



**PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH,
THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER**

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: PC, Yee Wing, CPO, Gillian Gibb, Phyllis Coffey, Ann Hull, Margaret O'Hanlon, Chris, RC, Theresa Mulvaney, Jodie Clarke, Kieran Maher, Rose Knights, Mary Honey, Peggy & John Cox, Diego Campigotto, Edel Rickard, Polly Thompson, Jean McGrath, Antonio Rodrigues, Julie & Lawrence Hayes, Margaret O'Brien, Michael Rynne, Mary Geaghan, Annemarie Dax, Special Intention, Terry Highland, Colleen Thomas, Joe Nemeth, Helen Faria, Margaret Callighne, Frank Hunt, Maggie Korrane, Vera Hylton, Monica Wisniewicz, Eileen Harrison, Ian Measham, David Colville, Josephine Smullen, Edward Reilly, Betty Cain, Callum Stewart-Robert, Betty Hickey, Bernie Marren, Sadie Burgess, Shayanayaki Kaithampillai, Richard Howse, Mia Harrison, RK., Special Intention, Ann Nemeth, Marjorie Hoareau, Max Perera, Nick Holmes, George McDermott, Michael Fahy, Mary E. Malone, Michael Griffin Snr., Titus Fernandes, Sean O'Connor, Alan Parnell, MTD., Breda Connellan, Marie Rego, Minneth Johns, Antonio DiLieto Snr, Maria Rosario, Yolande Dias, Paul Joseph Coughlan, Maria Nellie DeLima.

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Tommy Donohue, John Timon

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Brian Drake, George Cronk, Rosario Rosa, Peter McGauran (1st), Frances Westwood (donor of this church), Mr. S. Manuelpillai, Roisin Nolan.

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Sydney Marie Edgar, Daniel Koncevicus.

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR APRIL:

That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory for ever. As a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief your only Son was lifted up that he might draw the whole world to himself. May we walk this day in the way of the cross and always be ready to share its weight, declaring your love for all the world.

SANCTUARY LAMP

has been sponsored this week by
MR & MRS F IN THANKSGIVING

**LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF
OUR LADY OFWALSINGHAM**

has been sponsored this week in
**THANKSGIVING AND FOR
SPECIAL INTENTIONS**



**TURN OFF
ALL MOBILE
PHONES**

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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Pastoral Assistant:	Peter Kingsley	peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
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Director of Music:	Scott Price	scottprice@rcdow.org.uk

Hall Bookings: via the office or sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
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4. Fr. Tony; 5. Pastoral Assistant. Charity No: 233699
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Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday readings
Lent week 5
Divine Office
Lent week 1

**The Catholic Parish
of St George, Sudbury**



**Sunday 2nd April 2017
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Welcome to all at Mass today, especially to any visitors and particularly those who are here for the first time. Please take this sheet home with you which will tell you about this week's celebration and the activities during the week and also to remind you of our Liturgy today.

TODAY'S MASS



What is the significance of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead? It is more than a miraculous event. It is a "sign" of God's promise to raise up all who have died in Christ to everlasting life. That is why Jesus asked Martha if she believed in the resurrection from the dead. The Christian creed, which is the profession of our faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and in the saving power of God,

culminates in the proclamation of the resurrection of the dead on the last day and in life everlasting. This is our faith and our hope.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

God will open the graves and restore the people of Israel.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of God dwells in you.

Gospel Reading: John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world". Yes, O Lord! We also believe, notwithstanding our doubts and darkness; we believe in you because you have the words of eternal life. We want to believe in you, who give us a trustworthy hope of life beyond life, of authentic and full life in your Kingdom of light and peace." Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Sunday reflection

As our catechumens (those preparing for baptism at Easter) move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Easter Vigil, today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha

affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

With our catechumens preparing for their Baptism at Easter, the Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.



PARISH MEN'S BREAKFAST. Our next breakfast will be on Saturday 3rd June at 9.00am. The speaker will be our very own Stephen Dunn (a parishioner at St George's) who will talk about his behind-the-scenes involvement covering Pope Benedict's visit to the UK on BBC television.

HOLY BAPTISM: Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation evening. Parents to be, i.e. before birth, are welcome to attend. Please note that our next baptism preparation evening will be on Friday 28th April at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

FRIENDS OF JESUS - The Friends of Jesus offers Religious Education to those children of primary school age not attending a Catholic school. The Friends of Jesus meets during term-time for an hour at 5.30pm on Fridays. If you are interested in finding out more about the Friends of Jesus please pick up an Information Leaflet from the back of church. Enrolment Forms are available from the Parish Office.

THURSDAY TEAS & COFFEES IN THE CAFE BAR - are now having an Easter break. The Thursday Café/Bar will be back on Thursday 27th April from 9am-11am.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPICE—Mothers; Day Charity Sale: A very big THANK YOU to the clergy, helpers and the parish and to all who came, gave donations and made cakes: St. Luke's made £585, Alzheimer's Association £100, Marie Cure £120 and Fair Trade £70.

HELP WANTED. A parishioner here at St George's needs to learn some basic conversational Polish. Is there anyone in the parish who can help? If so, please contact Fr Tony.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DRESSES ON SALE - First Holy Communion Clothes, Tiaras, Petticoats, Accessories, Gift Items and Holy Communion Theme Table Decorations are available for sale in the Parish Centre this Sunday morning from 9am. Most of the items are being sold at half the R.R.P. one would pay in a shop. Some of the proceeds from sales will be going to Wood End Residents Association for the Elderly and a donation will also be going to St. George's Church

BEFIENDING SERVICE - If you know of anyone in the Parish who might like to be befriended please let us know as we have a small group of befrienders who would be only too happy to help.

CHURCH LAMPS: If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office. We now have cards (akin to Mass Cards) for the sponsoring

of the Sacrament lamp or Walsingham Lamp if you'd like to use these if you are sponsoring a lamp in memory of someone. They can be obtained from the parish office.

HARROW SUPPORT GROUP for separated and divorced Catholics. The next meeting will be on Monday 3 April 2017 at 8pm in the hall at St Bernard's Church, Northolt Road. All are welcome, regardless of their situation. For more information please ring Jill 8204 3714 or Eileen 8756 1284.

The Friends of **SUDBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE** welcomes everyone to a SNC Support Sale on Saturday 8th April from 10am—12 noon. Bric-a-brac, clothes and more at 809 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LP.

TABLE TENNIS TABLE—free—telephone 020 8904 9269.

WHITE/YELLOW FOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING: (See in church porch)

- LENTEN Retreats.
- BEGINNING EXPERIENCE helps separated, divorced or widowed Catholics.
- SMART LOVING SEMINAR for married couples.
- CATHOLIC SINGLES information
- RETROUVAILLE—a lifeline for married couples.
- WIDOWED YOUNG—support events.
- CALIX CENTRE—A Catholic ministry to addicts.
- ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES.—new information.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: THE HOLY LAND 31st Oct to 7th November led by Bishop John Sherrington. Further details in the folder in porch.

- JOB VACANCIES:**
- CLEANER REQUIRED. 5 days a week, 5 hours per day for large residential priest home in Northfields. Previous experience necessary. For further information please contact the House Manager on 0208 799 5010/email sectorhouse@mafrgb.org.uk
 - ST. RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, Twickenham has 3 teacher vacancies for September. Details on their website
 - DIOCESAN VACANCIES:- Please see folder and website. for latest details.

FOLDERS in the church porch: look for pilgrimages & retreats, job opportunities, schools & colleges .

A	M	A	R	T	A	H	R	A	M	LAZARUS
S	I	T	E	E	F	A	L	B	A	BETHANY
R	S	E	E	A	H	A	E	L	B	SISTERS
E	Y	U	A	T	Z	T	N	M	Y	MARTHA
T	R	O	R	A	H	E	O	S	T	MARY
S	A	A	P	A	R	T	T	R	E	ointment
I	M	A	N	Y	Z	U	S	U	B	FEET
S	U	Y	R	A	E	A	D	U	J	BROTHER
R	A	Z	A	L	A	Z	L	O	T	JUDAEA
T	N	E	M	T	N	I	O	E	R	TOMB
										STONE
										PRAYER

NEWS & VIEWS

WELCOME to all who have come to Mass today. Please stay on if you are able, for TEA & COFFEE after the 9.45am and 11.15am Masses, in the Bar of the Parish Centre. THE TUCK SHOP is now closed during Lent.

NEW TO THE PARISH? if you are, please know you are very welcome. Please fill in one of the new parishioners forms at the back of church and we'll get back to you.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE MISSION—please take a thanksgiving card if you have not already received one. They can be found at the back of the church.

PLEASE TRY AND LEAVE THE PEW NEAT AND TIDY AS YOU LEAVE CHURCH TODAY.

FLOWERS AT EASTER: If you'd like to sponsor a lily in memory of loved ones there are envelopes at the back of church for you to make this contribution. The names of the departed will be enrolled in a special book for the season.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Monday—Friday, 9.00-9.30am during Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent every Friday after the 9.30am Mass (approx. at 10.00am).

PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 2 April:	
Teas/coffees after 9.45am and 11.15am Masses	
Monday 3 April:	
Tuesday 4 April:	
Over 60's Club	1.00pm
First Holy Communion	7.30pm
Set Dancing	8.45pm
Wednesday 5 April:	
Oremus Course	1.00pm
Ladies' Social Guild	8.00pm
Thursday 6 April:	
Church Cleaning Group B	1.45pm
Prayer Group	8.00pm
Friday 7 April:	
Teas after morning Mass	
Friends of Jesus	5.30pm.

AFTER THE MISSION—Are you hoping to deepen your spiritual life following our parish mission? Perhaps you are attracted to a life of prayer but don't know how to start? '**Oremus**' is an eight-week course of teaching and practical guidance about prayer which will be running in St George's over the coming weeks. Our lunchtime sessions (Wednesdays at 1.00pm) have just started, but it's not too late to join. There will also be a Wednesday evening session, beginning on 26th April. Please speak to or email Fr Tony if you are interested.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED APPEAL: This weekend we will welcome Mr John Ravi, area secretary for Aid to the Church in Need for the Archdiocese of Westminster, who will speak during all Masses. Aid to the Church in Need is a Catholic charity which works in 140 countries, helping persecuted and oppressed Christians around the world through prayer, information and action. At the moment it is involved in the frontline works in Syria and Iraq. If you wish to find out more about the charity, which is a pontifical foundation of the Catholic Church or if you wish to be a parish representative, please contact John on 07727442510, 020 8642 8668 or you can go online www.acnuk.org.

LENTEN SMALL GROUP - The Lenten Small Group meets on the five Mondays during Lent for 90 minute sessions in the Café Bar after the 9.30am Mass. The theme for prayer and discussion will be 'Meeting Mercy.' All are welcome!

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS & WORKSHOP - As last year, the Children's Workshop and Stations of the Cross will be taking place on Good Friday at 11.30am. If you would like to help in any way please speak to Candy White or contact our Pastoral Assistant, Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you!

THE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TOMMY DONOHUE RIP are as follows: Reception at 8pm on Tuesday 4th April at St. John Fisher Church, Perivale. Funeral Mass at 10am on Wednesday 5th April. Cremation afterwards at Breaksppear Crematorium at 11.30am.

READERS AT 5.30pm MASS - We are currently searching for new readers to help at the 5.30pm Mass. The commitment would be once / month. If you would consider helping please speak to Mgr. Jeremy, Fr. Tony or contact our Pastoral Assistant, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you!

PLANNED GIVING—envelopes for 2017/18 are available **THIS WEEKEND**. If you are new to the scheme and wish to use these envelopes please complete an information form (orange coloured sheet) to be found at the back of the church and return it to the parish office or sign up outside after Mass. If you have a current Gift Aid and ceased to pay tax in the last year you **must** inform the parish office.

LOURDES 2017—Would you like to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes this July? Fr Tony will be leading a group from this parish with the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage between Sunday 23rd July and Saturday 29th July 2017. Please let Fr Tony know if you'd like to come (as rooms in our preferred hotel are at a premium, the earlier you are able to confirm your place the better).

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm, **WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Saturday 9.30am, **HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm, **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm **RECONCILIATION/ CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm and any time by appointment, **DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am, **PRAYER GROUP:** Thursday 8.00pm **FRIENDS OF JESUS:** Friday 5.30pm.

V	Sun 2 Apr	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>Sat. Vigil</i>	6.15pm	PRO POPULO
				8.30am	Darren O'Sullivan RIP
				9.45am	Rosario Rosa RIP
				11.15am	Anastasia Johnston RIP
				5.30pm	Jerry Ryan RIP
V	Mon 3 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Holy Souls
V	Tues 4 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Mr. S. Manuepillai RIP
V	Wed 5 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Ron & Sheila Dyer RIP
V	Thur 6 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Gerry Flanagan RIP
V	Fri 7 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	George Cronk RIP
V	Sat 8 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Lilaknath Weerasinghe RIP



WHY IS EVERYTHING VEILED IN PURPLE CLOTHS TODAY?

This is a development of the ancient part of this Lenten Season known as "Passiontide", which used similar Johannine readings describing the hostility towards Jesus. This emphasis, or concentration, was marked by an increase in the austerity and atmosphere of Lent, as familiar statues and images were hidden from sight by means of violet veils. Even the crosses in church were veiled, leaving only the Stations of the Cross for devotion. This gave a special importance to a part of the Solemn Good Friday, when the cross that was to be venerated was solemnly unveiled.

Lent is our annual wilderness, our forty day

journey with the Lord through the desert. Fasting and Abstinence, as well as other acts of prayer or penance, are to create that wilderness in our lives - a freedom from distraction, from the busyness of material things and the preoccupations of this world - so that we may discover God's closeness more vividly, more strongly, more perfectly. As statues and images are veiled in Church in these last days of Lent, we feel a sense of emptiness. We have already been without flowers for more than four weeks - now even our statues of Saint Patrick and Saint Teresa and Saint Anthony of Padua are veiled, and we walk into Church and feel a desolation.

But this is an emptiness and desolation that Christ waits to fill: even if our images and crosses are veiled, we do not veil his presence in our midst. Indeed, we are invited to focus more and more on that heavenly gift which is the presence of Christ in our world. We empty ourselves of distractions, so that we can focus all on Christ, who gives all for us. All this makes us stop and ask - Why this emptiness? Why all this sombre purple? What are we celebrating?

TODAY'S MASS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 43 (42): 1-2

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Collect

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm: 94

R/. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. **R./**

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you. **R./**

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than a watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) **R./**

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. **R./**

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Praise to you, Christ, King of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 11:3-7.17.20-27.33-45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and

Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my

prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Prayer over the Offerings

Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 11: 26

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Prayer over the People

Bless, O Lord, your people, who long for the gift of your mercy, and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire they may receive by your generous gift. Through Christ our Lord.