

**Special dates– March 2009**  
The year dedicated to St Paul

- 1<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent (B) *St David's Day*  
6<sup>th</sup> Women's World Day of Prayer  
15<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent (B) *First Scrutiny of Adult Christian Initiation*  
17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick *Feast*  
19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph *Feast*  
25<sup>th</sup> **The Annunciation Solemnity**  
28<sup>th</sup> *Statues and holy images veiled in purple or red till Easter*

**Website [www.bexleydeanery.org.uk](http://www.bexleydeanery.org.uk)**

***to post your comments and news to the subscribers***

***What is.....***

the obligation of 'Friday Penance'?

The Church has not removed the practice of some special action for Friday to unite ourselves with the Crucifixion. Though the requirement to abstain from meat has been lifted the Church still requires us to have an intention to undertake a penitential act on Fridays. Some of the following are suggested:

Abstain from meat or other food, alcohol, smoking or other entertainment; a special effort of family prayer, or the Mass, visit the Blessed Sacrament, or praying the Stations of the Cross; undertaking a fast, perhaps giving the proceeds to the needy; help someone who is poor, needy, old or lonely. This can be a personal choice and failing to carry out a task would not be a sin, though to do penance on Friday is still an obligation.

Number 20, March 2009

“The

# ***Deanery Notices***

**For Bexley”**

***Newsletter of events in RC Deanery of Bexley***

***Archdiocese of Southwark***

During the time of Lent most Churches Together groups arrange events to reflect on the meaning of Lent and Easter. Often they follow prepared texts like the York talks, this year 'Faith, hope and love'. ([www.yorkcourses.co.uk](http://www.yorkcourses.co.uk)) Or the BBC Radio 4 talks each Wednesday at 8.45pm. It started on 13<sup>th</sup> February. Contributors for March include Bishop Tom Wright and Anne Widdecombe. ([www.bbc.co.uk/religion/programmes/lent\\_talks/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/programmes/lent_talks/))

***“Walk with Me”***

is endorsed by Archbishop Kevin as a valuable resource for the journey through Lent. It contains daily reflections and prayers for each day with scripture texts. It is useful for shared study with someone else. As we seek the Lord in the wilderness of Lent it gives us valuable reminders of our duty and the Mission we are all called to perform in the world. The booklets are in your parish at £1 each.

Women's World Day of Prayer

6<sup>th</sup> March

This year's theme is 'In Christ there are many members, yet one body', prepared by Christian women from Papua New Guinea

In Sidcup 1.45pm at Christ Church Main Rd. with Mrs Heather Williams and 8pm at Sidcup Baptist Church Main Rd. with Mrs Teresa Wilmot.

All Welcome Tea & biscuits provided

And at Crayford 8pm at The Baptist Church, Lower Road with Gill Gray from the Methodist Church.

All welcome, including men and children.

Missa Cantata monthly on Saturday

7 March at 10.30am at

Our Lady of the Rosary Blackfen

The Traditional Latin Mass with Gregorian chants followed by Benediction. Confessions from 11am

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*See on the Web*

**Women's World Day of Prayer**

[www.wwdp-natcomm.org](http://www.wwdp-natcomm.org)

**Lent and Easter Traditions / Hot Cross Buns**

[www.woodlands.junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/easter/goodfriday.html](http://www.woodlands.junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/easter/goodfriday.html)

***Parishes in Bexley Deanery***

St John Fisher Bexley 01322 524813

[stjfisher@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stjfisher@tiscali.co.uk)

[www.freewebs.com/stjohnfisherchurch](http://www.freewebs.com/stjohnfisherchurch)

St John Vianney Bexleyheath 020 83031957

[parish@stjv.org.uk](mailto:parish@stjv.org.uk) [www.stjohnvianney-bexleyheath.org](http://www.stjohnvianney-bexleyheath.org)

Our Lady of the Rosary Blackfen 020 83002697

[rosary@freeuk.com](mailto:rosary@freeuk.com) [www.rosary.freeuk.com](http://www.rosary.freeuk.com)

St Thomas More Bostal Park 020 83032189

St Mary of the Crays Old Road Crayford 01322 523492

[www.stmarycrays.org.uk](http://www.stmarycrays.org.uk)

Our Lady of the Angels Bexley Road Erith 01322 402060

Fax 01322 402061 [ola@btinternet.com](mailto:ola@btinternet.com)

[www.our-lady-of-angels.org.uk](http://www.our-lady-of-angels.org.uk)

St Lawrence of Canterbury Sidcup 020 83002480

Fax 020 8308 9880 [stlawrence@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stlawrence@hotmail.co.uk)

[www.rc.net/uk/southwark/stlawrence](http://www.rc.net/uk/southwark/stlawrence)

St Stephen's Deepdene Road Welling 020 83034422

[www.saintstephens.co.uk](http://www.saintstephens.co.uk)