



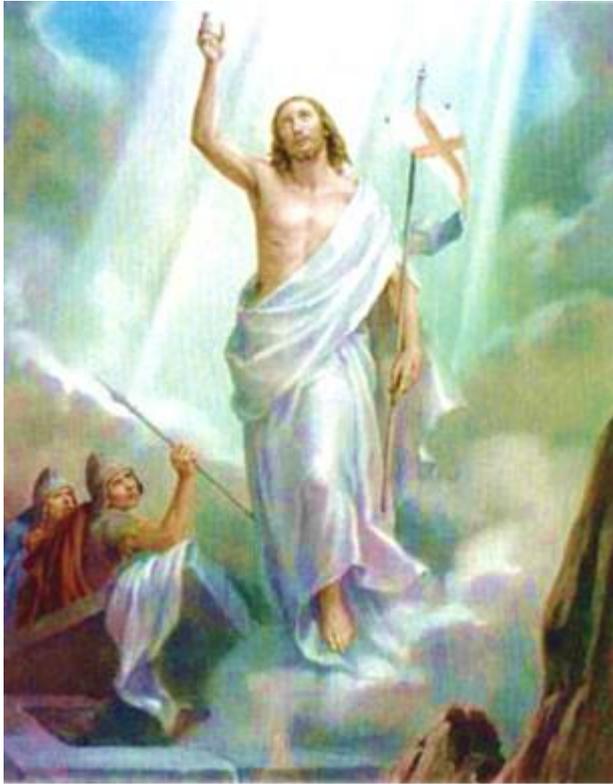
CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

17th April 2022



ALLOW 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

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."

THE 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 (see Jonah 1:17). Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile (see Hosea 6:2). 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. What they saw and believed, they bore witness to, as today's First Reading tells us. Peter's speech is a summary of the gospels—from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan to His hanging on a tree, to His rising from the dead.

We are children of the apostles, born into the new world of their witness. Our lives are now "hidden with Christ in God," as today's Epistle says. Like them, we gather in the morning on the first day of the week to celebrate the Eucharist, the feast of the empty tomb.

We rejoice that the stones have been rolled away from our tombs, too. Each of us can shout, as we do in today's Psalm: "I shall not die, but live." They saw and believed. And we await the day they promised would come—when we, too, "will appear with Him in glory

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) 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 REPRESENTATIVES

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

Your Prayers are asked for:



We pray especially for the sick of the parish especially Celia Sheehan and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially Concetta Lanni, Dorrie Randal and those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mary Richardson, Mary Rose Walsh, James Barkley, Annie Brooks, Wanda Panico, Carlo Gelmini, Brian Conway, Bronislaw Kreics, Anna Ciampa, Mary Kate Drew, Vivienne Kingham and Paul Solich

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 16th	8.30 pm Easter Vigil	The People of the Parish
Sun 17th	8.30am 10.30am	Ray & Betty Knight RIP Ann Cooney
Mon 18 th	10.00am	
Tue 19 th	10.00am	Dorrie Randal RIP
Wed 20 th	10.00am	
Thu 21 st	No Mass	
Fri 22 nd	No Mass	

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

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>

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Sunday 24th 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 24th 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.**

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 to enable displaced women and children from Ukraine to join our community for as long as is needed. Contacts: Facebook page Vivienne Reed 07815308124