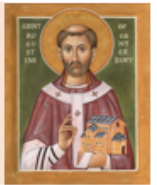




CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN OF LENT 25th February 2024



Bonds Loosed:

The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week's First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test. The Church has always read this story as a sign of God's love for the world in giving His only-begotten son.

In today's Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God: **'like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the Cross'**.

In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God's "beloved Son"—as Isaac is described as Abraham's beloved son. These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ's identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions. Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see. In His transfiguration, He is revealed to be the "prophet like Moses" foretold by God—raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God's own authority. Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God's glory in a cloud (see [Exodus 24:1, 9, 15](#)). He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah's return.

And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins.

As we sing in today's Psalm, Jesus believed in the face of His afflictions, and God loosed Him from the bonds of death.

His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father—as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did. Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer

the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows—as His servants and faithful ones.

Readings Parish Mass Book page 151

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 7.30pm. All are welcome.

RECONCILIATION

On Saturday 9th March at 10.30-12.30pm a visiting priest and Fr. Denis will be available for confessions. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during the two hours.

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK:

Holy Thursday 28th March -

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7.30pm

Good Friday 29th March -

Children's Stations of the Cross: 10.30am

Celebration of The Lord's Passion: 3pm

A day of Fast & Abstinence

Easter Vigil Saturday 30th March - 7.30pm

Easter Sunday 31st March

Easter Services 8.30 & 10.30am

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL -This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal. Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. Your generous donations, given in love, will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk

ST DAVID With his Feast Day this week, legend says that Dewi Sant (St David in Welsh) was born on a hilltop in Pembrokeshire to an aristocratic family, somewhere between 462 & 515 AD, making him the only British or Irish saint born in the country he is the patron of. He studied at a monastery, becoming a missionary across Wales, Brittany & Southwest England, including paying a visit to Glastonbury! Living a very simple life, he lived on water, bread and leeks, tending the land by hand. His miracles include restoring the sight of his tutor and it is also said that the ground

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>

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.

Baldock Catholic Scout Group

For boys and girls aged 6 to 14. Contact: enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk

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
Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

beneath his feet rose up to form a hill so people at the back of a large crowd could hear him speak before a white dove, sent by God, settled on his shoulder. St David's last words to his followers are recorded as: *"Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do."*

THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2:30pm.

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

CONTACTLESS CARD

NEW - For those who wish to make a donation by card we now accept payments by Contactless Card for general donations. It is very easy to use.

If you need help, please do ask. The machine is on the back table of the church.

CRAFT & CHAT. Our next meeting is this coming Friday 1st March, 9.30 to 11am in the Holy Family room. All adult crafters are welcome.

Please bring along your handicraft projects - knitting, sewing, embroidery etc. Help will be given if you wish to learn how to knit / crochet. Price £2 per session.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially, Mary Callaghan, Pamela Steele and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, Sid Lazarus, Celia Sheehan and Simon Campion. And those whose anniversaries occur about now: Helen Fitzgibbons; Annie Brennan; Ernest D'Addario; Pierre Borgers; Richard Callaghan; Mary Toal; Margarita Malone; Mary Ann Wrighton; Patrick Callinan; Jan Godiewski;

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

The marriage preparation course will take place on **Saturday 2nd March** starting at 1.30 pm and on the **Sunday 3rd March** at 3.30pm. This course will be online. For further information please contact Reman McDonagh reman.mcdonagh@hotmail.com

Sat 24 th	6.30pm	Daniel Michael Ryan RIP
Sun 25 th	8.30am 10.30am	Betsy Forde RIP
Mon 26 th	10.00	
Tue 27 th	10.00	Francis' Intentions
Wed 28 th	10.00	
Thu 29 th	10.00	
Fri 1 st	No Mass	St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered.

Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 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>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

This Service, this year prepared by the Christian Women of Palestine, will be held in our Church on Friday 1st March at 2.00pm. Refreshments will follow and everyone is most welcome.

KA Food Station: Food for all in need: No vouchers or referrals required: St Mary's Church Hall Church St, Baldock SG7 5AE Every Thursday 10.30 to 11.30am Remember to bring your shopping bags