Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face – compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger, and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a 'demon' in this way?

A Thought

We journey into the desert as we begin Lent 2020, and we are encouraged to embrace the richness of this time and the possibilities that lie within. The desert can be unappealing, we may feel a resistance to the challenge, but the potential is enormous. Going inward, praying, fasting, taking on, giving – all of these practices offer us opportunities for genuine spiritual growth. It is through this journey that we can deepen our relationship with the One who urges us on. We should not be afraid of the desert for, as the Gospel today tells us, it is the Spirit who leads us on this path.

Let us bring to mind this season the fact that our global community stands at a crossroads, confronted with a frightening environmental crisis, another type of wilderness. We watched in horror this past year as wildfires destroyed vast ecosystems in the Amazon, Indonesia and Australia, killing an estimated one billion animals, destroying homes and taking lives.

Lent is an opportunity to examine our lifestyles and to think about our relationship with God's creation. As Catholic faith communities, let us embrace the challenge to care for our common home in these weeks, making small changes. We can all do something: eliminate single-use plastics, fast from our cars, plant trees, bring a small group together to read Laudato Si, pray for our world leaders. Let this be a time of discerning our call to care more for this planet, our home.

Truly much can be done!' *(LAUDATO SI 180*

Funeral

There will be a Requiem Mass for **Kathleen Howard RIP** on Tuesday 3rd March at 11.00am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church.

May She Rest in Peace

Offertory Collection

£506.97

CAFOD

£23.00

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity

Exposition and Holy Hour takes place at St Elizabeth's Church on Friday evenings from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.
All are welcome.

CAFOD – Family Fast Day

This Lent, CAFOD's Family Fast Day (Friday 6th March) is an opportunity to reach out to some of the poorest, most marginalised of our sisters and brother. Family Fast Day envelopes are available at the back of church and there will be a second collection next weekend (7th & 8th March)

Synod 2020

The fourth and final theme is
'**Building Community, nurturing, belonging.**'

In this theme we reflect on what it means to be a Church of welcome and discipleship.

Reflection forms and leaflets are available at the Synod Prayer Station and in the George Inch Hall. Please take time to explore the information at the Synod Prayer Station.

You can submit Proposals on this fourth Theme by handing them to our Synod members at Church, placing them in the Synod box at the display table, at the Parish meeting to be held on Sunday 8th March from 12.15pm or via the Synod website: www.synod2020.co.uk

For details of our Parish proposals, please visit the Synod display in the George Inch Hall

Thank you for the proposals we have received so far. We hope to introduce some of the Parish related proposals shortly.

God reveals deep and hidden things

Discovering the prophet Daniel
Scripture mornings at Irenaeus, 32 Great Georges Road on Thursday 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March 10.30am to 12 noon.
All are welcome

The Sixth Synod Talk:

THE CHURCH AS FRAGMENTED MIRROR
Speaker: David McLoughlin
To be held at LACE Conference Centre on Monday 9th March at 7.30pm. Tea and Coffee from 7pm.

More details can be found at the back of Church

In Another Place presents Liverpool Passion

A live performance of Jesus' last days on Friday 10th April on William Brown Street Liverpool at 12.15pm and 3.00pm.

More details on the poster at the back of church

Alpha	St Robert Bellarmine Church 52 Orrell Road Bootle L20 6DZ **Parish Priest: Fr Barry McAllister** Tel 0151 922 1352 or 0151 922 3820 Fax 0151 933 7941 Registered Charity No 232709 **29th February 2020 – 8th March 2020**	Omega

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

THE FIRST MASS OF THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Albert, Margaret and Gerard Price (Remembrance)**	
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Joe McQueen (Remembrance)**	
Monday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Tuesday	**9.00 am**	**Flo Wilson (Remembrance)**	
Wednesday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	St Casimir
Thursday	9.00 am	Mass at St Elizabeth's	
Friday	**9.00 am**	**Babies Leon and Miles (Special Intention)**	

THE FIRST MASS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Parishioners Intentions**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Kenneth Mutch (Anniversary Remembrance)**

Confessions – St Elizabeth's – Saturdays -11.30 – 12 noon and on request

Please pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Please remember the sick and those who care for them.

Lately Dead: Kathleen Howard, Tommy Watson

Anniversaries: Kenneth Mutch

Sick; James Roche, Daniel Harden, Robbie Pennington, Bill Sainsbury, Amanda Fessey, Christopher Brown, Joyce Sainsbury, Jonathan Noble, James Johnson, Philip Shepherd Eleanor McCaffrey, Sheila Thompson, Jacqueline Johnstone, Peter West, Julie Machell, Katie Rushton, Sandra Dryhurst, Thomas Smith, Dorothy Corris, Eddie Swarbrick, Ann Mardell, Colin Faulke, Richard Potts, Poppy Jessop, Mary (Traynor) Hemmings, Ann & Joe Johnson, Chris Parkes, Gerard Burke, Cayle Royce, David Morgan, Tom Niblock, Jose Howard, Michael Hanton, Hilda Prince, Roisin Dooley, Baby Lucy Hand, Ethan Hand, Ann Bretherton, Thomas Bainbridge, Mary Wild, Karl McGee, Arthur Snellgrove, Seanie Jones, Ann Bailey, Susan Neary, Jimmy Doyle, Mary Simpson, Doug Faulke, John Rimmer, Phil Jones, Mykee Roche.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

6.30pm – J Rehm, S Jolley, M Murphy
Reader – J Jones

11am – D Faulke, P Faulke, M Wildman
Reader – T Wainwright