



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



PP - Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: baldock@rcdow.org.uk.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2nd May 2021



LET US SING TO THE LORD A SONG OF LOVE

Sing to the Lord a new song; his praise is in the assembly of the saints. We are urged to sing a new song to the Lord, as new men who have learned a new song. A song is a thing of joy; more profoundly, it is a thing of love. Anyone, therefore, who has learned to love the new life, has learned to sing a new song, and the new song reminds us of our new life. The new man, the new song, the new covenant, all belong to the one kingdom of God, and so the new man will sing a new song and will belong to the new covenant.

There is not one who does not love something, but the question is, what to love. The psalms do not tell us not to love, but to choose the object of our love. But how can we choose unless we are first chosen? We cannot love unless someone has loved us first. Listen to the apostle John: *We love him, because he first loved us.* The source of man's love for God can only be found in the fact that God loved him first. He has given us himself as the object of our love, and he has also given us its source. What this source is you may learn more clearly from the apostle Paul who tells us: *The love of God has been poured into our hearts.* This love is not something we generate ourselves; it comes to us *through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

My dear brothers and sons, fruit of the true faith and holy seed of heaven, all you who have been born again in Christ and whose life is from above, listen to me; or rather, listen to the Holy Spirit saying through me: *Sing to the Lord a new song.* Look, you tell me, I am singing. Yes indeed, you are singing; you are singing clearly, I can hear you. But make sure that your life does not contradict your words. Sing with your voices, your hearts, your lips

Sing to the Lord a new song, and you wish to know what praises to sing. The answer is: *His praise is in the assembly of the saints;* it is in the singers themselves. If you desire to praise him, then live what you express. Live good lives and you

yourself will be his praise. *A Sermon by St Augustine*

Queen of the May

May is a month that is loved, and its arrival is welcome for several reasons. In our hemisphere spring advances with so many colourful blossoms; the climate is favourable for walks and excursions. For the liturgy, May always belongs to the Easter Season, the season of the "alleluia," of the revelation of the mystery of Christ in the light of the Resurrection and of the Easter faith; and it is the time of expectation of the Holy Spirit, who descends with power on the nascent Church at Pentecost.

With both these contexts, the "natural" and the liturgical, the tradition of the Church is well in tune in dedicating the month of May to the Virgin Mary. She is, in fact, the most beautiful flower to blossom in creation, the "rose" that appeared in the fullness of time, when God, sending his Son, gave the world a new spring. And she is, at the same time, a humble and discreet protagonist of the first steps of the Christian community: Mary is its spiritual heart, because her very presence in the midst of the disciples is a living memory of the Lord Jesus and pledge of the gift of his Spirit. Mary was the first to fully observe the word of her Son, thus demonstrating that she loved him not only as his mother, but as a humble and obedient handmaid; because of this God the Father loved her and the Most Holy Trinity made its dwelling in her. Moreover, when Jesus promises his friends that the Holy Spirit will assist them, helping them to remember and understand profoundly every word of his, how can we not think of Mary, who in her heart, temple of the Spirit, meditated and interpreted faithfully everything that her Son said and did? In this way, already before and above all after Easter, the Mother of Jesus became also the Mother and model of the Church.

Let us invoke the intercession of the Virgin Mary for the Church, and for peace in the world, and for the Love of Christ to dwell in our homes.

Fr. Denis

PRIEST TRAINING FUND -THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Priest Training Fund last weekend the response of prayer for vocations, love and concern for the clergy, and for the current seminarians, was heart warming. If you still wish to make your donation, you will find envelopes at the back of the church. The formation of priests is of top priority, it is our future. May God Bless you for your generosity.

ANNUAL OPEN AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE - will (Hopefully) be held at 10.30am on Sunday 10th July. Please remember that as there will be

only one Mass during the weekend, we hope that the whole parish will come and celebrate. More details will follow. Of course we are waiting to see how the governments restrictions will continue to be lifted.

But we thought that it would be a good idea to go forward with planning this event as we did last year. Everyone is invited to bring their own chairs or blanket. We may be able to serve food afterwards, but more information will follow nearer the time. We will need volunteers to help once again. It would be a good time to invite family and friends, and please pray for good weather.

Sat 1 st May	6.30 pm	Mary, Bernard & Patrick Hughes RIP
Sun 2 th	8.30am 10.30am	Betty Horohan
Mon 3 rd	7pm	Pat Gibson & Joan
Tue 4 th	No mass	
Wed 5 th	10am	Margaret & Bernard Looney
Thu 6 th	No mass	
Fri 7 th	No mass	A day of 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

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.

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.

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.

PLANNED GIVING & GIFT AID

The envelopes for use from 11th April are available on a table at the Lady Altar side of Church. 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. Thank you for your continuing support to parish finances, especially during this very challenging past year.

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: Mary Haywood; William Lee; Martin Jurgulanic; Edmund Topajka; Bridget Bolton; James Johnson; Teresa Hyams; Johan Kiausus; Eileen Simmons; Hugh Toal; John Albone

Prayer to Our Lady, Mother of Mercy

Blessed Virgin Mary, who can worthily repay you with praise and thanks for having rescued a fallen world by your generous consent! Receive our gratitude, and by your prayers obtain the pardon of our sins. Take our prayers into the sanctuary of heaven and enable them to make our peace with God.

Holy Mary, help the miserable, strengthen the discouraged, comfort the sorrowful, pray for your people, plead for the clergy, intercede for all women consecrated to God. May all who venerate you feel now, your help and protection. Be ready to help us when we pray, and bring back to us the answers to our prayers. Make it your continual concern to pray for the people of God, for you were blessed by God and were made worthy to bear the Redeemer of the world, who lives and reigns forever. Amen. Saint Augustine of Hippo