



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



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

6th Sunday of Easter 5th MAY 2024

CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis - extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudan appeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. You can also text Text CAFODSUDAN to 70450 to donate £10. Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text CAFODSUDANNOINFO instead.



PRAYER OF THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Lord Jesus, you became man and came to live among us. For love of us, you suffered and died for us. Because you are God, you conquered death and rose on the third day. Today you return to your Father and our Father, But you promised to remain with us till the end of time, And to send us the Holy Spirit. We rejoice and thank you, Lord Jesus. Come Holy Spirit, purify and transform us, Kindle within us the fire of your love. Amen.
(Diana Sutherland, CAFOD)

Queen of the May

May is a month that is loved, and its arrival is welcome for several reasons. In our hemisphere spring advances with so many colourful blossoms; the climate is favourable for walks and excursions. For the liturgy, May always belongs to

the Easter Season, the season of the "alleluia," of the revelation of the mystery of Christ in the light of the Resurrection and of the Easter faith; and it is the time of expectation of the Holy Spirit, who descends with power on the nascent Church at Pentecost.

A Brief History of the Rosary

May is the month of Mary and we are asked to ponder the sacred mysteries of the Rosary during this month. How did the rosary come into being? The 150 Psalms of the Old Testament's Psalms of David (or 'Psalter') became central to the cycle of prayer in the early Church, especially among monastic communities. As manuscripts of the Psalms were largely restricted to these communities and, indeed, as few people were able to read, a simpler form of prayer, which mirrored the recitation of the Psalms, was devised. The 'Our Father' was repeated 150 times - sometimes pebbles or knotted cords were used to keep an accurate count, but a ring of beads known as the crown or 'corona' became popular. In the 12th century, with the growth in popularity of Marian devotion, the Hail Mary came to replace the Our Father as the prayer most associated with beads and the repeated recitation of the Hail Mary became known as the 'Psalter of the Blessed Virgin Mary'.

The 150 Hail Marys were subsequently subdivided into 15 decades by the young Dominican friar, Henry Kalkar (1328-1408), with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. The Dominican, Alanus de Rupe (1428-1478) further divided the episodes in the history of salvation into the joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries. He also attributed the origin of the Rosary to St Dominic and so spurred the Dominican Order to make the Apostolate of the Rosary their special concern.

The tradition that Our Lady gave the Rosary to St Dominic (1170-1221) is well known Pope Leo XIII was in no doubt. In his encyclical *Octobri Mense*, he states that the Rosary does in fact have its origin from Our Lady herself 'by her command and counsel' to Saint Dominic. Pope Leo XIII teaches: 'That the Queen of Heaven herself has granted a great efficacy to this devotion is demonstrated by the fact that it was, by her command and counsel, instituted and propagated by the illustrious St Dominic, in times particularly dangerous for the Catholic cause.' This tradition has been depicted in many paintings.. The Rosary

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

had been completed by the addition of the second half of the 'Hail Mary' and the 'Glory be to the Father' at the conclusion of each mystery. The Hail Mary incorporates two passages from Saint Luke's Gospel: the Angel Gabriel's greeting at the Annunciation 'Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee', and Elizabeth's greeting at the Visitation 'Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.' In the mid-13th-century Western Europe the prayer consisted only of these words with the single addition of the name 'Mary' after the word 'Hail', as is evident from the commentary of Saint Thomas Aquinas on the prayer. The petition 'Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.' appeared in the 15th century.

In October 2002, Blessed John Paul II added a further set of mysteries to the meditations of the Rosary - the Mysteries of Light or Luminous Mysteries. These were first proposed in 1957 by St George Preca, Malta's first native saint, who was canonised by Pope Benedict XVI in 2007.

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 meeting is Friday 6th June.

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

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES On Sunday 11th August, the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Assumption Father Denis will lead a small service at Baldock Cemetery, which is just off The Sycamores, next to The Orange Tree Pub. He will be blessing the graves of all our loved ones. If you wish to attend, please be there at 12.30.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish especially; Peter Robinson, Mary Callaghan, Pamela Steele, and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, especially; and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time: James Johnson; Teresa Hyams; Kenneth Woodruff; Johan Kiausus; Eileen Simmons; Hugh Toal; John Albone; Edward Cybulski; Agnes Hughes; James Tracey; James Tracey; Mary Day.

Sat 4 th	6.30pm	The English Martyrs People of Ukraine
Sun 5 th	8.30am 10.30am	Paul Linnett intention People of the Parish
Mon 6 th	10.00am	
Tue 7 th	10.00am	
Wed 8 th	10.00am	
Thu 9 th	10.00am	The Ascension of the Lord Mark Russell & Family
Fri 10 th	No mass	St. John of Avila

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>

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.