



Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church

Rev Fr Tim Edgar (Parish Priest)
 Rev Deacon Justin Cross
 Tel: 01727 850066
www.rcdow.org.uk/stalbanssouth
stalbanssouth@rcdow.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number: 233699

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| S 17 | 6.00pm | | our Confirmation candidates |
| Su 18 | 8.30am | | the people of the Parish & their needs |
| | 10.30am | | Teddy Moynihan (rec dec) |
| | 5.00pm (TLM) | | priest's intentions |
| M 19 | 12noon | St Joseph, Husband of the BVM | Rosemary Kaylor (rec dec) |
| T 20 | 9.00am | Lent feria | Barry Rooney (rec dec) |
| W 21 | 10.00am | REQUIEM MASS & FUNERAL OF NOREEN CAROLAN | |
| | 7.00pm | | private intention |
| T 22 | 7.30am | Lent feria | Owen McDermott (rec dec) |
| F 23 | 9.30am | Lent feria | Henry & Ellen Gaitskell (anniv) |
| S 24 | 9.00am | Lent feria | HCPT Group 149 |

PALM SUNDAY

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|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| S 24 | 6.00pm | | James Cassidy (anniv) |
| Su 25 | 8.30am | | the people of the Parish & their needs |
| | 10.30am | | dep'd of the Rogoobeer family |
| | 5.00pm (TLM) | | priest's intentions |

Mass times and intentions are subject to change if there is a funeral.
 Lauds (Morning Prayer of the Church) is offered every Friday at 9.15am
 Confessions: Saturday 9.30-10am; 5.15-5.45pm and at call

Holy Matrimony: - in accordance with the norms of Canon Law, six months' notice must be given, whether the marriage is here or abroad, to enable the required spiritual preparation to take place and for the paperwork to be gathered and, if necessary, submitted to the Chancellor of the Diocese. Please make an appointment to see either of the clergy.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: after Mass on Saturday morning

Parish Centre Bookings: call the Parish Office or email: susannacorbally@rcdow.org.uk
 (£20 per hour for regular bookings; £25 per hour for occasional or single bookings.)

The Parish Office is **normally** open on Monday and Friday
 9.00 am until 12.00noon (**term time only**)

The Parish Secretaries are Mrs. Susanna Corbally - susannacorbally@rcdow.org.uk
 and Mrs. Michelle Fitzgerald - michellefitzgerald@rcdow.org.uk

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

11 March £480.86

(includes envelopes but not Bankers Orders etc.
 which average £1602 per week).

Thank you for your generosity!

Text **PARISH STALS** to 70800 to donate £5
 automatically.

LENT

Please note that there will be an additional **Mass on Wednesdays of Lent at 7pm** and will begin with Stations of the Cross. Confessions will be heard from 6.30pm.

On this 5th Sunday of Lent we enter Passiontide. The great Crucifix is veiled as are Our Blessed Lady and St Bartholomew. Our focus is clear; nothing should distract us from the journey to Calvary. The forty days and nights that Jesus spent in the wilderness point towards Gethsemane. Writing of what took place after the Last Supper when Jesus went out into the night to the Mount of Olives, Pope Benedict XVI says: "anyone who spends time here is confronted with one of the most dramatic moments in the mystery of our Saviour. It was here that Jesus experienced that final loneliness, the whole anguish of the human condition. Here the abyss of sin and evil penetrated deep within his soul. Here he was to quake with foreboding of his imminent death. Here

he was kissed by the betrayer. Here he was abandoned by all his disciples Here he wrestled with his destiny for my sake".

As we move closer to Holy Week, our own reflection needs to be centred increasingly on the sufferings of Christ as witnessed in the fourteen Stations of the Cross which adorn the walls of every Catholic church. The agony of Christ, entered into affectively by our contemplation of his wounded body, and sacramentally through the Church's liturgies, helps us to a deeper understanding of the cost of the Incarnation – "*being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross*" (Philippians 2:8). Because we are Catholic, sacred liturgical worship should be at the centre of our lives. Jesus Christ is present among us in the Church's sacred worship. In the mystery of Holy Mass, we are present to the Paschal mystery, the sacrifice of Christ's death on Calvary. Our liturgical worship is a foretaste of the heavenly liturgy and expresses our love for God. We are made, literally, to worship God.

In worship, we are sanctified - made holy - by the grace of union with Christ's life, death, and resurrection. In sacred worship, we are configured to Christ; we offer our lives in union with his great act of selfless love on the cross, and thus we are formed to love the world as he does. For this reason, the Second Vatican Council taught that sacred worship of God is "the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows."

In the Passion Jesus takes into himself the alienation and desperation felt by so many: his heart echoes with the experience of anyone who has ever known despair. All that had previously held together now falls apart, and the crowning with thorns is not just an added act of barbarity but a potent symbol of the agony which now senses utter abandonment.

Anyone who has ever doubted themselves or God, who has ever cried out against the injustices and imbalances of this life, who has ever known despondency, can now know that Christ has already been there before them. The Pope Emeritus understands what all this means: "*Jesus brings the anguished cry at God's absence before the heart of God himself. He identifies himself with all who suffer under 'God's darkness'; he takes their cry, their anguish, all their helplessness upon himself – and in so doing he transforms it*".

Confession is available on Saturday mornings from 9.30am until 10am; 5.15pm to 5.45pm, Wednesday evening from 6.30pm to 6.50pm and at call. **During Holy Week** Confession will be available on Monday from 11.00am until 11.45am and from 8pm until 8.50pm; on Tuesday from 8pm until 8.50pm; on Wednesday from 6.30pm until 6.50pm; on Maundy Thursday from 7pm to 7.30pm; on Good Friday from 10.30am to 11am, 2pm to 2.50pm; on Holy Saturday from 10am until 11am. God is where he always is, loving us and waiting for us to repent and reach out in love to him. If we have become too wise or grand for that then we are still in the fall, - we have chosen the light of our reason to God's light, and may he have mercy on us and guide us to repentance.

PLEASE pray for the people of the Holy Land & Syria and all who live in the midst of violence. For Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Religious Life. For those who are sick either at Home, in Hospital or Nursing Home, particularly Margaret Grady, & Nicki

Eathorne. The recently departed -Noreen Carolan, Brian Cross, Shirley Kepel; those killed as a result of warfare, violence, terrorism and persecution. Peace in the world, most especially at this time in Syria & the Holy Land and for those who govern the nations that they may do so wisely and justly.

Please pray, too, for our **Confirmation candidates** who are preparing to be confirmed by Bishop Paul McAleenan on Saturday 19th May. The Rite of Election for those candidates who wish to go forward will be on Saturday 17th March at 6pm.

HCPT GROUP 149

Our Group will begin their pilgrimage to Lourdes on Easter Monday, 2nd April. As always, we will remember our sponsors and benefactors in our prayers at the Grotto and during our Masses.

If you would like a special intention offered at the Grotto we would be very happy to do that. If you could write that down and put it in an envelope and deliver it to the Presbytery, then all of those prayers will be offered. If you would like your intention to remain private, in other words we won't open the envelope, but just leave that with Our Lady, then we are equally happy to do that. Lastly, if you would like us to light a candle for your intentions, then please put your offering for the candle in the envelope (or separately, if the intention is private) and put it through the Presbytery door.

Offertory Envelopes for 2018/2019

As we are approaching April the new boxes of envelopes are ready to be collected at the back of Church. We have a list of parishioners whom we believe are still using the envelopes weekly. If, however, you no longer require your envelopes then please write on the box that they are no longer required. Please consider signing a Standing Order form, which can be cancelled at any time, which are at the back of Church.

NOREEN CAROLAN

The mortal remains of Noreen Carolan will be received into Church on Tuesday 20th March at 5.30pm. Her Requiem Mass & Funeral will take place on Wednesday 21st at 10am.

Into thy hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend thy servant Noreen. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

In paradisum deducant te angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Ierusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro, quondam paupere, aeternam habeas requiem.

PARISH FAIR TRADE LUNCH HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY 29th APRIL.

If you bought tickets and cannot come on that date, please get in touch with Adelheid Smith for a refund 01727 834491 or email: petersmith40@hotmail.com There are still a few tickets left, so if you haven't bought one and would like to come, please contact Adelheid.