



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



FOURTH SUNDAY IN OT 2nd February 2020

Sat 1st	6.30pm	Bridget Vallance Holy Souls
Sun 2nd	8.30am	Peter Francis RIP
	10.30am	
Mon 3rd	10.00	Ss Laurence, Dunstan & Theodore Archbishops of Canterbury Margaret, Bernard Looney
Tue 4 th	10.00am	St Agatha, Virgin & Martyr Shirley Balls RIP
Wed 5 th	10.00am	Maureen Lydon
Thu 6 th	10.00am	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martrys Sian Family Holy Souls
Fri 7 th	No Mass	Friday Abstinence

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered

Holy Hour: Saturday 5.15 - 6.15 pm

Confessions: Saturday 5.45 - 6.15 pm

Or by appointment with Fr. Denis

Family Mass: 1st Sunday 10.30 am

Latin Mass: 1st Sunday 3.00 pm (extraordinary form)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Parish

Day of Prayer: 1st Wednesday 10.30 to 6.30pm

Children's liturgy: -There will now be a regular 'family mass' on the first Sunday of every month. Children's liturgy will be held weekly at the 10.30 Sunday Mass.

Please remember in your prayers:



We pray especially for the sick of the parish and for those who care for and support them, especially, Angela Gray, Karen O'Shaughnessey, Mairead Kirke and Dick Worbey. We remember those who have died recently, especially Shirley Balls; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time; Isabella Brogden; Thomas Burke; Sr. Ailbe O,Callaghan; Annie Bartram; Nicholas D'Addario; Catherine Stormont; Edith Smith; Norman Tuthill; John Johnson; Jean Harrington; David Eccles; Jacqueline Fielding.

Readings Parish Mass Book page 130

This Week's Reflection

Presenting the Present:

Today's feast marks the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the Temple, forty days after he was born. As the firstborn, he belonged to God. According to the Law, Mary and Joseph were required to take him to the Temple and "redeem" him by paying five shekels. At the same time, the Law required the child's mother to offer sacrifice in order to overcome the ritual impurity brought about by childbirth.

So the feast we celebrate shows a curious turn of events. The Redeemer seems to be redeemed. She who is all-pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God. Such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin. They submit to the law even though they are not bound by it.

However, the Gospel story nowhere mentions Jesus' "redemption," but seems to describe instead a religious consecration—such as a priest might undergo. Saint Luke tells us that Jesus is "presented" in the Temple, using the same verb that Saint Paul uses to describe the offering of a sacrifice (see Romans 12:1). Another parallel is the Old Testament dedication of Samuel (1 Sam 1:24-27) to the Temple as a priest.

The drama surrounding Jesus' conception and birth began in the Temple—when the Archangel visited Mary's kinsman, Zechariah the priest. And now the story of Jesus' infancy comes to a fitting conclusion, again in the Temple.

All the readings today concern Jerusalem, the Temple, and the sacrificial rites. The first reading comes from the Prophet Malachi, who called the priests to return to faithful service—and foretold a day when a Messiah would arrive with definitive purification of the priesthood.

Likewise, the Psalm announces to Jerusalem that Jerusalem is about to receive a great visitor. The Psalmist identifies him as "The LORD of hosts . . . the king of glory."

Christ now arrives as the long-awaited priest and redeemer. He is also the sacrifice. Indeed, as his life will show, He is the Temple itself.

TEA AND COFFEE (& BISCUITS) AVAILABLE



AFTER 10.30 MASS EVERY SUNDAY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

FRIENDS IN FAITH is a Faith Sharing group which meets fortnightly in the Parish Rooms at 10.30am on alternate Tuesdays following 10.00am Mass.

After some social time, we use material from the Diocese of Westminster's 'Exploring Faith' series. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4th February and new members would be very welcome.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Will take place on Saturday 29th February 2020, 9am to 3pm. A donation of £20 per couple is asked to cover costs. A lunch will be included.

CAKES 4R CHURCH

A massive thank you to all parishioners who baked/bought or helped in anyway at our cake sale! You raised a fantastic £271.15...all profits will go into the church fund. Many thanks to you all.

200 CLUB The winners of the January 200 Club draw were Nick Seed, Emma Reigel, Sheila Basford and Sue Bedford. The next draw will be on Sunday 16th February.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Please come to the School Office or contact the Head teacher, Ms Alex Hanou on 01462 892478 to make an appointment. The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

THE CHURCH HALL

The hall is available to hold events, parties, workshops, birthday parties etc. seating for 50 people, charges on an hourly basis. If you are planning an event please do now consider this venue, with excellent parking and access. Contact the Parish Office on 01462 893127.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY AT ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

Governing is a volunteer role for which the diocese advises a time commitment of 10 to 12 hours per month and which requires attendance at Full Governing Board meetings.

As a Governing Board, our ambition is to build our school to be outstanding. This isn't just an OFSTED measure, it's about culture, diversity, the learning environment and about equipping each and every child who attends our school to be their best self with a curious mind, as a hungry learner, as a compassionate contributor and as a responsible citizen with the light of Christ shining brightly in them. We are looking for governors who share that vision and ambition. If you think you may be interested please contact Deborah Lodge at debs.lodge@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk for more information.

A PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD.

Heavenly Father, on this Feast of the Presentation of Christ, I recall the gift Mary and Joseph gave to the world by offering baby Jesus to You in the temple.

I offer up to You all the children in my family. I place them into Your perfect will and I turn their futures over to You.

Help me to let go of my ideas of what they should do with their lives, and show me how to guide them into the purposes for which You created them. Help me to learn from the example of the Blessed Mother, whose heart was pierced by the sword of her Son's pain, how to always trust in Your plans. Holy Family, pray for us. Amen.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Dates for the Baptism Courses 2020

16th Jun Bap (1) - 30th Jun Bap (2)

3rd Nov Bap (1) - 17th Nov Bap (2)

If you are interested in joining the baptism course please contact Richard and Marie Miller [07931761403](tel:07931761403)

LITURGICAL COLOUR: GREEN

The theological virtue of hope is symbolized by the colour green, just as the burning fire of love is symbolized by red. Green is the colour of growing things, and hope, like them, is always new and always fresh. Liturgically, green is the colour of Ordinary Time, the season in which we are being neither especially penitent (in purple) nor overwhelmingly joyful (in white).

COLLECTION UPDATE

Sunday 26th January: Envelopes £237.23
Loose Plate £272.10.

Thank you for your continuing generosity.

RC Hospital Chaplain:

Contact Tel: Mobile:
07876 526935 Lister
01438 285518,

For all general parish

enquiries contact:

Parish Office: Tel:
01462 893127

Church Hall Hire:

Please contact parish
office 01462 893127

Email:
baldock@rcdow.org.uk

Baptism Preparation:

For further information
please contact Richard
and Marie Miller Tel:
01462 490630.

RCIA Course:

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings. If you would like to find out more please speak directly to Fr Denis.

St. John's School

is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Please come to the School Office or contact the Head teacher, Ms Alex Hanou on 01462 892478. The school website is www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk

Newsletter: Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the dedicated newsletter email address

baldock.rcc@ntlworld.com or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you

VATICAN NEWS

Remember that you can keep up with all the latest news from The Vatican at the Official Vatican Network www.news.va/en.

Your Safeguarding Representative is Tom Keating 07909892178. The Safeguarding Representative has special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults at risk.

Baldock Catholic Scout Group

For boys and girls aged 6 to 14. Contact: enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk