



FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT Year A Week of the Psalter 1

I am the Resurrection and the Life

Today's readings tell us of the God of life, who conquers death. Everything appears to have ended there: the tomb is sealed by a great stone; there is only weeping and desolation there. Even Jesus weeps and is shaken by the dramatic mystery of the loss of a dear person. This is God's heart: far from evil but close to those who are suffering. He does not make evil disappear magically, but he endures the suffering; he makes it his own and transforms it; he abides it. Amid the general despair over the death of Lazarus, Jesus does not allow himself to be transported by despair. Even while suffering himself, he asks that people believe steadfastly. He does not allow the resigned, emotional atmosphere that surrounds him to seize him, but rather, prays with trust and says, "Father, I thank you". He does not run away from suffering, which is part of this life, but he does not allow himself to be held captive by pessimism.

A great "encounter-clash" thus occurred at that sepulchre. *On the one hand, there is the great disappointment*, the precariousness of our mortal life which, pierced by anguish over death, often experiences defeat, an interior darkness which seems insurmountable. *But on the other, there is the hope* that conquers death and evil, the name of this hope is Jesus. We too are called to decide on which side to stand. One can stand *on the side of the sepulchre or on the side of Jesus*. There are those who allow themselves to be closed within their pain and those who open up to hope. There are those who remain trapped among the ruins of life, and those who, like you, with God's help, pick up the ruins of life and rebuild with patient hope. Let us not give in to the useless and inconclusive logic of fear, resignedly repeating that everything is going badly and nothing is as it once was. This is the *sepulchral atmosphere*. The Lord instead wishes to open the path of life, that of encounter with him, of trust in him, of the *resurrection of the heart*, the way of: "Arise, Arise and come out". This is what the Lord asks of us, and he is by our side to do so.

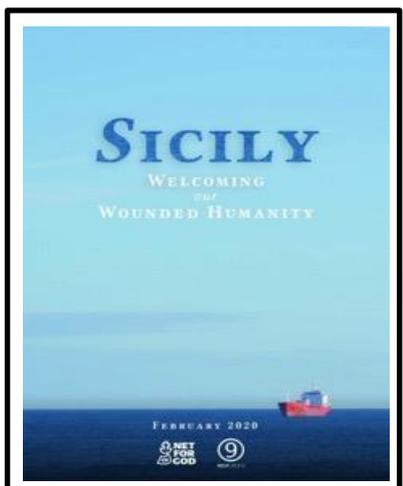
We can however, find *a new stability*, and this stability is Jesus himself who is the Resurrection and the Life. With him, joy abides in our hearts, hope is reborn, suffering is transformed into peace, fear into trust and hardship into an offering of love. And even though burdens will not disappear, there will always be his uplifting hand, his encouraging Word saying to all of us, to each of us: "Come out! Come to me!". He tells all of us: "Do not be afraid".

Pope Francis

NET FOR GOD DVD: SICILY - WELCOME OUR WOUNDED HUMANITY

Tuesday 31st March - 8.00pm - On line: [@ChristTheKingParishCockfosters](https://www.facebook.com/ChristTheKingParishCockfosters)

Sicily, an Italian island on the border between Europe and Africa, has for years been a crossing point for migrants, arriving in circumstances that are often dramatic. In this film we discover three reception centres located in the city of Palermo: the Astalli centre, the Arcobaleno 3P centre and the Missione Speranza e Carità. We meet migrants who have been welcomed and volunteers who have chosen to commit to welcoming others. Many different paths have led these migrants to Sicily, from a wide range of countries such as Bangladesh, Ghana and Nigeria. Through these stories, everyone will find something universal about welcome and encounter.



STAY IN TOUCH

PARISH WEBSITE / FACEBOOK / ONLINE NEWSLETTER

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/cockfosters/>



Please sign up to receive the newsletter by going to the website and scrolling down the page until you see the Parish E-alerts box. Then click on the link and enter your details.

You can watch the live stream on our Facebook page at:

[@ChristTheKingParishCockfosters](https://www.facebook.com/ChristTheKingParishCockfosters)

PARISH SUPPORT

If you need to speak to somebody, require sacraments (confession, sacrament of the sick) or any other assistance, please call the following number:

07946 108 503
Monday – Friday 9am – 6pm



MASS INTENTIONS

If you have booked a mass intention it will still be offered on the day.

If you are looking for a way to **engage your children in the gospel from home**, join CAFOD for our virtual children's liturgy of the word at 10am GMT this Sunday. Register now to take part here.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5095942131288155403>

WATCH OUT FOR SCAMMERS

Sad but true, there will always be unscrupulous people trying to take advantage. Please remain vigilant.



Due the Lockdown the Church is now **Closed**



PARISH LIVE STREAMING OF MASS & ADORATION



To stay united we will live stream Mass and Adoration

[@ChristTheKingParishCockfosters](https://www.facebook.com/ChristTheKingParishCockfosters)

You can also join other parishes through the following website:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/churches/>



DONATIONS

Some parishioners have asked how to give a donation. These are the following options:

1. Bank transfer:
HSBC 40-05-20 Acct. 21861433
2. Through the website
3. Cash or cheque posted through the parish office letter box.

Thank you

Please remember to reference the payment e.g. *Surname* Planned Giving



Sunday 29 March	FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT year A Mass 11.00am Readings: Ezekiel 37:12-14. Ps. 129. Rom.8:8-11. Jn. 11:1-45.	Thursday 2 April	Lent Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Genesis 17:3-9. Ps. 104:4-9. Jn. 8:51-59.
Monday 30 March	Lent Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Daniel 13:1-9. 15-17. 19-30. 33-62. Ps. 22. Jn. 8:1-11.	Friday 3 April	Lent Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Jeremiah 20:10-13. Ps. 17:2-7. Jn. 10:31-42.
Tuesday 31 March	Lent Feria NO MASS Readings: Numbers 21:4-9. Ps. 101:2-3. 16-21. Jn. 8:21-30.	Saturday 4 April	Lent Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Ezekiel 37:21-28. Ps. Jer 31:10-13. Jn. 11:45-56..
Wednesday 1 April	Lent Feria Mass: 11.00am Readings: Daniel 3:14-20. 24-25. 28. Ps. Dan. 3:52-56. Jn. 8:31-42.	Sunday 5 April	PALM SUNDAY Mass: 11.00am Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7. Ps. 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. Phil. 2:6-11. Mt. 26:14. – 27:66.