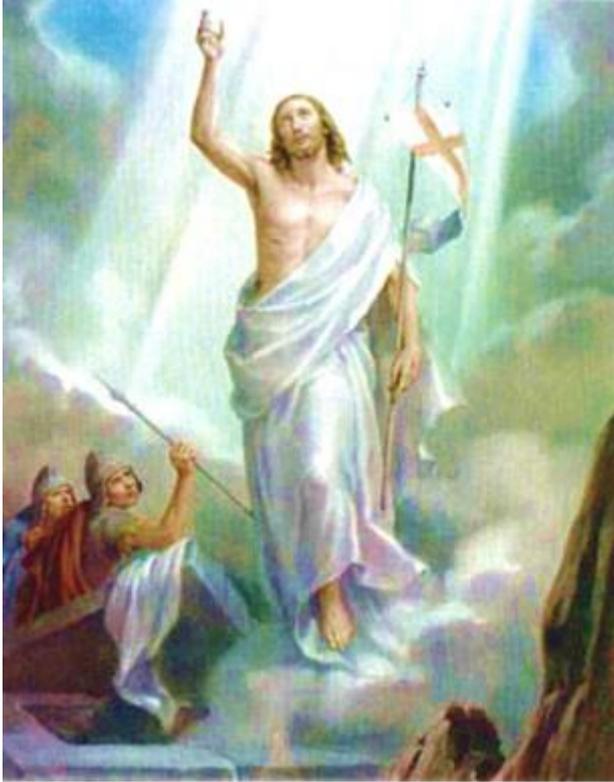


**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION**
4th April 2021



**Allowing the Resurrection of Jesus to Strengthen
Our Faith.**

*They did not yet understand the Scripture that he
had to rise from the dead.*

What a humble statement! Here is John, the beloved apostle, admitting that he hadn't yet grasped the truth that Jesus would rise from the dead. And not only John, but Peter and the other apostles doubted that possibility. Even Mary Magdalene, who saw the empty tomb, supposed that someone had stolen Jesus' body. Now, Jesus had told his apostles that this would happen. They saw him raise other people from death. They trusted him. They even confessed him as the Son of God. But as you might imagine, the idea of a resurrection is not the easiest thing to believe! All that changed, however, when they found themselves face-to-face with the risen Lord. Actually seeing Jesus alive convinced them. It filled them with faith and gave them the boldness they needed to build the church. So here we are celebrating Easter two thousand years later. Unlike the apostles, most of us have not seen Jesus. We have to trust in him based on the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, the proclamation of the church, and the teachings that we find in Scripture. But we do have one thing that the apostles didn't have: the witness of their lives! We have the stories of how fully they devoted

themselves to Jesus. We have the accounts of their sacrifices for the church, the persecutions they endured, and even the martyrdom that many of them suffered. Would they really go through all of this just to keep a "myth" alive? Not likely! Today, as we celebrate Easter, let's listen to the witness of the apostles. They met Jesus, and they found new boldness and courage to believe. Surely, if it happened for them, it can happen for us! "All praise to you, Lord Jesus, for your resurrection! Help me to believe in you more each day."

A Daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge

In his letter *Patris corde*, Pope Francis notes how, "Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]" he has "recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary." This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph," on account of its closing words: "My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power." At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another

prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

Pope Francis proclaims "Year of St Joseph"



PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

PLANNED GIVING & GIFT AID

The envelopes for use from 11th April are available on a table at the Lady Altar side of Church, this is to ease congestion.

If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your donation, please speak to Father Denis, Catherine or any member of the Finance Committee. This also applies if you wish to set up a standing order or begin to use envelopes. Please remember that for every £1 donated 25p can be claimed from HMRC at no cost to the donor.

If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay UK tax, and so are not able to Gift Aid your donation, please let Catherine know.

All personal information is confidential.

Thank you for your continuing support to parish finances, especially during this very challenging past year.

Please note the change of mass time for Monday 5th April, from 7pm to 10am

Sat 3 rd	Easter Vigil 8.30 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 4 th	8.30am 10.30am	Robert Brown
Mon 5 th	10am	Patrick Sarsfield RIP
Tue 6 th	No mass	
Wed 7 th	10am	Rita Fletcher intentions
Thu 8 th	No mass	
Fri 9 th	No mass in church	<i>A day of abstinence</i>

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

PARISH MASS ON-LINE

Fr. Denis is also still celebrating Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night for the Vigil Mass, & Wednesday morning Mass at 10am. Both are accessible through the Parish Facebook page:

Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury

For more information, please go to the Parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock>

BOOKING TO ATTEND MASS IN PERSON

For all services in Church, you need to book online, through our website below. If the Mass is full, the signing in book at the back of church cannot be used.

NEWSLETTER If there is anything you would like to see included in the newsletter, please email the following address by Tuesday evening of the week you would like to see it in print:

baldock.rcc@ntlworld.com

THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA THIS LINK:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Please contact the Head teacher, Thomas Timson on 01462 892478 to make an appointment. The school website is:

<http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

RC HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:



We pray especially for the sick of the parish and for those who care for and support them, especially, Alastair McCallion, Karen O'Shaughnessy, Angela Gray, Mairead Kirke, and Dick Worbey. We remember those who have died recently; Anna Sokal, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Fr Robert Holmes Walker; Theresa Mahoney; Robert Grey; Josuah Corby; John Albone; Lisa Gratte; Norah O'Leary; James Harkin; Mary Piper; Teresa Casey; Patrick Bowen.

NEW MORNING

The tomb was empty. In the early morning darkness of that first Easter, there was only confusion for Mary Magdalene and the other disciples. But as the daylight spread, they saw the dawning of a new creation. At first they didn't understand the Scripture, today's Gospel tells us. We don't know which precise Scripture texts they were supposed to understand. Perhaps it was the sign of Jonah, who rose from the belly of the great fish after three days. Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile. Perhaps it was the psalmist who rejoiced that God had not abandoned him to the nether world. Whichever Scripture it was, as the disciples bent down into the tomb, they saw and they believed. What did they see? Burial shrouds in an empty tomb. The stone removed from the tomb. Seven times in nine verses we hear that word - "tomb." What did they believe? That God had done what Jesus said He would do - raised Him up on the third day

CHURCHES FINANCES & COLLECTION

A word of thanks to all those who have donated for the upkeep of the Parish in one way or another. There are several ways to support the Parish. One of them is via a standing order, which is easy to set up and easy to stop, if you want to, when this difficult period has passed. Please use the bank account details, available from our website below, to set up the standing order if you use online banking, or you can write to, telephone or visit your bank as well. You can also donate via the website. Or, of course, you can contribute after mass in the Collection Plates provided.

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock/donate/>.

Fr. Denis would like to thank everyone for their generosity during this time of pandemic.