

The Saint Raphael Link

Some Periodic Ramblings of the Prior

April 2014 (Issue 11)

Email: revgeoffreyrobinson@ntlworld.com / Tele: 07817 82562

Dear Members

The season of Lent should be a time when we prepare for Easter. It is a time when Jesus fasted in the desert, and overcame the devil's temptations.

Throughout that time, Jesus never sinned and so we should try and remember that as we struggle to overcome temptation and sinfulness in our own lives.

Lent is an invitation for us to take the courageous step of "going into the desert" and not hiding from what lies hidden deep within us. Lent is a time to put our souls before a mirror and see ourselves as we really are. Lent is an invitation to allow our sin and darkness and wounds come to the surface so that we can deal with them and allow them to be healed by the grace of Jesus.

The forty days of Lent should be used as a time when we seek the grace of God to heal us and renew us and make us whole. During Lent we say no to the devil's temptations to continue committing sin, and instead we trust in our heavenly Father.

Since the early centuries the Church has suggested three things that we undertake during Lent - prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is for this reason that the Gospel text for Ash Wednesday every year is Jesus' advice on prayer, fasting and almsgiving ^(Matt 6:1-6, 16-18).

Lent is a time for more prayer. We live busy lives and there is much emphasis on enjoying life but a life without prayer is a life without the joy of the presence of God.

If we do not pray we are not Christians at full potential; we are only walking when we could be flying.

Lent is not just about helping others and doing something, it is also very much about the type of person that we are. We pray because all goodness comes from God and when we pray we touch God. What a lovely thought that is: That when we pray, we touch God.

Now, the word "Lent" is an old English word which means "springtime." May this Lent really be a new springtime in the lives of each one of us.

Perhaps then; through prayer, through fasting from food accompanied by forgiving others and not bearing grudges, we may even become more Christ like.

Jesus was tempted in the desert for forty days and yet remained undefiled.

The least I can try to do during this Lenten period is make an attempt to touch God. Perhaps I will be well prepared to celebrate Easter. How about you? Amen.

+ Geoffrey GRAND PRIOR

For your Prayers:



Beryl Anderton / Mary Gallagher / Gillian Gaiter / Lesley Fudge / Thelma Thompson / Paul Shaw / Sheila Hogarth / Ivy Holland / Maddie and Alan

Penlington / Ruth Barr / Simon Taylor / Kathleen Roberts / Suzie Jeng / Hilery Robinson / Tracey Solley / Ian & Anne Weatherall / Marlene Addy / Pauline Weatherall / Ray & Doreen Connell / Margaret Smith / Florence Palmer / Sadie Sutton / Peter Bell / Margaret Waterhouse / Norman Winstanley / Ruby & Calvin Brindley (*Gozo*) / John Leatherland, bishop / William Collier / Linda Smith / Tania Walker / Pamela (Masih -*pronounced Massey*) / Tommy Ryan / John Bartle / Michael Greer / Brian Lee (*OSRaphael*) / Brian Adams / Gwen Cordell / John Bodkin / Leah Uttley / Vicky Grimshaw / Patricia Grant / Elena Grady (and parents) / Brian Barber / Louise Greenwood / Elizabeth Mills / Yvonne Tuzio / Helen Kalli / Christine Felton / Lidia Flemming / Sandra Howell and Tracey Rouse.

Answers to Locations:

1. Dundee Cathedral, Scotland.
2. Leeds Town hall and 3. The Guildhall School of Music, London.

Calendar of Saints

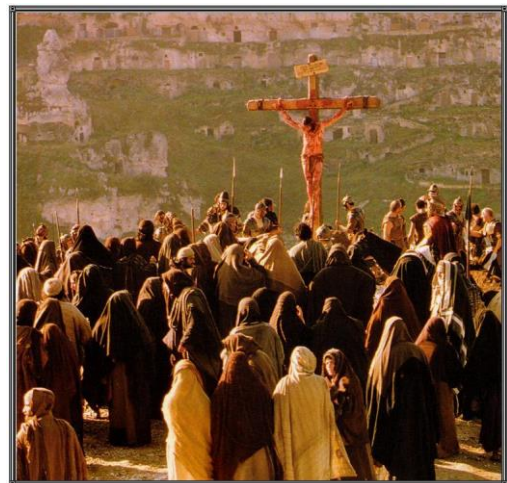


John Baptist de la Salle was born at Rheims, France on April 30th. He was the eldest of ten children in a noble family. He studied in Paris and was ordained in 1678. He was known for his work with the poor. He died at St. Yon, Rouen, on April 7th. He was canonized by Pope Leo XIII in 1900. John was very involved in education. He founded the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (approved in 1725)

and established teacher colleges (Rheims in 1687, Paris in 1699, and Saint-Denis in 1709). He was one of the first to emphasize classroom teaching over individual instruction. He also began teaching in the vernacular instead of in Latin. His schools were formed all over Italy. In 1705, he established a reform school for boys at Dijon. John was named patron of teachers by Pope Pius XII in 1950. His feast day is April 7th

Poetry Corner

The Journey with Jesus:



Selected by Dan Clendenin

I Am Bending My Knee

Originally from the *Carmina Gadelica* I, 3

Taken from Esther de Waal, editor, *The Celtic Vision* (Liguori, MO: Liguori/Triumph, 1988, 2001), p. 7.

I am bending my knee
 In the eye of the Father who
 created me,
 In the eye of the Son who
 purchased me,
 In the eye of the Spirit who
 cleansed me,
 In friendship and affection.
 Through Thine own Anointed One,
 O God,
 Bestow upon us fullness in our
 need,
 Love towards God,
 The affection of God,
 The smile of God,

The wisdom of God,
The grace of God,
The fear of God,
And the will of God
To do on the world of the Three,
As angels and saints
Do in heaven;
Each shade and light,
Each day and night,
Each time in kindness,
Give Thou us Thy Spirit.

Cook's Corner



Broccoli Quiche

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 onion, minced
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 2 cups chopped fresh broccoli
- 1 (9 inch) unbaked pie crust
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 4 eggs, well beaten
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Directions

- 1 Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- 2 Over medium-low heat melt butter in a large saucepan. Add onions, garlic and broccoli. Cook slowly, stirring occasionally until the vegetables are soft. Spoon vegetables into crust and sprinkle with cheese.
- 3 Combine eggs and milk. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in melted butter. Pour egg mixture over vegetables and cheese.

4 Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until centre has set.

Guess the Locations



1.



2.



3.

*A Holy & Blessed Easter
to all our Readers*



The Healing Teaching &
Chivalric Order of St Raphael