



# 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 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023



### They Saw and Believed

Jesus is nowhere visible. Yet today's Gospel tells us that Peter and John "saw and believed." What did they see? Burial shrouds lying on the floor of an empty tomb. Maybe that convinced them that He hadn't been carted off by grave robbers, who usually stole the expensive burial linens and left the corpses behind. But notice the repetition of the word "tomb"—seven times in nine verses. They saw the empty tomb and they believed what He had promised: that God would raise Him on the third day. Chosen to be His "witnesses," today's First Reading tells us, the Apostles were "commissioned...to preach...and testify" to all that they had seen—from His anointing with the Holy Spirit at the Jordan to the empty tomb. More than their own experience, they were instructed in the mysteries of the divine economy, God's saving plan—to know how "all the prophets bear witness" to Him. Now they could "understand the Scripture," could teach us what He had told them—that He was "the Stone which the builders rejected," whose Resurrection and exaltation today's Psalm prophesies. We are the children of the apostolic witnesses. That is why we still gather early in the morning on the first day of every week to celebrate this feast of the empty tomb, give thanks for "Christ our life," as today's Epistle calls Him. Baptized into His death and Resurrection, we live

the heavenly life of the risen Christ, our lives "hidden with Christ in God." We are now His witnesses, too. But we testify to things we cannot see but only believe; we seek in earthly things what is above.

We live in memory of the Apostles' witness, like them eating and drinking with the risen Lord at the altar. And we wait in hope for what the Apostles told us would come—the day when we too "will appear with Him in glory."

We begin the holiest week in the Church's liturgical year! It is a time to enter deeply into the solemn events of the week leading up to

### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Easter. The Triduum is ONE liturgical celebration beginning with the Celebration of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. There is no dismissal at the end of the liturgy. Good Friday is a celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death and the EASTER VIGIL begins in darkness and bursts into Easter light and joy, concluding with the Solemn Dismissal to Go in the peace of Christ. ALLELUIA

### WHY DO CATHOLIC CHURCHES COVER THE SAINTS DURING LENT?

Lent is meant to be a time of penance and deprivation. Covering the statues and allowing for little or no adornment of the church helps us focus on the coming passion and death of Our Lord. The Easter Vigil Mass marks the end of Lent and celebrates the glorious resurrection of Our Lord and the church is once more decorated in spectacular fashion.

### MISSIO RED BOX HOLDERS

The amount raised from the recent Red Box count was £157.18 and additional money has been sent in via direct debit and online payments. Thank you so much. This is greatly appreciated.

### CONGRATULATIONS

A warm welcome and congratulations to Demi Philbin and Dan Canovas, our RCIA candidates for reception and Confirmation:

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

There is no morning mass on Thursday; the only mass allowed that day is the Mass of The Lords Supper at 7.30pm

Sunday morning Readings in Parish Mass Book  
Page 251

**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 the parish office on 01462-893127 .

**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](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)

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

*3pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> April Holy Hour and Confessions.* The Feast of Divine Mercy, celebrated on the Octave of Easter (the Sunday after Easter), is a relatively new addition to the Roman Catholic liturgical calendar. Celebrating the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, as revealed by Christ Himself to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. . There will be a holy hour in honour of divine Mercy here in the church on Sunday 16<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.

**Men's Group**

All Men of the Parish are welcome to come and join our regular Men's Breakfast sessions.

These take place once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee and a Danish served at 8.30am. At 9.00am we settle down to enjoy an episode of the popular trending Christian TV Series 'The Chosen'. This is a high quality and powerful dramatisation of St Matthew's Gospel. Time for discussion and reflection follows. We finish at 10.30am.

Come along and meet friends old and new. Forthcoming dates are: Saturdays 15th April, 20th May, 10th June. See Richard M or John B for more details

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**

New envelopes are available at the back of

the Church. Please find your surname as they are in alphabetical, not numerical order. If you cannot find your envelope or if you would like to start using envelopes please speak to Catherine

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

As usual Cardinal Nicholas will lead the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from 21st to 28th July. People are encouraged to book now via the Tangney Tours portal at: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes> to avoid disappointment as places are limited

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:**



We pray for the sick in the parish especially, Fr. Peter Maher, Peter Robinson, Patrick Sarsfield, Denis Gunn, Fr. Philip Law and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, Hannah Brownjohn and Sean Flahery, and those whose anniversaries are at this time: Norah O'Leary; James Harkin; Mary Piper; Margaret Delaney; Teresa Casey; Patrick Bowen; Margaret Lee; Nuala Darling; Ivy Cesvette; Patrick Hearne; Concetta Lanni; Arthur Dilley; Abina Taylor; Mary Knowd.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Open Air Mass:**

2nd July 10.30 am, followed by BBQ.

Sat 8 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Vigil 8.30pm	Joseph McCormack RIP
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Margaret Lee & Lee family
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Concetta Lanni-RIP
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Marion Hamilton RIP
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	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: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30 am

Fr. Denis is still celebrating Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night for the Vigil Mass, Sunday morning Mass 10.30am, all 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

THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA

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