

PARISH OF POBAL

First Sunday of Lent:

6th March 2022.

Website: pobalparish.com and Webcam - www.churchservices.tv/Tempo.

Priest: Fr. John Halton, Parochial House, Tempo. Tel. 895 41344.

Sunday Masses: **Tempo: 11.00am,** **Cradien 9.30am.**

Weekday Masses: Tempo: Fri 7.00pm.

Eucharistic Ministers: Tempo: Sunday 13th March – Eugene McGrade & Ann Marie Kelly

Cradien: Sunday 13th March – Patricia McKeever.

Anniversaries: Tempo: Friday 11/03 (7.00pm) John Dunne, Carn and deceased family members.

Stations of the Cross: each Monday evening during Lent at 7.00pm in the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Rosary: will be recited on Thursday night 10th March at 7.00pm in Church of the Immaculate Conception. We invite parishioners to come along.

LENT: Lent is a very special time for us. It is a time when Jesus asks us to come closer to him. He asks us to renew our lives and to grow in our relationship with him. The word relationship is important when talking about our lives. We have a relationship with Jesus begun in Baptism, a relationship which must grow and develop as we follow Jesus each day. In our relationship with Jesus we listen to him as he tells us of his love for us, and he listens to us in prayer. In our relationship with Jesus he works within us through the Holy Spirit and we work for him during our daily life. In this way we grow and develop in our relationship with him. During Lent we open our hearts and minds to him so can we can hear him loudly and clearly, and we can follow him more mindful of his love for us. We follow his example through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Through our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we become more conscious of his talking to us, and we become more conscious of out talking to him. For prayer fasting and almsgiving are three ways of listening, and three ways of praying. In prayer we talk, in fasting we become more aware of our weakness and in almsgiving we become more conscious of the poor. Therefore we become more conscious of Jesus. All of us have our own way of prayer, but all of us should spend some time in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament each week. All of us have our own way of fasting, for our fasting is a means of overcoming weakness and sin in our lives.

We should choose a way of fasting which helps us overcome sin in our lives for when we fast Jesus is very close to us, and he can and does work in our lives changing us and making us better people. There is a difference between slimming and fasting so we should fast rather than use fasting to become more pleasing on the outside. Fasting is about inner change not about outer change. The change inside is a change of heart or a change that expresses itself outside, It is the change which Jesus calls repentance in the scriptures. This kind of change of heart can be done in many ways. It may mean giving up something or beginning something. The reading of the Gospel for the following Sundays Mass is always a good way of beginning something. Jesus fasted for forty days in the desert so our fasting should be desert experience of some kind. In other words fasting must hurt in some way. The third way of praying during Lent is the giving of alms. In this way we are listening to Jesus who says to us. I was hungry and you gave me to drink. I was thirsty and you gave me to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me etc. "Have mercy on me God in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash more and more from my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin."

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2022: This Lent, Trócaire's Appeal highlights the impact that climate change and Covid-19 has on people's lives in Zimbabwe and how your love and generosity can give families a chance to build a better tomorrow. Make sure to take a Trocaire Box from the Church.

Sunday Collections: 27/2/2022 - £1195.00;

Parish Envelopes: It is nearing the time of year again to update our records for the new Parish Envelope year beginning in April 2022. To enable us to update our records we ask you to let us know of any changes in your household – if you are new to the parish, or recently gained employment or have not received a box of envelopes in the past and would like to contribute to the upkeep of your Parish, please let us know.

Whilst some Covid 19 restrictions have been lifted, **we ask that you please continue to wear a face covering in the Church buildings. Thank you for your continued co-operation.**