



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



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

5th Sunday of Easter 28th APRIL 2024

Let us sing to the Lord a song of love

Sing to the Lord a new song; his praise is in the assembly of the saints. We are urged to sing a new song to the Lord, as new men who have learned a new song. A song is a thing of joy; more profoundly, it is a thing of love. Anyone, therefore, who has learned to love the new life, has learned to sing a new song, and the new song reminds us of our new life. The new man, the new song, the new covenant, all belong to the one kingdom of God, and so the new man will sing a new song and will belong to the new covenant.

There is not one who does not love something, but the question is, what to love. The psalms do not tell us not to love, but to choose the object of our love. But how can we choose unless we are first chosen? We cannot love unless someone has loved us first. Listen to the apostle John: *We love him, because he first loved us.* The source of man's love for God can only be found in the fact that God loved him first. He has given us himself as the object of our love, and he has also given us its source. What this source is you may learn more clearly from the apostle Paul who tells us: *The love of God has been poured into our hearts.* This love is not something we generate ourselves; it comes to us *through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

My dear brothers and sons, fruit of the true faith and holy seed of heaven, all you who have been born again in Christ and whose life is from above, listen to me; or rather, listen to the Holy Spirit saying through me: *Sing to the Lord a new song.* Look, you tell me, I am singing. Yes indeed, you are singing; you are singing clearly, I can hear you. But make sure that your life does not contradict your words. Sing with your voices, your hearts, your lips

Sing to the Lord a new song, and you wish to know what praises to sing. The answer is: *His praise is in the assembly of the saints;* it is in the singers themselves. If you desire to praise him, then live what you express. Live good lives and you yourselves will be his praise.

A Sermon by St Augustine

REPOSITORY: There are First Holy Communion cards, rosaries and Mass books now available for sale in the repository.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND - THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Priest Training Fund last weekend the response of prayer for vocations, love and concern for the clergy, and for the current seminarians, was heart warming. If you still wish to make your donation, you will find envelopes at the back of the church. The formation of priests is of top priority, it is our future. May God Bless you for your generosity.

Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood. For more information, or to make a donation, visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

PRESS RELEASE - 22 April 2024

Pope Francis has appointed Mgr. James Curry as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Westminster.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols said: "I express my warmest thanks to Pope Francis for the appointment of Mgr. James Curry as an Auxiliary Bishop for service in this Diocese. His appointment, I am sure, will be widely welcomed. I welcome it myself, with gratitude to him for his generous response. He brings to this role a long experience of life in the Diocese and the pastoral wisdom of many years of priestly ministry.

"Please keep Bishop-elect Curry in your prayers. Appointment as a bishop is a call to service in a new and demanding way. Let us accompany him with our prayers as he prepares for his Episcopal Ordination."

CRAFT & CHAT. A crafting group for adults who enjoy hand sewing, embroidery, knitting etc., and those who would like to learn how to knit/crochet. We meet on the first Friday of each month in the Holy Family room from 9.30 - 11am. Cost is £2 per session (which includes a cuppa) and which goes towards Parish funds. Our next meetings are this coming Friday 3rd May and 6th June.

THE TRUE VINE THAT BEARS FRUIT

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations. In baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true

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

vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, he encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his.

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples, so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will 'prune' us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness.

FEAST OF SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES

In the sixth century, Pope Pelagius I travelled to Constantinople and brought the relics of the Apostles Philip and James back to Rome, placing them in what is today the Church of the Holy Apostles. It is for this reason that we honour these two Apostles together with one feast. St Philip was one of the Twelve Apostles, most likely a follower of St John the Baptist and aware of John proclaiming Jesus as the Messiah. He might have been a brother to Simon Peter and Andrew, making him a fisherman by trade and

being from the town of Bethsaida, just north of the Sea of Galilee. Philip's first act of evangelization was to tell his friend, Nathanael, that they had found the Messiah, and was one of the first chosen by Our Lord. They are joint Patron Saints of Uruguay, with Philip also the Patron of hatmakers and pastry chefs, whilst James is the Patron of the dying and pharmacists.

ANNUAL OPEN AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE

Our annual parish get together will be held on Sunday 30th June, at 10.30am. Please remember that as there will be only one Mass during the weekend, we come together as a parish and celebrate. Everyone is invited to bring their own chairs or blankets. We will serve food afterwards, with more information to follow nearer the time. We will need volunteers to help once again, if you feel you could support. It would be the perfect time to invite family and friends, and please pray for good weather. It is a good day to come together as the family of the church and meet new people. You are most cordially welcomed.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Peter Robinson, Mary Callaghan, Pamela Steele, Barry Evans, Tom Gurhey 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: Pamela Prior; Peter King; Eliza Impey; Elizabeth McClennan; Martin Conway; Martin Conway; Mary Haywood; William Lee; Martin Jurgulanic; Edmund Topajka; Bridget Bolton.

Sat 27 th	6.30pm	Monique Mbeutcha Birthday
Sun 28 th	8.30am 10.30am	Katherine Raven RIP Eleanor Sian RIP
Mon 29 th	10.00am	St Catherine of Siena Martin Skingsley RIP
Tue 30 rd	No Mass	Saint Pius V, Pope
Wed 1 st	10.00am	Saint Joseph the Worker
Thu 2 nd	No mass	Saint Athanasius
Fri 3 rd	No mass	Sts. Philip and James Apostles

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>