



**Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate  
& St Gregory the Great**

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## Laetare Sunday

Week 4

Year C

Jesus spoke to the blind man, who had been cast him out, and asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You are looking at him and it is he who is speaking to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshipped him.

What can keep us from the light of God's truth, wisdom, and strength for our lives? Sin blinds us and causes us to stumble and fall - unable to rise on our own or to walk in the freedom of God's love and truth. Sin clouds the mind in moral confusion, and it grows in darkness and resists the light of God's truth. Only God's light can uncover the darkness of sin and free us to walk in the path of holiness and peace with God.

When Jesus approached the blind man he first awakened hope in him - the hope which God offers those who seek his help. Jesus then did something quite remarkable for the blind man, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw expectant faith in him as well. What is the significance of the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit (John 7:38). During this Fourth Sunday of Lent let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out on us his renewing power of faith, vision, and healing love.

*Quote for Lent: Come and Be Baptised, by St Ambrose of Milan, 339-397 A.D.*

"Again, I ask you: What is he trying to convey to us by spitting on the ground, mixing his saliva with clay and putting it on the eyes of a blind man, saying, 'Go and wash yourself in the pool of Siloam (a name that means 'sent')'? What is the meaning of the Lord's action in this? Surely one of great significance, since the person whom Jesus touches receives more than just his sight.

In one instant we see both the power of his divinity and the strength of his holiness. As the divine light, he touched this man and enlightened him. As priest, by an action symbolising baptism he wrought in him his work of redemption. The only reason for his mixing clay with the saliva and smearing it on the eyes of the blind man was to remind you that he who restored the man to health by anointing his eyes with clay is the very one who fashioned the first man out of clay, and that this clay that is our flesh can receive the light of eternal life through the sacrament of baptism.

**Fr John**

### Sunday 31st March 2019

- 18.30\* Mass Peggy O'Neill +
- 08.00 Mass Michael Lydon +
- 09.30 Mass Barbara Carnera-Sullivan ann+
- 11.15 Mass (*second scrutiny*) Year A Eddie Mitchell +
- 18.30 Mass Parish & People

### Monday 1

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass Mary Moxham +
- 13.00 Mass at Chase Farm Hospital
- 12.30 Alpha - PH
- 19.30 Alpha - PH
- 20.00 RCIA - JP Room

### Tuesday 2

#### St Francis of Paola, Hermit

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass Alfred Boucard +
- 10.30 Ascent Group (*see notices*)
- 18.00 KOB - PH

### Wednesday 3

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass
- 11.00-18.00 ADORATION
- 13.00 Mass at Barnet Gen Hospital
- 16.00 Novena to Our Lady of Perp Help
- 20.00 Ignatian Spirituality Course -PH

### Thursday 4

#### St Isidore

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass
- 12.00 parish closed for rest of the day

### Friday 5

#### St Vincent Ferrer

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass Patrick Reilly +
- 11.00-18.00 ADORATION
- 19.00 - Reconciliation Service - (*see notices*)

### Saturday 6

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00 Mass Eamonn Gaffney +
- 18.30\* Mass Bridget Murphy (int)

### 7th Fifth Sunday of Lent

- 08.00 Mass Joseph Francis +
- 09.30 Mass (*Third Scrutiny*) Year A Germana & Santapalpile Arokianathan ann +
- 11.15 Mass Brenda Cleary (int)
- 18.30 Mass Parish & People

## NOTICES



### Be Reconciled with God

Friday 5 April

7.00pm

Service journeying the Stations of the Cross with Adoration and Praise & Worship. **Individual Confessions** is available throughout the evening.

Please note this replaces our parish Lenten Reconciliation Service.

**Life Ascending Barnet:** meet this Tuesday (2nd) after 10am Mass. Please join them as they lead the Stations of the Cross in church. All are welcome. Followed by refreshments in the JP Room.

**Can your connections help our church?** We are hoping to approach a number of organisations for funding for our new church, who have a charitable giving section. This process can be made much simpler, or in many cases unique, if a parishioner is currently employed or has connections with an organisation.

We are looking for parishioners who would be happy to approach their employers on behalf of their parish. We will do everything to support you and will provide appropriate documentation and references to assist this application. This will enable us to hopefully reduce our debt in a much shorter period of time and thus enabling us to redirect future funding to exciting new projects for our parish and community. Please email Fr John [barnet@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:barnet@rcdow.org.uk) if you can help.

**Have you signed a Gift Aid Form?** we will soon be claiming the income tax you have paid on your donations. If you have stopped paying income tax or you have any queries, please contact Patricia Carey by email [barnetgac@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:barnetgac@rcdow.org.uk) or telephone 8449 3338 so that we do

not ask for the tax you have paid. **Planned Giving Boxes** will be available for collection after Mass today.

**Friends of St Martha/Jeanne Antide** meet on Sunday 31 March at 2.45pm. Lift available outside the church at 2.30pm. Please let Sr Irene know.

**Adoration** every Wednesday & Friday: 11am to 6pm. Please sign up on the list in the porch if you can spend an hour with Jesus.

**Anyone who would like to help sing or play in the music group for the Triduum:** Maundy Thursday 18th April at 8pm, Good Friday at 3pm (choir only) and Holy Saturday 20th April (evening), please contact Teresa O'Sullivan via presbytery 8449 3338 or speak with Teresa after the 9.30am Sunday Mass.

**St Gregory's Gardening Club:** are gathering together and would welcome anyone who is able to help on Saturday 6th April and/or Thursday 11th April (after 10am Mass to 1pm). Refreshments provided. Please contact Joe O'Connor 8445 6580.

You are invited to join us on a journey into Ignatian Spirituality for Lent 2019 'Letting God Draw Near: Finding God In All Things' Wednesdays: 8.00pm - 9.30pm here in the parish hall. Suggested donation £5 per talk. Facilitated by Audrey Hamilton from Mount Street Jesuit Centre.

**CAFOD** asks for your support for the disaster victims in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe following the cyclone. Any offering you can give will go a long way. Next weekend there is a retiring collection after Mass. Thank you for your support.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**The Sick & Homebound**

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

**RCIA Candidates & Catechumens:**

**Recently died:** Stephen Hosty

## Music for the Liturgy

**09.30 Mass**

**Entrance:** 193

**Psalm:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Blessed are they who hope in God. Taste and see the Lord is good indeed.

**Prayer: R/: Hear our prayer.**

**Offertory:** 941

**Communion:** Hold us in your mercy.

786

**Going Forth:** 846

### Appeal for a Pianist

The parish is looking for people who can play the piano or organ to join the music team. Please speak to Fr John or Teresa O'Sullivan.