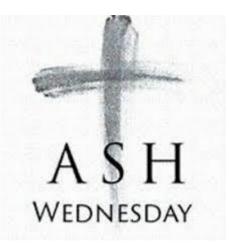


#### Dear Friends

Fr Nick Fisher will lead our usual Eucharist at 10.30 on Sunday.

The following week, Lent begins on Wednesday and an Ash Wednesday Imposition of the Ashes service will be held at 19.00. You are invited to bring your palm crosses from last year's Palm Sunday, if you have them. If not, spare crosses will be provided.



14 February

Rupert Dodds Lay Vice Chair and Treasurer allsaintsmilantreasurer@gmail. com Lee Kirkpatrick-Smith Churchwarden allsaintsmilanwardens@gmail. com Daniella Engel Churchwarden allsaintsmilanwardens@gmail. com

# **Beginning of Lent**

Shrove Tuesday is on 13 February followed by Ash Wednesday on 14 February, which is also St Valentine's Day.

Shrove Tuesday is a time from shriving, or obtaining absolution for ourselves by confessing our sins. It is a day for self-reflection, considering our sinful ways and how we may improve ourselves. We also consider the nature of our Lenten sacrifices.

The tradition of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday derives from the need to use up the rich food in the house before the austerity of Lenten fasting. The Shriving Bell is rung at churches on Tuesday (not at All Saints' – we have no bell) to call parishioners to absolution.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, a fasting day when the ash from the burning of palm crosses from the previous year's Holy Week is daubed on our foreheads, with the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return".

### **Pastoral care**

For pastoral care during the coming week, please telephone (0039) 345 5835978 (Church mobile), (0039) 026 552258 (Priest's apartment), or email <u>allsaintsmilanpriest@gmail.com</u>



# **Council meeting**

Our next Council meeting will be held on 18 February. The main items on the agenda are:

- 1. Motion to approve the transfer of €15.000 at the year end from general reserve to fabric fund
- 2. Motion to approve the audited 2023 financial statements
- 3. Motion to approve the 2024 budget and to set all fees for the year at zero
- 4. Motion to approve the agenda\* for the AGM and authorise the various church officers to take the necessary actions under the Constitution and Church Rules to hold the AGM with 1<sup>st</sup> call 16 March 2<sup>nd</sup> call 17 March 2024
- 5. Motion to conclude the review of the Electoral Roll and approve additions and removals as necessary.

If you have any view you wish to express on these or any other matters, please speak to a Council member beforehand.

## **Robert's sponsored walk**

Robert's sponsored walk has broken through the initial target of £1.100, and now aims to raise £2,200. All funds raised go to the disabled lavatory project. His funding page is here.

# Archdeacon's Open Forum

On Thursday 8 February, via Zoom here.

### **Electoral roll revision**

The electoral roll revision is underway and closes on 18 February. If you are not on our Electoral Roll and wish to be, or if you wish to be removed, please contact Laura Pakes.

### Links to our regular activities

Our first meeting of the Sirius Group (18 to 35 year olds) will involve having pizza together after the service on 11 February. If you are interested, send a WhatsApp on 3386574494 or an email to **Ester** preferably by 8 February.

There will be **no Sunday evening prayer** on 11 February. Morning prayer, at 9.00 Monday to Friday, is here

Bible study in person on Thursdays is led by Massimo at 12:30 for a start at 13.00. Bible study by Zoom on Tuesday is at 6pm, hosted by Robert, using the link found here.

The Jolly Club is held in the upstairs parish room on Tuesday from 12.30 onward and could well feature the traditional art of pancake tossing.