



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

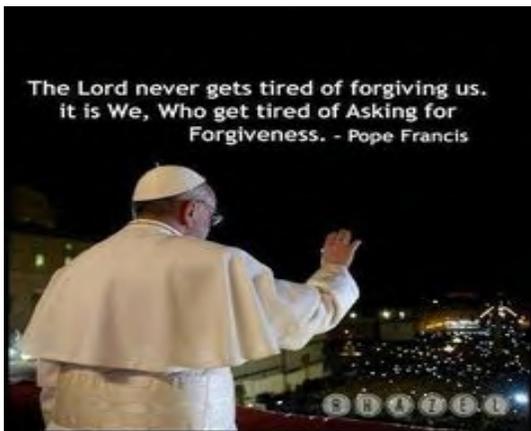
**SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** Michael Fahey, Michael Griffin, Anne Hull, Gillian Gibbs, Catherine Kevill, Margaret O'Shea, Lionel Stonehouse, Edith Geissler, Marie Rego, Christopher Browne.

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:**

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:** Leo Barco, Olga Barco, George Cronk, Gerard Burton, Mary Kiernan, Peter McGauran, Francis Westwood (donor of this Church).

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** Oliver Power.

**INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR April 2019**  
**Doctors and their Collaborators in War Zones**  
For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.



### MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest:	Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead	jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	Fr. Tony Thomas	tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk
Catechetical Coordinator:	Mr. Peter Kingsley	peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary:	Mrs. Toni Miles	sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music:	Mr. Scott Price	scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Hall Bookings:	via the office or	sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Representative:	Mrs. Mary Kugaswaran	sudburysg2@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. Tony; 5. Catechetical Coordinator. Charity No: 233699		
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury		

### PRAYER FOR LENT V

My loving Lord, It's so hard to love the world sometimes and to love it the way Jesus did seems impossible. Help me to be inspired by his love and guided by his example. Most of all, I want to accept that I can't do it alone, and that trying is an arrogance of self-centeredness. I need you, dear God, to give me support in this journey. Show me how to unlock my heart so that I am less selfish. Let me be less fearful of the pain and darkness that will be transformed by you into Easter joy.

#### SANCTUARY LAMP

HAS BEEN SPONSORED THIS WEEK  
For Victory in a Court Case

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF  
OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM  
has been sponsored this week  
For Victory in a Court Case

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**ROSARY AT HOME:** This week the statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at the home of  
IRANI LAWRENCE



Switch mobile phones  
off or to silent



Sunday cycle  
Readings Year C

Weekday Readings  
Lent week 5

Divine Office  
Week 1

The Catholic Parish  
of St George, Sudbury



## Sunday 7th April 2019 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



Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus'

compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

**First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21**

The Lord is doing something new for his people.

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 126:1-6**

A song in praise of the Lord's marvellous deeds.

**Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14**

St. Paul says that he counts all things as lot and focuses on one goal, Christ.

**Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11**

Jesus does not condemn the woman caught in adultery.

#### SPIRITUAL QUOTE

*"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor — He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."*

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

# SUNDAY REFLECTION

Lent is always a call to all of us to be changed and transformed in Christ-like holiness. The most important thing is understand is that God never withholds his grace from us. His steadfast love and mercy is new every day (Lamentations 3:22-23). Through the gift and grace of the Holy Spirit we can be changed and made new in Christ. He can set us free from all that hinders and holds us back. Jesus never lost an opportunity to bring freedom to those oppressed by sin and guilt. His frequent association with sinners, however, upset the sensibilities of the religious leaders. When a woman caught in adultery was brought to them for trial, they confronted Jesus on the issue of retribution. Jewish law treated adultery as a serious crime since it violated God's ordinance and wreaked havoc on the stability of marriage and family life. It was one of the three gravest sins punishable by death. This incident tells us a great deal about Jesus' attitude to the sinner. The scribes and Pharisees



wanted to entrap Jesus with the religious and civil authorities. That is why they brought a woman caught in adultery before Jesus. Jesus turned the challenge towards his accusers. In effect he said: Go ahead and stone her! But let the one who is without sin be the first to cast a stone. The Lord leaves the matter to their own consciences. When the adulterous woman is left alone with Jesus, he both expresses mercy and he strongly exhorts her to not sin again. The scribes wished to condemn, Jesus wished to forgive and to restore the sinner to health. His challenge involved a choice – either go back to your former way of sin and death or to reach out to the new way of life and happiness with him. Jesus gave her pardon and a new start on life. God's grace enables us to confront our sin for what it is – unfaithfulness to God, and to turn back to God with a repentant heart and a thankful spirit for God's mercy and forgiveness. Let's loose no time in following this path of the Father's mercy!

**CONFIRMATION**—Confirmation candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the entire Easter Triduum this year - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Saturday—in preparation for their confirmation in May. The next session in the Parish Centre is on Monday 29th April.

**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.

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 8 June 2019 at 3pm. The deadline for this has now been extended to April 29th. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address, telephone number and email address.

**OVER 60's GROUP** - now closed until Tuesday 23rd April at 1pm.

**OVER 60'S CREAM TEA and RAFFLE**—a belated St. George's Day celebration— on Tuesday 7th May from 1-3pm, in aid of St. George's Sanctuary Fund. £5 each. All Welcome. Tickets available from Joyce on 020 8904 6430.

**MOTHER'S DAY SALE in aid of ST. LUKE'S HOSPICE:** A big THANK YOU to all who came, sent donations, gave cakes and worked very hard on the day—the sum of £811 was raised. The Unicorn's name was "Faith" and was won by Ella. All raffle winners have been notified. Please collect prizes from the parish office.

**THANK YOU** to all who brought painting and prints last week. We made over £1000 for our sanctuary fund.

**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.

**DAY OF PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE, FRIDAY 12 APRIL 2019:** In February 2016, Pope Francis asked each Bishops' Conference to establish a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. In response, the Bishops of England and Wales designated the Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent to be observed as this Day of Prayer. This year, therefore, the Day of Prayer is Friday 12 April. Cardinal Vincent writes "*I ask that this Day of Prayer is observed in all our parishes and chapels. It is important that we do so. Day by day, the pain of those who have suffered abuse, and its lasting corrosive impact, are brought more fully into the light. The pain of that betrayal of trust is all the more profound when the abuse took place within the community of the Catholic Church. We also see so clearly the failures in leadership in the Church that have exacerbated the sufferings of those who have been abused. We have plenty of reasons to pray.*"

**EASTER FUN DAY AND BAZAAR** at Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday 13th April, 11am-2.00pm. Please see poster in porch.

**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.

MARRIAGE/ENGAGED ENCOUNTER:

[www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk)

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

**CARDINAL WISEMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL** require an Assessment Administrator (c/date 29/4).

**ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL**—new premium pupil information for year 7 entry in September 2020. Please information in porch.

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

# NEWS & VIEWS

**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.

## PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

### Sunday 7 April:

Teas/Coffees after 9.45am/11.15am Masses.

### Monday 8 April:

### Tuesday 9 April:

Small Lenten Group 10.15am  
Set/Ceilidh Dancing 8.45pm

### Wednesday 10 April:

Knights of St. Columba 8.00pm

### Thursday 11 April:

Church Cleaning Group C 10.30am

### Friday 12 April:

Teas/Coffees after Stations of the Cross  
Friends of Jesus 5.30pm

**PLANNED GIVING—envelopes for 2019/20 are available again this weekend. All newly requested boxes are also available.** 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. The envelopes should be in use from this weekend and we still have many uncollected boxes. If you had envelopes last year and have still not collected this years please do so. As the price of stamps has recently increased the cost of posting all the uncollected envelopes would incur charges we could easily avoid if they were collected. 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.**

**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.

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

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

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES** leaflet is now available—please take a copy home.

**GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP & STATIONS OF THE CROSS**—The Children's Workshop & Stations of the Cross will be taking place on Good Friday **from 11.30am - 12.30pm**. If you might be free to help please contact **Candy White** (candyv2128@gmail.com or after 6pm on 07751 160816). Thank you!

**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 26th April 2019 at 7.30pm** in the parish centre.

**CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PHOTOGRAPHS**—We are delighted that, once again, **Papillon Photography** are taking care of the official photographs at the Confirmation & First Holy Communion Masses this year. If, in addition to the official photographs being taken during these services, you would like to **book a slot to have some photos taken with your family** either before or after Mass, please email [info@papillonphotography.co.uk](mailto:info@papillonphotography.co.uk) or telephone **Patricia on 07939 722 198 or Suzanne on 07712 183 744**.

**REPOSITORY** Open after Mass today with a selection of Mothering Sunday gifts and cards. If you think you could help with staffing the repository can you let one of the parish Team know.

**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.

**FRIENDS OF JESUS**—now closed for the Easter break and will be back on Friday 26th April at 5.30pm

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**—The next session, taking place on **Tuesday 23rd April for PARENTS & CARERS ONLY**, will be providing all with details of the practicalities relating to the FHC Masses. Thank you for making the necessary child-care arrangements so you are able to attend.

## WHY DO WE VEIL STATUES AND CROSSES DURING THIS PART OF LENT?

The Season of Lent grows and develops: a significant shift happens on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Having begun in ashes, and concentrating on the path of repentance with the aid of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, the Church now adds to that journey an emphasis on the Passion and Death of the Lord.

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 Therese and Saint Anthony of Padua are veiled, and we walk into Church and feel a desolation. Thus the interior of the Church, where so many graces are bestowed on the faithful, and worship is celebrated with a certain pomp, takes on an aspect of unaccustomed mourning.

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. It is fashionable nowadays to talk about the "Liturgical Environment" - we use our senses of sight and touch and smell when we come into Church, to be lifted up in prayer. The veiling of images and crosses makes us stop and ask - Why this emptiness? Why all this sombre purple? What are we celebrating?

## 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.

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

**DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am.

**ROSARY:** Daily after Mass.

Sun 7 April

6.15pm (Sat. Vigil)

8.30am

9.45am

11.15am

5.30pm

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

George Cronk RIP & Ellen Cronk RIP

Peter McGauran RIP

Mary Kiernan RIP (4th Ann)

Gerard Burton RIP

PRO POPULO

Mon 8 April

9.30am

**Lent feria**

Special Intentions

Tues 9 April

9.30am

**Lent feria**

Melinda Peter RIP

Weds 10 April

9.30am

**Lent feria**

Leo Barco RIP

Thurs 11 April **Lent feria**

9.30am

Eily & Tom Haugh RIP

Fri 12 April

9.30am

**Lent feria**

Olga Barco RIP

Sat 13 April

9.30am

**Lent feria**

Sara Loveday RIP

# TODAY'S MASS

## **Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 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: Isaiah 43:16-21**

Thus says the Lord,  
who made a way through the sea,  
a path in the great waters;  
who put chariots and horse in the field  
and a powerful army  
which lay there never to rise again,  
snuffed out, put out like a wick:  
No need to recall the past,  
no need to think about what  
was done before.  
See, I am doing a new deed,  
even now it comes to light;  
can you not see it?  
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,  
paths in the wilds.  
The wild beasts will honour me,  
jackals and ostriches,  
because I am putting water in the  
Wilderness (rivers in the wild)  
to give my chosen people drink.  
The people I have formed for myself  
will sing my praises.

## **Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 125:1-6**

**R/. What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion  
from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **R/.**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What mar-  
vels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **R/.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R/.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of  
song,  
carrying their sheaves. **R/.**

## **Second reading: Philippians 3:8-14**

I believe nothing can happen that will  
outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing  
Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted  
the loss of everything, and I look on  
everything as so much rubbish if only I can  
have Christ and be given a place in him. I am  
no longer trying for perfection by my own  
efforts, the perfection that comes from the  
Law, but I want only the perfection that  
comes through faith in Christ, and is from  
God and based on faith. All I want is to know  
Christ and the power of his resurrection and

to share his sufferings by reproducing the  
pattern of his death. That is the way I can  
hope to take my place in the resurrection  
of the dead. Not that I have become  
perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am  
still running, trying to capture the prize  
for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can  
assure you my brothers, I am far from  
thinking that I have already won. All I can  
say is that I forget the past and I strain  
ahead for what is still to come; I am racing  
for the finish, for the prize to which God  
calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

## **Gospel Acclamation: Joel 2:12-13**

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal  
glory!**

**Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks –  
come back to me with all your heart,  
for I am all tenderness and compassion.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal  
glory!**

## **Gospel: John 8:1-11**

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At  
daybreak he appeared in the Temple  
again; and as all the people came to him,  
he sat down and began to teach them.  
The scribes and Pharisees brought a  
woman along who had been caught  
committing adultery; and making her  
stand there in full view of everybody, they  
said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was  
caught in the very act of committing  
adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the  
Law to condemn women like this to death  
by stoning. What have you to say?' They  
asked him this as a test, looking for  
something to use against him. But Jesus  
bent down and started writing on the  
ground with his finger. As they persisted  
with their question, he looked up and said,

'If there is one of you who has not sinned,  
let him be the first to throw a stone at  
her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the  
ground again. When they heard this they  
went away one by one, beginning with the  
eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the  
woman, who remained standing there. He  
looked up and said, 'Woman, where are  
they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No  
one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I con-  
demn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not  
sin any more.'

## **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**

Has no one condemned you, woman? No  
one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you.  
From now on, sin no more.

## **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.  
**Amen.**