forever. Pope Francis

Mother's Day by Lewis MacAdams

Just to say that today
the female power is revealed
by the blue sky flapping
in the laundry
on the roof across the street.
I refer, of course,
to the quiet study and the
empty bed. The head
would be ruled by the heart today,
and by the sidewalk
drifting up to me as laughs.
Like the flowers
by your house today at noon,
you open up as we talk,
and I'm by your side.



*Time together is our
most precious gift.*

Happy Mothers' Day



Our Mothering God

Alyson Rockhold

As a child, I would run to my mother with every skinned knee and broken heart. Her acceptance was total, and her presence never failed to soothe me. Now I'm grown, and an ocean separates my home from hers. Still, in moments of sadness and struggle, I

long to feel like a child in my mother's arms: completely loved and totally accepted. I rediscover this in the Lord's embrace.

God creates, nurtures and loves us like a mother loves her child. Scripture tells us that God's love surpasses a mother's love, because even if a mother could forget the child at her breast, God could never forget us (Is 49:15). I am so grateful for that truth in the moments when I feel lost and alone. God has not forgotten me. God will not abandon me. Even if I fail all the tests of a perfect Christian, the mothering God accepts me as I am.

As I rest in the divine lap, I let the maternal images of God in the Bible minister to me. They speak to me on a visceral, tangible level of the love of God and provide relatable glimpses into the mystery of divine love. One of my favourite psalms says, "I have calmed and quieted my soul like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul" (Ps 131:2). I come to God my mother for comfort, not greedily grasping for what God can give me, but for the simple joy of being near my Lord.

Perhaps this is what God meant when he revealed himself to Abram as *El-Shaddai* (Gn 17:1). The word *shad* means "breast" in Hebrew. Women nourish, satisfy and pour themselves out as they breastfeed their children. This name may hold a promise that God will care for God's children in the same sacrificial, life-giving way.

One day during a rainstorm, I saw a mother hen spread her wings wide to protect her babies. Jesus loved this maternal image of God as a mother hen. There is a moving story of Jesus lamenting that people have turned away from him. He sees the Israelites' pain and confusion and longs to gather them together as "a hen gathers chicks under her wings" (Mt 23:37).



Lent Reconciliation Service:

Monday 25 March 7 pm



Teas and Coffees will be served by Team C after the 9 am and 11 am Masses on Sunday 17 March



The new **Offertory envelopes** for the next tax year starting on 6th April are now available in Church. Please note that the number on your boxes may have changed so please make sure to pick up the box with your NAME on it.

If you no longer need a box of envelopes,

please let a member of the Welcome Teams know at any of the Masses to ensure they are safely returned to the Parish Organiser. Please do not hand over or swap boxes as each number is specifically allocated to a Parishioner.

Similarly, if you would like a box please leave your name and contact details to enable a box to be prepared for you for collection.

Gift Aid If you are a UK taxpayer then please consider Gift Aid this means that for every £1 you donate an extra 25p can be given to the Church at no extra cost to you.

If you have not already registered for Gift Aid and find that you, as a UK taxpayer, would now like to register then all you need to is complete one of the forms available in Church.

Finally, please let us know of any change of address or if you cease to pay tax.

And, Thank you to everyone who supports the parish financially. Like any family we have to keep a keen eye on our parish budget and hopefully spend your donations wisely.

*God is the true Father and Mother of Nature, and
all natures that are made to flow out of God to
work the divine will shall be restored and brought
again into God. Julian of Norwich*

9 -10 MARCH – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – PAGE 162

Sat 9 March	5.30 pm	Diane Thomson
Sunday 10 March	9.00 am	Joseph Lawler RIP B/day Remembrance And All Grieving Mothers
	11.00 am	A Miriam Jones RIP
	4.00 pm	B Richard Walter Ellis RIP (Anniversary) Lent Holy Hour - Retreat
Mon 11 March	10.00 am	Creighton Morley RIP (Tea & Toast)
Tues 12 March		No Services
Wed 13 March	10.00 am	Michael Conway RIP
Thursday 14 March	<u>12.45 pm</u>	Funeral Mass - Kathleen Brennan RIP
	6.30pm	Quiet Time
	7.00 am	John & Kath Beswick Intentions
Friday 15 March	<u>12 noon</u>	Funeral Mass – Miriam Jones RIP

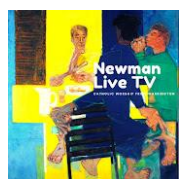
16 - 17 MARCH – FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – PAGE 169

Sat 16 March	5.30 pm	Mary O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday 17 March	9.00 am	Eileen & Joseph Byrne RIP
	11.00 am	Chris Bennett RIP
	4.00 pm	Lent Holy Hour - Retreat



KINDLY REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: those requesting our prayers including: *John & Marie Clowes, Harry Challoner, Margaret Daintith, Harold Entwistle, Mary Finn, Tony Graham, Rita Hutson, Barbara Lynskey, Rita Mahon, Kathleen Mannion, Roger Maxwell, Gerard Moulding, Christine Moores, Marcos Sala, Meryl & Tony Wernham, Tony Wright, Gordon Whittaker, & Carol Worsley.*

Joan Croughton's Funeral service takes place at Walto Lea Crematorium on Monday 18 March at 12 noon. The Funeral Mass for **Joan Johnson** will be held on Friday 22 March at 10.00 am



A reminder that some of our services are broadcast and recorded on the Newman Warrington Live YouTube site. Usually, the 11 am Sunday Mass. If you wish to minimise your appearances on screen, please bear this in mind.