

mary's  
meals

### Emergency in Syria

On 6 February, two earthquakes – registering 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude – hit Syria and Turkey in the space of just 12 hours, killing many thousands of people and causing widespread devastation. We have launched an emergency appeal to support to children and families as they fight for survival.

With our local partner, we are working around the clock to feed people in the city of Aleppo. But there's so much more we can do to help communities affected by these terrible earthquakes – and we stand ready to expand our emergency response as funds allow.

Please give what you can today – no donation is too small.

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>

**Thank you to Katie Harding for visiting us this week to talk about the work of Mary's Meals**

### Giving QR codes



Scan the code on the left to give to the main  
**Parish of The Most Holy Trinity account.**

Scan the code on the right to give to the  
**Lyme Regis Restoration Fund account.**



### The Parish of the Most Holy Trinity

*Priest in Charge: Father Jacek Kostuch*

*The Priest's House*

*St Mary's RC Church, Lyme Road, Axminster EX13 5BE*

*Parish Office Contacts: Julie Gray and Angela Griffith*

*Telephone: 01297 32135*

*Parish office hours*

*Monday - Friday 4pm - 6pm*

*Monday and Wednesday 10am - 12pm*

*(In emergencies, Father Jacek can be contacted on 07776 082408)*

*Email: [axminster@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:axminster@prcdtr.org.uk) Website: <https://thecatholicpn.org/>*

*Safeguarding contacts:*

*Julie Gray*

*Liz Tompkins*

Plymouth Diocese Safeguarding Enquiry Number: 01364 645430

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*The Parish  
of the  
Most Holy  
Trinity*



*St Mary's  
Church,  
Axminster,  
EX13 5BE*



*SS Michael &  
George Church,  
Lyme Regis,  
DT7 3HS*



*St Augustine's  
Church,  
Seaton,  
EX12 2AJ*

## Sunday 26 February 2023

First Sunday of Lent

**'Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned'**

### Mass Readings:

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Responsorial Psalm: 50

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

	Mass times	Mass intentions
<b>Sun 26 Feb</b> <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	Axminster 9am Lyme Regis 11am	Jola Kujawska int's Bishop Cyril Restieaux
<b>Tues 28 Feb</b>	Axminster 7pm	(FM) Lilian May Robertson RIP
<b>Wed 1 March</b> <i>St David Bp and Patron of Wales</i>	Seaton 10am Followed by Stations of the Cross	Jenny and Rupert Butler RIP
<b>Thu 2 March</b>	Lyme Regis 10am Followed by Eucharistic adoration until 11:30am	Yvonne Grace Lachica (birthday)
<b>Fri 3 March</b> <b>Stations of the Cross</b>  <i>CAFOD Lent Fast Day</i>	Axminster (Mass) 10am <b>Lyme Regis 7pm</b>  <b>Axminster 8pm</b> <b>Malayalam</b> <b>(Kurishinte sationukal)</b>	(FM) Edgar Frank Enticott RIP
<b>Sat 4 March</b> <i>1st Mass of Second Sun- day of Lent</i>	Seaton 5.30pm	Jola Kujawska int's
<b>Sun 5 Feb</b> <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	Axminster 9am Lyme Regis 11am	Parish intentions  (FM) Mary Ann Wrey RIP
<b>Confessions:</b> Saturday - Axminster from 10:45 - 12:00 Weekdays - during Eucharistic Adoration as above, otherwise by arrangement.		

## The Pope's prayer intention for March

### For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



## Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion

The next session of this year's programme is at Axminster after Mass this Sunday 5 March, 10am ish (maximum 30 minutes).

Please continue to pray in support of our children and parents.



## CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal Sunday 5 March

**Please note there will be a second collection for CAFOD next weekend.**

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Please use the envelope provided or you can donate at [cafod.org.uk/give](https://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

## The next 60 Club Draw will take place this weekend after Mass at Seaton.

Subscriptions for the ensuing year are due on 1st April. Now is your chance to join the Club for 2023/2024. For details, speak to Julie or Fr Jacek.



**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Canon George's brother, David,** who died on Tuesday 21 February. We join Canon George through our prayers in support of him and his family.

## Ss Michael & George Restoration news

The restoration work to the bell at St Michael & St George is due to commence in March and we have received confirmation that the Axe Valley Show Committee has generously made a grant of £300 towards the cost. Our sincere thanks go to Axe Valley Show and Richard Salt for obtaining the grant on the Church's behalf.

**Stations of the Cross** – we will celebrate this traditional liturgy twice a week in Lent, once during the day and once in the evening.

**If you would like to lead one of these please contact Fr Jacek.**

**There is a choice of texts – these will be provided on request.**



## Reflection for 1st Sunday of Lent

The story of Jesus' temptations, which we hear of the 1st Sunday of Lent each year, should not to be taken lightly.

It's a warning that we can lose our way if we stray from what God wills for us. The first temptation was about hunger. On the surface the tempter's question was quite reasonable. Why not call on God power to satisfy our hunger. "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread," the tempter says to Jesus. His reply is surprising: "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." We must always seek God's will above all. At every moment we must listen to God's Word, seek God's will.

Since he was alone in the desert, only Jesus knew what he felt. But the clear implication is that he had to struggle to find the best way to live his life for God. Jesus seems to toy with the possibility of providing a limitless supply of bread for people, like the daily dole-out of food by which Roman emperors won popularity with their followers. But Jesus saw how a focus on food and drink can lead to forgetting spiritual values. "Man does not live on bread alone."

Our deeper needs are for more than food and drink. Humans need something else as well. We hunger for meaning and for spiritual nurture. To play our part towards our neighbours, we need to listen to God our Father, who awakens in our conscience a hunger for justice and solidarity.

There is a tendency to reduce our desires to what is tangible and consumable. Indiscriminate consumerism is all around us, but a consumerist society breeds emptiness and discontent. Why does the number of suicides keep rising, in spite of our prosperity? Why do we barricade ourselves within gated communities, and build such barriers to stop hungry people from sharing our prosperity and disturbing our peace? Jesus tells us that we do not live on bread alone. We need to nurture the spirit, develop solidarity with those who suffer, listen to our conscience and be open to the ultimate mystery, which is God.

A second instinct was to seek fame and celebrity. Indeed, during his public years people kept asking Jesus for signs and wonders. What if he were to leap from the highest point of the wall around Temple and be unscathed? But such showmanship would not win hearts to conversion. He answered, "You must not put the Lord your God to the test!" For us it is a warning not to be rash and superficial. Finally, in the scene on the mountain-top, seeing all the kingdoms of the world, suggests a temptation to become a political messiah, and impose his will upon people, like it or not. He dismisses this notion too, since we can be united with God only if we are drawn to it in spirit.

The Temptations warn us not to let selfishness rule us. Instead, we listen to the Holy Spirit, who continues to prompt and revive our conscience. We imitate Christ by making an honest response to life and cheerfully accepting what providence sends us. Let the Spirit be a major influence in our lives, so as to keep us close to the God who made us.

<https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2020/03/01-march-2020-1st-sunday-of-lent-a/>