



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



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

Third Sunday of Lent

23rd March 2025



Christ and Moses

The Israelites witnessed marvels; you also will witness marvels, greater and more splendid than those which accompanied them on their departure from Egypt. You did not see Pharaoh drowned with his armies, but you have seen the devil with his weapons overcome by the waters of baptism. The Israelites passed through the sea; you have passed from death to life. They were delivered from the Egyptians; you have been delivered from the powers of darkness. The Israelites were freed from slavery to a pagan people; you have been freed from the much greater slavery to sin.

In those days Christ was present to the Israelites as he followed them, but he is present to us in a much deeper sense. The Lord was with them because of the favour he showed to Moses; now he is with us, but not simply because of your obedience. After Egypt they dwelt in desert places; after your departure you will dwell in heaven. Their great leader and commander was Moses; we have a new Moses, God himself, as our leader and commander.

What distinguished the first Moses? Moses, Scripture tells us, was gentler than all who dwelt upon the earth. We can rightly say the same of the new Moses, for there was with him the very Spirit of gentleness, united to him in his inmost being. In those days Moses raised his hands to heaven and brought down manna, the bread of angels; the new Moses raises his hands to heaven and gives us the food of eternal life. Moses struck the rock and brought forth streams of water; Christ touches his table, strikes the spiritual rock of the new covenant and draws forth the living water of the Spirit. This rock is like a fountain in the midst of Christ's table. so that on all sides the flocks may draw near to this living spring and refresh themselves in the waters of salvation.

Since this fountain, this source of life, this table surrounds us with untold blessings and fills us with the gifts of the Spirit; let us approach it with sincerity of heart and purity of conscience to receive grace and mercy in our time of need. Grace and mercy be yours from the only-begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; through him and with him be glory, honour and power to the Father and the life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever. Amen.

A Lenten reflection by Saint John Chrysostom.

A PRAYER FOR LENT

O gracious Master, infuse in our hearts the spotless light of Your Divine Wisdom and open the eyes of our mind that we may understand the teachings of Your Gospel. Instill in us also the fear of your blessed commandments, so that having curbed all carnal desires, we may lead a spiritual life, both thinking and doing everything to please You. For You, O Christ, our God, are the enlightenment of our souls and bodies; and to You we render glory, together with Your eternal Father, and with Your all holy, life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen

Lenten Programme

Stations of the Cross - will be held after the 10.00am Wednesday Mass and every Friday (except Good Friday) at 7.00pm, during Lent.

Services for Holy Week

Holy Thursday - 17th April

- Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm

Good Friday - 18th April

- Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.30am
- Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm

Easter Vigil - Saturday 19th April

- Mass at 8.30pm

Easter Sunday - 20th April

- Mass at 8.30am & 10.30am

Divine Mercy Sunday - 27th April

- Holy Hour and confessions at 2.45pm

Readings: Parish Mass Book Page 160

A prayer for Pope Francis

Heavenly Father,

We lift up Pope Francis to You in prayer. Please grant him strength and comfort during this time of sickness. Surround him with Your love and healing presence. Give wisdom to the doctors and caregivers who attend to him. May he feel the support and prayers of all who care for him. Restore his health and grant him peace. Amen

Cakes 4R Church : Our popular cake sale is back & will be held over the weekend of 29th & 30th March (Mother's Day weekend). Please support our popular fundraiser by baking or buying cakes for us to sell. Plates will be handed out this weekend.

Yes to our Hospices - No to Assisted Suicide
Dying people in this country need outstanding hospice care, not assisted suicide. Palliative care is the way forward, not assisted suicide. Please take a postcard and send to SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) who will forward to the Prime Minister. (Postcards available at the back of the Church after Mass).

2025 Parish Dates for your Diary

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th March - Cake Sale:
Will take place after each weekend Mass.

Saturday 10th May - First Holy Communion Mass:
11.00am.

Sunday 18th May - Confirmation Mass: Bishop Paul McAleenan will confirm the candidates at the 10.30am Mass.

Sunday 6th July - Open Air Mass: 10.30am in the church grounds. *This is the only Mass that weekend.*

Please speak to Fr. Denis if you have any questions regarding these events.



Your Prayers Are Asked For:

We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish, especially Peter Comiski, Gerri Quinn and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Mary Kate Drew, James Creamer, Fr Michael Lee, Joseph Partridge, Maria Parisi, Elsie Shepherd, Sadie Dyson, Lilian Cook, Peter Butterly, Henry Davey, Brigid Randall, James McGrath, Helena Solich, Patrick Bowen, Raymond Jones, Marsha Long, Leon Grudulis.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sat 22 nd	6.30pm	Froilan Huliganga RIP
Sun 23 rd	8.30am 10.30am	Paddy Coughlan RIP
Mon 24 th	10.00am	Maureen Lydon
Tue 25 th	10.00am	The Annunciation of the Lord
Wed 26 th	10.00am	Patrick Cahalin
Thu 27 th	10.00am	Theresa O Hara
Fri 28 th	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.

Children's Liturgy: Takes place during the 10.30am Mass except on the First Sunday of the Month (Family Mass) and during school holidays.

The Vigil Mass (6.30pm) and the Sunday Mass (10.30am) can be watched online via the Parish Facebook Page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury.**

Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Officers have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk within the Parish.

Patricia Cusack: Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Colette Murphy: Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Our Catholic Schools

St. John's Catholic Primary School, Baldock
T: 01462 892478 W: stjohns4.herts.sch.uk

The Saint John Henry Newman School, Stevenage, T: 01438 314643 W: jhn.herts.sch.uk

John O'Neil is the Lister Hospital RC Chaplain
Mob: 07876 526935 or T: 01438 285518

Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Weddings and Funerals for further details please speak to Fr. Denis, look at the website or contact the parish office.

Church Hall Bookings the church hall is available to be booked for groups or celebrations. Please contact the parish office for more details.

Baldock Catholic Scout Group for boys & girls aged 6-14. Contact: enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk

To receive an email copy of the Newsletter, please visit our website:

parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock and click on 'Subscribe to Alerts' at the bottom of the page.