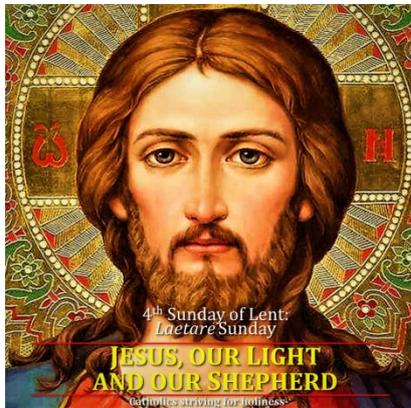




PP - Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: [baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:baldock@rcdow.org.uk).

## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT LAETARE SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022



### **Meditation on the Liturgy**

This Sunday has a place apart amongst the Sundays of Lent. As in Advent we had *Gaudete* Sunday, so in Lent we have a Sunday commonly called *Laetare* Sunday. The whole week, with its wealth of liturgical significance, is intensely interesting. It is in honor of Our Saviour's Cross, for which reason the Station is at Holy-Cross-in-Jersusalem, a great devotional centre in Rome, especially during Passiontide. The great part of the Mass is inspired by this choice.

Lent is half over, and Easter is enticingly near. This Sunday is our foretaste of Easter joy; that is knowing the ebb and flow of intensity even in our best efforts, God deals with us tenderly in rhythms of consolation and desertion. So today, thoughts of freedom and joy come in the middle of Lent. But the joy does more than cushion our failing energies and needle our lagging spirits. It is a positive, meaningful joy, born of our fruitful life in Christ and of our sweet freedom as His purchased children.

The Eucharistic banquet of heavenly Bread, foreshadowed by the multiplied loaves and fishes and become now the Bread of Life for the whole Christian world, adds to our Laetare joy the quiet gladness of every festive meal.

### **LENTEN PROGRAMME**

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held after the 10.00 Wednesday mass and every Friday (except Good Friday) at 7pm. All are welcome.

#### **RECONCILIATION**

A visiting priest and Fr. Denis will be available for confessions Saturday 2nd April 10.30-12.30pm. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during the two hours

### **SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK:**

#### **Holy Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April:**

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm

#### **Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April:**

Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.30am

Celebration of The Lord's Passion at 3pm

*A day of Fasting & Abstinence*

#### **Easter Vigil 16<sup>th</sup> April:**

begins at sunset at 8.30pm

#### **Easter Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April:**

at 8.30am & 10.30am

#### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April Holy Hour and confessions at 3pm**

The Feast of Divine Mercy, celebrated on the Octave of Easter, was extended to the entire Catholic Church by St John Paul II in 2000, the day that he canonized Saint Faustina. There will be a holy hour in honour of Divine Mercy here in the church on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm. There is a novena which begins on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday. **Priests will be available to hear confessions during holy hour.**

#### **Mass Readings- 4th Sunday of Lent Year C**

**First Reading - Joshua 5:9A, 10-12:** "On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan."

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 34:** "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

**Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21:** "We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

**Gospel - Luke 15:1-3, 11-32:** "While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him."

**Readings: Parish Mass Book, Page 168**

#### **BALDOCK AND DISTRICT ACTION AID- UKRAINE.**

The group is here to provide a single point of reference for our local community, where information can be found on what's needed and how get it to the people who need it fast and effectively. This will include accommodating refugees with volunteer families and individuals, as well as support for families, sponsors, schools and others involved, both in the short and longer term. We will have the latest government guidance, links to other charities and insight directly from Ukrainian members and contacts. We also want to provide support and information

#### RC HOSPITAL

**CHAPLAIN:** John O Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital  
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

#### 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. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478 The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

#### NEWSLETTER

Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address ([baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:baldock@rcdow.org.uk)) 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](http://www.news.va/en).

#### Your SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy [Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) [Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

to enable displaced women and children from Ukraine to join our community for as long as is needed.

Contacts: Facebook page Vivienne Reed 07815308124

**Your Prayers are asked for:**



We pray especially for the sick of the parish, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Fr. Kevin Mc Devitt, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Henry Davey, James McGrath, Helena Solich, Patrick Bowen, Marsha Long, Leon Grudulis Josef Jarosz, Agnes Wilson, Marguerite Wilson, John Campbell, Doris Bartram and Sean Duggan

**Baldock Festival** are holding their Street Fair on Saturday May 14th. As in previous years we are asking for donations toward the bottle tombola. This has always been a good fund raiser for the Church helping with the cost of repairs and refurbishments. Any donations can be left in the church porch. Thank you.

**Baldock Festival** are also holding a Book fair on Saturday 7th May in the Community centre. If you have any books you have finished with please bring them to the church. All proceeds go to the Garden House Hospice.

#### PLANNED GIVING

Envelopes for the next year will be available in Church from 20th March. If your

circumstances have changed ie you no longer a taxpayer or you have become a taxpayer please speak to Catherine or Father Denis. Thank you for your continuing support.

#### CHURCHES FINANCES & COLLECTION

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

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

Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm Vigil Mass	Kathleen & Patsy Heaney intention
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	Patrick Bowen RIP Lucy Lazarus RIP
Mon 28 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Stan & Billie Bains
Tue 29 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Thu 31 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Fri 1 <sup>th</sup>	No Mass	The Annunciation of the Lord

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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30 am

#### THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA

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

Fr. Denis is still celebrating Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night for the Vigil Mass, & Sunday morning Mass 10.30am, also morning Masses Monday to Thursday 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>

#### THANK YOU FROM CAFOD

Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas Aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. For lots more detail on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)