



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

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: Michael Fahey, Michael Griffin, Anne Hull, Gillian Gibbs, Catherine Kevill, Margaret O'Shea, Lionel Stonehouse, Edith Geissler, Marie Rego.

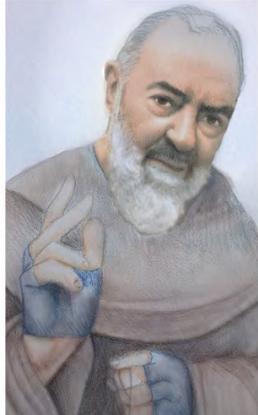
RECENTLY DEPARTED: Norah Borthwick, Mary Haddad, Tosia Rumun, Anthony Billane.

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Pat Haney, Teresa O'Brien, Daniel Harrington, Lennie Candappa, Delroy Anderson (1st).

RECENTLY BAPTISED:

INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR MARCH 2019
Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

JESUS TELLS ME THAT IN LOVE IT IS HE WHO DELIGHTS ME; IN SUFFERING, ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS I WHO DELIGHT HIM.



ST. PADRE PIO

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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Prayer for Lent III

Heavenly Father, As I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins. As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment. Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent. Amen.

SANCTUARY LAMP

HAS BEEN SPONSORED THIS WEEK

In Memory of
MR. BALARANJAN

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM

has been sponsored this week

In Memory of
DELROY ANDERSON RIP

ROSARY AT HOME: This week the statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at the home of Rima Bou Nehme



Switch mobile phones
off or to silent



Sunday cycle
Readings Year C

Weekday Readings
Lent week 3

Divine Office
Week 3

The Catholic Parish
of St George, Sudbury



Sunday 24th March 2019 THE THIRD 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



Today Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsel's patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

First Reading: *Exodus 3:1-8a,13-15*

God speaks to Moses from the burning bush and sends him to the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 103:1-4,6-7,8,11*

A prayer in praise of God's mercy.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12*

Saint Paul teaches that the Scriptures were written to set an example for us.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 13:1-9*

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE

"When a person begins to fast, they straightway yearns in their mind to enter into converse with God."

St. Isaac the Syrian

SUNDAY REFLECTION

What can a calamity, such as a political blood-bath or a natural disaster, teach us about God's kingdom and the consequences of bad choices and sinful actions? When calamity and disaster hit the Jewish people, such as their 400 year enslavement in the land of Egypt, they often saw it as the consequence of their unrepentant sin and persistent unfaithfulness to God. God, however in his mercy, promised to deliver the Israelites when he sent his servant Moses to lead his people to freedom.

In today's gospel Jesus was asked by some listeners to address the issue of sin and its consequences in the light of two current disasters that befell the residents of Jerusalem. The first incident occurred in the temple at Jerusalem. Pilate, who was the Roman governor of Jerusalem at the time ordered his troops to slaughter a group of Galileans who had come up to Jerusalem to offer sacrifice in the temple. We do not know what these Galileans did to incite Pilate's wrath, nor why Pilate chose to attack them in the holiest of places for the Jews, in their temple at Jerusalem. For the Jews, this was political barbarity and sacrilege at its worst! The second incident which Jesus addressed was a natural disaster, a tower in Jerusalem which unexpectedly collapsed, killing 18 people. The Jews often associated such calamities and disasters as a consequence of sin.

However, the real danger and calamity which Jesus wants to point out is that an unexpected disaster or a sudden death does not give us time to repent of our sins and to prepare ourselves to meet the Judge of heaven and earth. The Book of Job reminds us

that misfortune and calamity can befall both the righteous and the unrighteous alike. Jesus gives a clear warning - take responsibility for your actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy your heart, mind, soul, and body as well.

Jesus' parable of the barren fig trees illustrated his warning about the consequences of allowing sin and corruption to take root in our hearts and minds. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the people of Palestine. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. If it failed, it was cut down to make room for more healthy trees. A decaying fig tree and its bad fruit came to symbolize for the Jews the consequence of spiritual corruption caused by evil deeds and unrepentant sin. The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's unresponsiveness to the word of God.

God, in his mercy, gives us time to get right with him, but that time is now. We must not assume that there is no hurry. A sudden and unexpected death leaves one no time to prepare to settle one's accounts when he or she must stand before the Lord on the day of judgment. Jesus warns us that we must be ready at all times. Tolerating sinful habits and excusing unrepentant sin will result in bad fruit and eventual destruction. The Lord in his mercy gives us both grace and time to turn away from sin, but that time is right now. If we delay, even for a day, we may discover that grace has passed us by and our time is up. Let us therefore, in what remains of Lent, take stock of our lives and turn to the Lord once more.



YOUNG ADULT TRIP TO TAIZÉ 2019 — Our Deanery is planning a Trip to Taizé (France) for those aged **18 to 29** from **27th July to 5th August 2019**. The estimated cost is just **£250**. Those interested are welcome to pick-up an **Information Leaflet & Booking Form** from the porch.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - We continue to search for some **generous volunteers** to **help our Catechists prepare the children for their First Holy Communion**. If your child is currently in Year 2 perhaps you'd like to lend a hand next year? Please speak to one of the Parish Clergy, the Catechists or our Catechetical Coordinator to find out more. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF JESUS—The Friends of Jesus Programme takes place on **Fridays from 5.30-6.30pm** providing a little **Religious Education** to children of Primary-School age who are not attending a Catholic school and have not yet received their First Holy Communion. An Information Leaflet can be picked up from the porch and Enrolment Forms are available from the Parish Office.

HOLY BAPTISM: Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation course. Parents to be, i.e. before birth, are welcome to attend. The date of the next baptism preparation is **Friday 29th March 2019 at 7.30pm** in the parish centre.

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre and the British Heart Foundation at **St. George's School** on **Saturday 30th March** at 7.30pm. Bar & raffle. £30 for a table of four. To reserve tickets please contact Greg Birch on 07868293463.

WELCOMING AT SATURDAY 6.15PM—We would be grateful to any **new volunteers** open to help welcome the people at the **Saturday 6.15pm Mass**. If you are able to help please let us know.

SANCTUARY REORDERING UPDATE: the plans have all been submitted to the Historic Churches Committee (St George's is a listed building so this is a requirement). They have tweaked the plans a little but the overall scheme remains the same. We need to liaise with them about some of the issues concerning the floor but we will be ready to begin in earnest soon. Inevitably some fundraising will need to take place so any ideas etc. are really welcome.

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. There are still some weeks free in May and June. Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS are booked completely up to August 2019. Remember to book your anniversary Masses early .

CHURCH CLEANING- Might you consider helping to clean the Church on a monthly basis. If so, please contact the parish office.

THE PASSAGE is raising funds through the Big Give from 12 noon Tues 19th March – 12 noon Tues 26th March to support its work with homeless people moving from Street to Home. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 7592 1856 / andrew.h@passage.org.uk Donate at www.thebiggive.org.uk/thepassage2019 The maximum is £25,000 from any one donation. **It is not a limit per person.**

ST GEORGE'S PARISH COOKBOOK: A little fun project to raise some money for the church:
Please take a flyer from the back of Church. Up to date we only have 3 responses. We do need more if our project is to be worthwhile and succeed.

LOOKING FOR A PAINTER AND DECORATOR? Please ring David on 07904913443.

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
RETRouvaille—a lifeline for married couples.
WIDOWED YOUNG—support events.
CALIX CENTRE—A Catholic ministry to addicts.
ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES.
MARRIAGE/ENGAGED ENCOUNTER:
www.wvme.org.uk

DIOCESAN AND SCHOOL VACANCIES please see folder in porch or School/diocesan website.

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

NEWS & VIEWS



PLANNED GIVING—envelopes for 2019/20 will be available from this weekend. We have many similar names so please make sure you take your box. Please check the name and address and let us know if it is incorrect. Please DO NOT use the new envelopes until 7th April. If you are new to the parish and wish to use these envelopes for the first time please give your name to one of the helpers outside after all Masses this weekend. **If you have a Gift Aid and ceased to pay tax in the last year you must inform the parish office.**

FUNERAL MASS of Theofila Rumun on Wednesday 27th March at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium.

FUNERAL MASS of Nora Borthwick on Thursday 28th March at 11.00am followed by Burial in Alperton Cemetery.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS after the Friday 9.30am Mass (around 10am) during Lent.

EASTER LILIES in memory of a loved one. Envelopes are available now to buy an Easter lily in memory of a loved one. Their names will also be inscribed in our Easter Lily Book. You'll find the envelopes at the back of church in a nominated basket.

DIVINE MERCY -The **Divine Mercy Chaplet** is recited in the church every Monday after the Rosary. All are welcome!

MOTHERING SUNDAY: NEXT Sunday 31 March: There will be a sale, after all Masses in the parish centre, in aid of St. Luke's Hospice, with **CAKES, PLANTS, STALLS & RAFFLE**. Donations of cakes would be most welcome. Please come and support your local hospice.

MOTHERING SUNDAY FLOWERS will be blessed at 9.45am & 11.15am masses for children to give to their mothers.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES Details will be available as of next week.

REPOSITORY OPENING: Open after 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am Mass. If you think you could help with staffing the repository can you let one of the parish Team know.

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.

PLEASE LEAVE THE PEW NEAT AND TIDY AS YOU DEPART CHURCH TODAY. This is especially true if you have children using their worksheets. Please make sure they (or you) bring all the crayons back to the basket.

CONFIRMATION PARISH BREAKFAST: -This **Sunday 24th March**, after the 8.30am, 9.45am & 11.15am Masses the Confirmation Candidates & Catechists will be serving breakfast for Parishioners to raise as much money as possible for our Lenten Charity. Whether it's a Full Irish or just a Sausage or Bacon Roll, please join us to help us raise as much money as possible for this good cause. If you have anything suitable to donate as a **Raffle Prize** we would also be grateful.

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 24 March:

Teas/Coffees after 9.45am/11.15am Masses.

Confirmation Parish Breakfast after morning Masses

Monday 25 March:

Confirmation 7.30pm

Tuesday 26 March:

Over 60's Group 1.00pm

First Holy Communion 7.30pm

Set/Ceilidh Dancing 8.45pm

Thursday 28 March:

Church Cleaning Group A 7.00pm

Friday 29 March:

Teas/Coffees after Stations of the Cross

Friends of Jesus 5.30pm

Baptism Preparation 7.30pm

Confirmation Charity Parish Breakfast Sunday 24th March 9am-1pm



Please join our Confirmation Candidates in the Parish Centre and help raise as much money as possible for our Lenten Charity, the **Franciscan Friars of the Renewal**.



Sunday 31st March 2019

Sale in Parish Centre

Raffle—Plants—Flowers—cakes—Cards—Stalls

All in aid of St Luke's Hospice

SALE OF PRINTS AND PAINTINGS

in aid of the St George's

New Sanctuary Fund



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.

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.

ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

Sun 24 March 6.15pm (Sat. Vigil)	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Teresa O'Brien, Rita Sutton, Gemma Sutton RIP PRO POPULO Thanksgiving Lennie Candappa RIP Mary & Michael Hughes RIP
8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	
Mon 25 March 9.30am	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD Geraldine Cosgrove-Gardner RIP
Tues 26 March 9.30am	Lent feria Pauline Heslin RIP
Weds 27 March 9.30am 11.00	Lent feria Rosaleen Gartland Intentions FUNERAL MASS TOSIA RUMUN RIP
Thurs 28 March 9.30am 11.00	Lent feria Margaret Nunn RIP FUNERAL MASS NORA BORTHWICK RIP
Fri 29 March 9.30am	Lent feria Anastasia Johnston RIP
Sat 30 March 9.30am	Lent feria Fr. Patrick Kelly RIP

TODAY'S MASS

Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Ps 24: 15-16*

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

Collect

O God, author of every mercy
and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of
our lowliness, that we, who are bowed
down by our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
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: *Exodus 3:1-8,13-15*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to

deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 102:1-4,6-8,11*

R/. The Lord is compassion and love.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. *R/.*
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. *R/.*
3. The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. *R/.*
4. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. *R/.*

Second reading: *1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12*

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation: *Mt 4:17*

Praise to you, O Christ, you are the King of Glory!

*Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.
Praise to you, O Christ, you are the King of Glory!*

Gospel: *Luke 13:1-9*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I

tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in
Mystery may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful, and in your kindness grant your servants this grace: that, abiding in the love of you and their neighbour, they may fulfil the whole of your commands.