



The Holy Spirit *brings us the fullness of grace*. What does this term mean? We are all familiar with the prayer, *Hail Mary full of grace*. In this prayer we celebrate the fact that Mary is fully open, willing and prepared to respond to the call of God. Grace is that special gift that God gives to enable us to live as he wants us to live, and to carry out the work he calls us to do. Grace is the gift that makes us holy and inspires us to live lives *no longer for ourselves but for Him*.

As we reflect on the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our Church during this season of Lent, let us pray that we may be inspired, encouraged and given the strength to *live lives no longer for ourselves but for Him*.

I encourage everyone who has not yet taken the booklet, ***Lord, Giver of Life***, to please take one today [they are given out free].

*Fr Matt Blake*

#### ***Lenten Group Reflections***

Our **Young Adults Monday Group**, for the next six weeks will follow the Lenten programme, ***Lord, Giver of Life***, starting tomorrow evening with the theme “*The Holy Spirit in the Life of Christ*”. All young adults who come to our Church are welcome to join them – 7.30pm in the Parish Centre each Monday, entrance via Pitt Street.

#### ***RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults***

We ask you to please continue to pray for our group of young people who are preparing to receive the Sacraments this Easter. They are: Riandra, Marian, Samorn, Sherez, Jeffrey, Gergely, Elena and Thomas.

#### ***Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes***

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor will celebrate Mass in *Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes and her Patronage of the Sick* at 3.00pm in the Cathedral on Saturday 14 March. All parishioners with a devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes are invited to come together in her honour on this day.

#### ***Fr Raphael O'Connell OCD***

There will be a special Mass in our Church on Sunday 22 March at 11am for the repose of the soul of **Fr Raphael** who died on Sunday 15 February. As many of you will remember, Fr Raphael was Prior and Parish Priest here from 1996 to 1999, and you are all invited to come to the Mass to remember him in prayer.

#### ***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament All Night Vigil***

The Adoratrice Sisters at 38/39 Kensington Square, invites you to an *All Night Vigil* on Tuesday next 3 March, in honour of the **Bicentenary of their Foundress, St Maria Micaela**. The Vigil will start at 6.00pm and end with Holy Eucharist at 8.30am. You are invited to come and spend some quiet time in prayer at whatever time is convenient to you. If anyone would like to request prayers or further information, please contact: 020-7937-5237.

#### ***Young Adults in the West***

The next *Young Adults in the West* gathering with Bishop Alan Hopes will take place in our Church on Sunday 29 March starting with Mass by Bishop Alan at 6.00pm. The focus of the evening, centred on the Gospel, is *Believe & Live*. Mass will be followed by a time of food, reflection and discussion. All young adults (17-35) who come to our Church are invited. It is also hoped as many of our parishioners as possible will attend the 6.00pm Mass that evening, celebrated by Bishop Alan.

#### ***Notices***

- \* We will have **The Stations of the Cross** after the 6.00pm Mass each Friday during Lent. You are all invited to take part.
- \* Our *Parish Advisory Group* meeting will take place this evening at 7.00pm in the Priory.
- \* The *Brown Scapular Devotions* in Honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will take place on Saturday next 7 March after the 6.00pm Mass. All are invited to stay on for the special prayers.
- \* Friday next 6 March is *Women's World Day of Prayer*.

#### ***Lenten Fast Day for CAFOD***

Friday next is **Lenten Fast Day**, and on Sunday next 8 March, there will be a collection after all Masses when your fast day offerings for **CAFOD** will be taken up. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.