



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

**SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** Wilma Primmer, 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 Kirrane, Vera Hylton, Monica Wisniewicz, Geraldine O'Toole, Eileen Harrison, Ian Measham, David Colville, Josephine Smullen, Edward Reilly, Betty Cain, James McHugh, Callum Stewart-Robert, Betty Hickey, Bernie Marren, Sadie Burgess, Shayanayaki Kaithampillai, Richard Howes, Mia Harrison, Special Intention, Ann Nemeth, Marjorie Hoareau, Max Perera, Nick Holmes, Michael Howard, George McDermott, Josie Redmond., Michael Fahy, Victor Jude Booth, Mary E. Malone, Michael Griffin Snr., Jerry Maguire, Titus Fernandes, Phoebe Corbett. Patrick "Eric" Hughes., Maureen O'Sullivan, Noel Gill

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Clare Curran (Kelly).

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:**  
Paddy Joyce.

### INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR MAY

**Universal:** That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our neighbours who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.

**Evangelization:** That Mary's intercession may help Christians in secularized cultures be ready to proclaim Jesus.

### MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest:	Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead	jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	Fr. Biju John	johnbiju@rcdow.org.uk
Pastoral Assistant:	Peter Kingsley	peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary:	Mrs. Toni Miles	sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music:	Scott Price	scottprice@rcdow.org.uk

Hall Bookings: via the office or [sudbury@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudbury@rcdow.org.uk)  
 Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE  
 Tel: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office 3. Mgr Jeremy;  
 4. Fr. John; 5. Pastoral Assistant. Charity No: 233699  
 Email: [sudbury@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudbury@rcdow.org.uk) Website: [parish@rcdow.org.uk/Sudbury](http://parish@rcdow.org.uk/Sudbury)

**SALVE REGINA**  
 Hail, holy Queen,  
 Mother of Mercy,  
 Hail, our life,  
 our sweetness and our hope.  
 To thee do we cry,  
 Poor banished children of Eve;  
 To thee do we send up  
 our sighs,  
 Mourning and weeping  
 in this vale of tears.  
 Turn then, most gracious  
 advocate,  
 Thine eyes of mercy toward us;  
 And after this our exile,  
 Show unto us the blessed  
 fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
 O clement, O loving,  
 O sweet Virgin Mary.

**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
 has been sponsored this week  
 In Memory of  
 Richard O'Dwyer RIP  
 and the  
**LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF  
 WALSINGHAM** has been  
 sponsored In Thanksgiving



Sunday cycle  
 readings Year C  
 Weekday readings  
 Easter Week 6  
 Divine Office  
 Easter 6 Week 2

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



# Sunday 1st May 2016 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

*"Peace I give you."*

The Holy Spirit is sent by the Father in the name of Christ to teach us a new life. We are not to obey rules and regulations as something external but rather we keep God's law through a real conversion of heart. Then the peace of Christ which the world cannot give will come to us as Christ's gift.



### First Reading: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Many Jewish Christians in Jerusalem felt that the Gentile believers should be required to fulfil the law of Moses. So Paul and Barnabas went on a peace-making mission to Jerusalem, where they met with Peter and the others. Together they chose a delegation to return to Antioch with a "peace treaty" letter. In it they assured all Gentiles that the Holy Spirit approved of them as members of the Church. They would not be required to abide by the Mosaic Law.

### Second Reading: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

The author envisions the gathering of all Christ's faithful ones in the heavenly Jerusalem. It shines like a diamond; its unsurpassed beauty flows from those who have persevered in faith. Its foundation stones are beautifully inscribed with the names of the apostles. And, most magnificent of all, God is the temple in this shining city. And Jesus is the lamp glowing over all.

### Gospel: John 14:23-29

Jesus continues to speak about love. Those who live will experience God's love in their lives and the gift of peace that only Christ can give. Jesus also promises to send the Paraclete, or the Comforter, to his disciples. The Paraclete is the Holy Spirit, who will guide the Church for all time. Jesus' followers will not be left on their own.

# Sunday reflection by Mgr. Jeremy

In Jesus' last supper discourse he speaks of the love he has for his disciples and of his Father's love. He prepares his disciples for his imminent departure to return to his Father by exhorting them to prove their love for him through their loyalty and obedience to his word. He promises them the abiding guidance and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Saint Augustine says

*the Lord loves each of us as if there were only one of us to love. God's love for each of us is as real and tangible as the love of a mother for her child and the love of a lover who gives all for his beloved. God made us for love – to know him*

personally and to grow in the knowledge of his great love for us. How can we know and be assured of the love of God? The Holy Spirit helps us to grow in the knowledge of God and his great love. The Spirit enables us to experience the love of God and to be assured of the Lord's abiding presence with us. The Holy Spirit also opens our ears to hear and understand the word of God.

Jesus grants *peace* as his gift to his disciples. What kind of peace does he offer? The *peace of Christ* is



more than the absence of trouble. It includes everything which makes for our highest good. The world's approach to peace is avoidance of trouble and a refusal to face unpleasant things. Jesus offers the peace which conquers our fears and anxieties. Nothing can take us from the peace and joy of Jesus Christ. No sorrow or grief, no danger, no suffering can make it less. Jesus also

speaks of his destination and ultimate triumph over the powers of evil in the world. In the eyes of the world the cross stood for shame, humiliation, and defeat. Jesus went to the cross knowing that it would lead to victory over the powers of sin and of Satan.

Jesus also knew that he would return to his Father in glory. The cross brought glory to Jesus and to the Father and it is our way to glory as well. In the Cross of Christ we find true peace and reconciliation with God.

As Christians we are all called to live in the confidence of the peace of Jesus Christ, a peace which St. Paul reminds us writing to the Philippians "*passes all understanding*".

**READERS AT 6.15PM VIGIL MASS & 8.30AM SUNDAY MASS** - We are urgently looking for new readers for the Saturday 6.15pm Vigil Mass and the Sunday 8.30am Mass for a new rota beginning in May. If you would like to read please give your contact details to Mgr. Jeremy or one of the Parish Team today. Thank you.

**NEW CATECHISTS**— to serve the Sacramental Programme at St. George's for First Holy Communion and Confirmation from 2016-17. Please contact the Parish Team if you are able to help. Full training will be provided. Thank you.

**YEAR OF MERCY WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE** on **Saturday 9th July**. This is a special pilgrimage for the Diocese of Westminster in the Year of Mercy. A coach will be going from St George's. The cost is £30.00 **all inclusive of the coach, coffee stop in the morning and a two course dinner on the way home**. You will need to bring your own packed lunch. Places are first come first served. To reserve a place please call Paddy Duffy on: 020 8868 9373.

Cardinal Vincent invites you to the **ANNUAL MASS FOR MIGRANTS** in honour of St Joseph the Worker on Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May, at Westminster Cathedral. The banner procession will begin at 10am, followed by witness testimonies from two refugees before Mass, which will be followed by an opportunity for Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

**VOLUNTEERS FOR REPOSITORY AFTER 5.30PM MASS** - We are still looking for volunteers to serve in the Parish Repository after the 5.30pm Sunday Mass. If you are able to help please speak to one of the Parish Team. Thank you!

**PERMANENT DEACON COME AND SEE** at **St Augustines, Hoddesdon 21st May** from 10am to 12. No booking needed. Wives welcome. Contact details Deacon Adrian Cullen 07961 594725 or Deacon Anthony Clark 07545 373548.

**SEASIDE DAY TRIPS** from Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre to Brighton on 15th June, Southend on 20th July and Eastbourne on 14th September. £15 per person paid two weeks before departure. Pick up at 9am from Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre. Leaving destination at 4.30pm. To book a place please call the Centre on 8908 1220/email [office@sudburyneighbourhoodcentre.co.uk](mailto:office@sudburyneighbourhoodcentre.co.uk)

**CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL** Direct Event on 14 May 2016 from 10.00am-1.00pm. at 89 Addison Road London W14 8BZ. Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/274194926256860/> CVMS Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/cardinalvaughan/>

**SUMMER ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON:** Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea offer comfortable rooms in central London in July and August. Beautiful gardens and chapel. Rooms from £50 per night (including breakfast). Tel: 020 7349 5600 (option 0) Website: [www.allenhall.org.uk](http://www.allenhall.org.uk) Email : [allenhall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:allenhall@rcdow.org.uk)

**BLOOD DONORS**—the next session at Harrow Baptist Church (nr Debenhams) is on Tuesday 3rd May. Please see posters.

**TWO BEDROOM FLAT REQUIRED** to rent urgently; preferably in the parish. Please contact Maria Fernandes on 020 8904 2340 or 07514 151950.

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

- ◆ **BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** helps separated, divorced or widowed Catholics.
- ◆ **SMART LOVING SEMINAR** for married couples.
- ◆ **CATHOLIC SINGLES** information
- ◆ **RETOUVAILLE**—a lifeline for married couples.
- ◆ **WIDOWED YOUNG**—support events.
- ◆ **CALIX CENTRE**—A Catholic ministry to addicts.
- ◆ **ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES**.—new information.
- ◆ **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND** with the Diocese of Westminster 4-12 November.
- ◆ **FAMILIAS Friends Event 2016** 16th May 10am-3pm. —**Raising awareness of Domestic Abuse**. Please see folder for details.
- ◆ **MARCH FOR LIFE UK—14 May**.

**JOB VACANCIES:**

- ◆ **LIVE IN COMPANION WANTED:** retired lady looking for a female companion to live in, should be willing to do light domestic chores, general cooking and assisting with going out etc. Please contact Cheryl on 07941002161
- ◆ **MARRIAGE CARE LONDON** are looking for **VOLUNTEERS** for Head of Centre, Course Facilitators, Publicity Officer, Qualified Counsellors. For details see folder in the porch or contact [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk).
- ◆ **DIOCESAN VACANCIES**. Please see folder and website for latest details.

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

N	O	D	G	N	I	K	I	S	LEVEL	NAME	CRIMINAL
J	S	E	C	N	E	V	A	E	DISEASES	DANCE	HAPPY
O	E	K	R	O	O	P	C	N	POOR	REWARD	KINGDOM
Y	S	F	I	E	C	N	A	D	HUNGRY	ALAS	DENOUNCE
R	A	A	M	N	U	H	L	E			
G	E	L	I	O	G	E	A	T			
N	S	S	N	U	V	D	S	N			
U	I	E	A	E	R	O	O	A			
H	D	L	L	N	R	U	O	M			
C	U	R	E	D	R	A	W	E			

# 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 Parish Centre.

**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 ASAP.

## PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday 1 May:**  
Teas/coffees. After 9.45am and 11.15am Masses

**Monday 2 May:**  
BANK HOLIDAY

**Tuesday 3 May:**  
Over 60's Group 1.00pm  
First Holy Communion 7.30pm

**Wednesday 4 May:**  
Ladies Social Guild 8.00pm

**Thursday 5 May:**  
Church Cleaning Group B 1.45pm

**Friday 6 May:**  
Teas after 9.30am Mass 5.30pm  
Friends of Jesus

**MONTH OF MAY** is also the MONTH DEDICATED TO MARY. The rosary will be prayed Mon-Fri during this month at 8.00pm in Church. Please come and join this prayer and if you can lead the devotions please sign the list at the back of Church..

**TODAY** there is a Pastoral Letter to be read out at all Masses from the Cardinal. It concerns Pope Francis's recent Exhortation after the recent Synod on the Family.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Ascension Sunday: Sunday 8th May  
Pentecost Sunday: Sunday 15th May  
Trinity Sunday: Sunday 22nd May  
Corpus Christi: Sunday 29 May  
Sacred Heart of Jesus: Friday 3 June  
Ss. Peter and Paul: Wednesday 29th June

**CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION** will take place after the 11.15am Mass on Sunday 29th May

**40 HOURS WATCH BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
Begins on Thursday 26th May: Mass of exposition at 9.30am. Ends on Saturday 28th May at 9.00 with benediction followed by Mass of reposition at 9.30am.

**FIRST COMMUNION** celebrations will be taking place over the weekends of 14th & 15th May and 21st & 22nd May.

**Papillon Photography** will be attending the communion meeting on Tuesday 3rd May to discuss photography requirements for this year's Holy Communion for the parents who wish to have professional photographs taken including

group photos. Time slots will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

**CONFIRMATION** is on Sunday 5th June at 2.30pm.

**PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN'S ART CLASS and PRAYER GROUP** will not be on this Thursday 5th May.

**GOOD NEWS** This week work on the bar begins and should be completed by the end of the month.

**OTHER WORK** has been going on in the front of the Church with the path being re-laid where the paving stones have become cracked or dangerous.

**THANK YOU** to all who made our S.George's Day celebrations splendid. May he continue to guide and pray for us.

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND COLLECTION:** It's not too late to make a donation—envelopes are still available. You can also donate on line at any time at [www.rcdow.org.uk/](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/) donations

**LENT BOXES:** Please return them now. Thanks to all who have already done so.

**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.

**UPDATE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** we are now almost booked until the end of the year. If you wish to book an anniversary Mass please make sure you do so in good time.

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** - We are searching for Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who have a little time free to take Holy Communion to people in the Parish who are unwell and unable to attend Mass. If you are able to help please speak to Mgr. Jeremy or one of the Parish Team. Thank you.

**BEFRIENDING AT ST. GEORGE'S** - If you know of anyone in the Parish who is unwell or in need of pastoral support please let us know so we can do what we can to support them. We have two Priests and a wonderful team of Extra-Ordinary Ministers who are happy to come and bring the Sacrament to people who are not well enough to attend Mass and provide a listening ear to those in need so please just let Mgr. Jeremy or one of the Parish Team know of any need. Thank you.

**YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. GEORGE'S** - As a Parish, we would love to find additional ways of providing for the needs of our young people and would be grateful for any advice and ideas you may have in this regard. If you are interested in helping to start a Youth Club at the Parish or have any suggestions please speak to Mgr. Jeremy or one of the Parish Team. Thank you.

# LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY MASS:** 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15 noon (Solemn), 5.30pm, **WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Saturday 9.30am, **HOLYDAYS 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.

W	Sun	1 MAY	<b>6th SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<i>Sat. Vigil</i>	6.15pm	Daniel Doherty RIP
					8.30am	Alice Doherty Intentions
					9.45am	Mary Curran RIP
					11.15am	Richard O'Dwyer RIP
					5.30pm	PRO POPULO
W	Mon	2 May	S. Athanasius		9.30am	Ron & Sheila Dyer RIP
R	Tues	3 May	Ss. PHILIP & JAMES		9.30am	Betty Kilcoyne RIP
W	Wed	4 May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS		9.30am	Kitty Forde RIP
W	Thur	5 May	Easter feria		9.30am	Geraldine Burke RIP
W	Fri	6 May	Easter feria		9.30am	Betty, Steve & Kevin Byrne RIP
W	Sat	7 May	Easter feria		9.30am	Paddy Joyce RIP

## BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES Spring 2016 Meeting

### Post Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*

The Bishops of England and Wales welcome the Pope's Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. Following the two Synods of Bishops on the family, the Exhortation is intended to aid reflection, dialogue, and pastoral practice on love and family. It offers great help and encouragement to families in their daily commitments and challenges. We are inspired by the Pope's portrayal of God's love present in the daily and often messy realities of family life. The Holy Father offers a rich scriptural presentation of the meaning of love, in a reflection on that well-known text of St Paul's, "Love is patient, love is kind" (1 Cor 13:4-7) (90). This Exhortation has to be read in the context of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Pope Francis reminds us that the Church is a tender Mother who "must accompany with attention and care the weakest of her children, who show signs of a wounded and troubled love, by restoring in them hope and confidence" (291). The Church is "a field hospital" ready to bind the wounds of the broken and her sacraments are powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak. The Pope emphasises that this Exhortation needs to be read patiently and carefully, and needs time for reflection. We have begun to do this together at our plenary assembly.

We recognise that the Exhortation presents new pastoral challenges for evangelisation and catechesis. Pope Francis says: "In order to avoid

all misunderstanding, I would point out that in no way must the Church desist from proposing the full ideal of marriage, God's plan in all its grandeur" (307). It makes clear the need to find new pastoral methods to assist "Christian families, by the grace of the sacrament of matrimony, who are the principle agents of the family apostolate, above all through their joy-filled witness as domestic churches" (200).

Pope Francis presents the challenge of educating people for lifelong love. Parents, as the first educators of their children, supported by schools, are given this challenge so that an integral moral and spiritual life is developed. The Exhortation pays special attention to the education of the conscience informed by the teaching of the Church so that people are enabled to grow in their faith and spiritual lives (cf 37). Formation of pastoral workers, and the formation of priests and deacons, must involve married couples and include preparation for the effective pastoral care of families. The Exhortation pays special attention to the very important tasks of marriage preparation and the care of families at different stages of married life (205ff). "Today, more important than the pastoral care of failures is the pastoral effort to strengthen marriages and thus to prevent their breakdown" (307).

The Holy Father considers the pastoral care of families who are struggling in their daily lives. He notes the acute difficulty of judging difficult situations and calls priests to be close to these families and understanding of the reality of their lives, however untidy these may be. Prayer, discernment and the Sacrament of Reconciliation can help many grow in their relationship with God whatever their situation.

Pope Francis states that pastors are not only responsible for promoting Christian marriage, but

also for the pastoral discernment of the situation before God of a great many who no longer live this reality (293). In the particular case of the divorced and civilly remarried, there is a need to consider both those elements which can lead to a greater openness to the gospel of marriage in its fullness and those factors which may limit a free response to the Gospel in order to understand the subjective situation of a person before God. "Hence it can no longer simply be said that all those in any irregular situation are living in a state of mortal sin and are deprived of sanctifying grace" (301). Through this spiritual discernment they should feel confident in the promise of God's mercy, the love of the Church and discover the next step in their response to God.

Pope Francis therefore encourages all who find themselves in difficult situations to speak confidently to their priests in order to understand their personal situation before God and discover a path of personal growth.

The remarkable increase in the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation which, in many places, is an early fruit of the Year of Mercy, encourages us that this invitation will indeed be taken up.

The challenges presented in this Exhortation, whilst not changing Church teaching, are far reaching and radical. Embracing them will take time, effort and patience.

Finally, as bishops, we are grateful to the families who witness to Christ in the midst of complex and busy lives. We thank all those engaged in marriage and family life ministries in our dioceses, and all our priests called to be the living face of the Father's mercy.

# TODAY'S MASS

## Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Is 48: 20*

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

## Collect

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt  
devotion these days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.  
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: *Acts 15:1-2,22-29*

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us; and so we have decided unanimously to

elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols; from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 66:2-3,5-6,8*

*R/. Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.*

1. O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. **R/.**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. **R/.**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R/.**

## Second reading: *Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23*

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were

of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation: *cf. Jn 14:18*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you,  
and your hearts will be full of joy.  
Alleluia!**

## Gospel: *John 17:20-26*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Holy Father,  
I pray not only for these,  
but for those also  
who through their words will believe in me.  
May they all be one.

Father, may they be one in us,  
as you are in me and I am in you,  
so that the world may believe it was you  
who sent me.

I have given them the glory you gave to me,  
that they may be one as we are one.

With me in them and you in me,  
may they be so completely one  
that the world will realise that it was you  
who sent me

and that I have loved them as much  
as you loved me.

Father, I want those you have given me  
to be with me where I am,  
so that they may always see the glory you  
have given me

because you loved me before the  
foundation of the world.

Father, Righteous One,  
the world has not known you,  
but I have known you,  
and these have known that you  
have sent me.

I have made your name known to them  
and will continue to make it known,  
so that the love with which you loved me  
may be in them,  
and so that I may be in them.'

## Prayer over the Offerings

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of  
your mighty love.

Through Christ our Lord.

## Communion Antiphon: *Jn 14: 15-16*

If you love me, keep my commandments,  
says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send  
you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## Prayer after Communion

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life in  
the Resurrection of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this  
paschal Sacrament  
and pour into our hearts the strength  
of this saving food.

Through Christ our Lord.