



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



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

3rd SUNDAY of Easter 14th APRIL 2024



Understanding the Scripture

Jesus in today's Gospel teaches His Apostles how to interpret the Scriptures. He tells them that all the Scriptures of what we now call the Old Testament refer to Him. He says that all the promises found in the Old Testament have been fulfilled in His Passion, death, and Resurrection. And He tells them that these Scriptures foretell the mission of the Church—to preach forgiveness of sins to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. In today's First Reading and Epistle, we see the beginnings of that mission. And we see the Apostles interpreting the Scriptures as Jesus taught them.

God has brought to fulfilment what He announced beforehand in all the prophets, Peter preaches. His sermon is shot through with Old Testament images. He evokes Moses and the Exodus, in which God revealed Himself as the ancestral God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (see Exodus 3:6,15). He identifies Jesus as Isaiah's suffering servant who has been glorified (see Isaiah 52:13). John, too, describes Jesus in Old Testament terms. Alluding to how Israel's priests offered blood sacrifices to atone for the people's sins (see Leviticus 16; Hebrews 9-10), he says that Jesus intercedes for us before God (see Romans 8:34), and that His blood is a sacrificial expiation for the sins of the world (see 1 John 1:7).

Notice that in all three readings, the Scriptures are interpreted to serve and advance the Church's mission—to reveal the truth about Jesus, to bring people to repentance, the wiping away of sins, and the perfection of their love for God. This is how we, too, should hear the Scriptures.

Not to know more “about” Jesus, but to truly know Him personally, and to know His plan for our lives.

In the Scriptures, the light of His face shines upon us, as we sing in today's Psalm. We know the wonders He has done throughout history. And we have the confidence to call to Him, and to know that He hears and answers.

PREPARATION FOR MASS

It's often said that, You only get out of life what you put into it. Well, it is the same with Mass. In other words, if we don't prepare our hearts for Mass, we will likely not be able to receive the many graces God wants to give to you.

This is why various saints have suggested arriving early to Mass and offering a few short prayers of love. Prayers of preparation became such an ingrained tradition that many people would take their place in the pew and instantly kneel down for a minute or two to say these prayers before every Mass. The Daily Roman Missal tells us that, in preparation for Mass, we can contemplate on the fact that the Eucharistic sacrifice is the most important event that happens each day and that the Eucharistic sacrifice is the most pleasing reality we can offer to God.

While there are many ways to prepare for the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the point is to orient our minds toward God, to join with our brothers and sisters in the congregation, to have the right intention, and unite ourselves to the Sacrifice of Jesus who is the only Victim.

Here is a prayer written by St. Thomas Aquinas. It highlights the spiritual disposition we should have when we attend Mass and prepares our hearts to receive God's grace.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness ... May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords ... with the purity and faith ... that will help to bring me to salvation. Amen.

CALLING FOR HELP Spring is here and the small but perfectly formed Gardening Group needs more help with keeping our church grounds neat and tidy. Just an hour or two a month would make all the difference. Contact Charlie on 07941 327050 if you would like to help in any way.

Readings: Parish Mass Book Page 258

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

EXPENSE

REIMBURSEMENTS

If you require reimbursement for a church expense e.g. flowers etc. you will need to complete a yellow claim form, available in the metal drawer marked 'Finance' in the photocopier office. We can now make these payments to you online, as our preferred method, so please complete the details on the form as appropriate and leave it in the drawer for collection and action. Cheques are being very much phased out and we would like to make direct payments wherever possible.

Thank you for your help and cooperation.

PLANNED GIVING

ENVELOPE BOXES

For anyone using the planned giving envelopes, a new set is available for the new financial year. They are on the table at the back of the church, labelled by name and envelope number. Please collect your set from there.

Also, if you have signed up for Gift Aid but your tax circumstances have since changed, please let us know by sending an email:

Baldock@rcdow.org.uk

YOUNG PEOPLE - HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED

BECOMING AN ALTER SERVER FOR MASS?

We are always looking for more young/older people to help with serving across all of our Masses. If you have made your First Holy Communion then why not come along and give it a try? Full support and training is given.

Please see Fr Denis if you are interested.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Peter Robinson, Mary Callaghan, Pamela Steele, Barry Evans, and for those who care for and support them.

We remember those who have died recently, especially Sylvia Kelly; and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Abina Taylor; Mary Knowd; Mary Richardson; Mary Rose Walsh; James Barkley; Annie Brooks; Wanda Panico Carlo; Gelmini; and Marlene Downham.

MISSIO RED BOX SCHEME

Please could Red Box Holders bring in your Red Boxes for counting. Many thanks.

Sat 13 th	6.30pm	Michael & Breege Kerrane RIP
Sun 14 th	8.30am 10.30am	Margaret Lee & all Lee Family People of the Parish
Mon 15 th	10.00am	
Tue 16 th	10.00am	
Wed 17 th	10.00am	Dorrie Randal RIP
Thu 18 th	10.00am	
Fri 19 th	No mass	

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>

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19th to 26th July 2024

Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage, led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, is open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/>

Anima Christi
 Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within Your wounds, hide me.
 Separated from you, let me never be.
 From evil one, protect me.
 At the hour of my death, call me.
 and close to you, bid me.
 That with your saints, I may be.
 Praising you forever and ever. Amen