



Sunday 25th April 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome to our 'On Line' Newsletter It should be easier to read and to download and print if you so wish. Please use the readings and reflection as part of your spiritual Communion and with any streamlining Masses in which you may be watching and participating.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday Readings
Easter IV

Divine Office
Easter IV

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
[http://www.sdc.me.uk/
sundaylurgy/](http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundaylurgy/)

THIS WEEK

Sun 25 April **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
6.15pm (Vigil) Greoglina Pereira
8.30am Max Perera RIP
9.45am Indra Petturpillai RIP
11.15am Baptiste Fernandes Ints.
 (Ron & Betty Baker—50th wedding)
5.30pm **THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

Mon 26 April **Easter feria**
9.30am Gervasio & Alice Pereira
 (wedding anniversary.)

Tues 27 April **Easter feria**
9.30am Betty & Bill Cusack RIP

Weds 28 April **S. Louls de Montfort**
9.30am Spencer Coomarewel RIP

Thurs 29 April **S. CATHERINE OF SIENA**
9.30am Mary Grace Perera RIP

Fri 30 April **S. Plus V** 
9.30am Spencer Coomarewel RIP

Sat 1 May **S. Joseph the Worker**
9.30am Baptiste Fernandes Ints

Sun 2 May **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
6.15pm (Vigil) Mary & Richard Cooksey RIP
8.30am Clare & Tony Sullivan Ints.RIP
9.45am Frank O'Neil RIP
11.15am Richard Dwyer RIP
5.30pm **THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

TODAY'S MASS



The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18

Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

I am like the sick sheep that strays from the rest of the flock. Unless the Good Shepherd takes me on His shoulders and carries me back to His fold, my steps will falter, and in the very effort of rising, my feet will give way.

St. Jerome

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GOSPEL REFLECTION

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: Catherine Kevill, Margaret O'Shea, Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, John and Angela McCarthy, Patrick McDonagh, Noel Gill, Tom Fernandes, Dee Auriol, Kathleen O'Brien, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, Theresa Isaccs, Emma Fernandes, SMR, Aaran Thayaparan

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Terry Smart, Irena Sobon

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Thomas Maguire (37th), Manuel Cabral, John Calnan, Maurice Willis

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY Ron & Betty Baker (50th)

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR APRIL

Fundamental Rights: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

SANCTUARY LAMP *For the Parish*

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Baptiste Fernandes Ints.

A DAILY PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

given to us by Pope Francis for this Year of St Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.



'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me.' Jesus gives us this wonderful image in today's gospel. A lamb picks out the voice of its mother from all the voices in the flock. The attachment of the lamb to the mother is so strong that it is able to distinguish between noises that we could not distinguish. Sheep also learn to recognise the voice of the Shepherd, 'the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.'

Jesus is telling us that the love between himself and his followers is based upon complete trust; just the sound of his voice is enough to show us the way. In a baby, hearing develops before sight. Voices are more primitive than faces. Jesus, the Word of God, has spoken amongst us, and before we come to look on the face of God his voice sounds in our ears.

Jesus's image of the sheep and the shepherd is far from the peaceful image we can have of the English countryside (at least, we city dwellers!). The landscape Jesus calls to mind is not that of a peaceful pastoral scene, but the violent, unsafe landscape of his own time, when the shepherd and his sheep would have been under constant threat from thieves and wild animals. The shepherd is constantly watchful of his flock and knows that the flock's safety depends upon the strength of their bond with him. If the sheep fail to recognise his voice, they will wander off to almost certain doom. It is this troubled scene that Jesus calls to mind with the image of the good shepherd.

Jesus is the good shepherd, who calls out to us in the midst of life's troubles and uncertainties. He is entering into greater and greater danger and he calls on his disciples to follow him, such that when the violence and conflict increase they are united to him and to one another. This unity is not just an earthly belonging together, but is founded upon the unity of the Holy Trinity. When Jesus tells his disciples that he and the Father are one, he is telling them that the community he is calling them into, the community of the Church, is not just an earthly institution.

As we journey through the confusions and the dangers of life, Jesus calls to us like the shepherd calling to his sheep. We tend to think of sheep as passive creatures, we criticise people for acting like sheep, but the sheep that Jesus is talking about are far from passive. Just to survive a sheep needs to be constantly aware, listening for the voice of the shepherd. And they can only do this successfully as part of a flock.

A sheep needs to be alert, listening for the voice of the shepherd, not straying from the flock. The message that we often hear today is that you need to be independent, able to stand on your own two feet, making your own way through the troubles of life. This message can only gain hold in a society where a significant number of people have financial independence, and where the dangers around them can be held at bay by increasingly expensive security arrangements. The reality of life for most people in this world is that you cannot survive on your own, you need the help and support of other people and you need the help of God.

When we follow Jesus in his Church, we are far from being passive and unthinking sheep; we are actively following his voice and opening our lives to the love of God and the love of our brother and sisters in the Church. This is what gives us the courage to be bold in the midst of life's dangers, to live full lives, not constantly looking over our shoulders for the next threat. It is what enables us to be truly who we are. As we place our trust in him we learn our true dignity as sons and daughters of God, the dignity that enables us to grow to the maturity of the children of God.

NEWS UPDATE



MASS TIMES: We are now keeping again our traditional Mass routine for both Sundays and weekdays. i.e. Saturday 6.15pm (Vigil) Sunday 8.30am, 9.45am, 11.15am, 5.30pm

The church will open on:

Saturday (Sunday Vigil) Open 5.45pm close at around 7.00pm

Sunday: Open at 8.00am close at 9.00am

Open at 9.15am close at 10.15am

Open at 10.45am close at 11.45am

Open at 5.30pm close at 6.15pm

Weekdays: Open at 9.00am close at 10.00am

After each closure the church must be cleaned. Needless to say this involves a huge undertaking on the part of volunteer stewards/cleaners. Could you help? Maybe one mass each fortnight. Volunteers must be under 70 years of age and have no underlying health conditions. If you can help either with cleaning or stewarding talk to one of the parish team.

CONFESSIONS by appointment

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT with BENEDICTION Fridays 9.00-9.30am

Mass at the usual time of 9.30pm.

FLOWER COLLECTION thank you to all who gave so generously. as flowers are not cheap these days!

A WORD FROM FR JULIO. Let me express my gratitude to all of you who not only donated to the cause of my nephew Abraham but have also shown concern for him and keep asking on how he is doing! He left intensive care and was allowed to return home two weeks ago, where he is looked after with alternative medicines. Although, his condition still very critical. I am sure that many of you have already included him in your prayers and for this I am incredibly grateful!

COVID ROADMAP FOR CHURCHES: If the four national tests have been satisfied for easing lockdown: From 8th March weddings with up to 6 people may resume. Funerals continue with a maximum of 30 attending. From 12th April: weddings with up to 15 people allowed. Funerals continue with a maximum of 30 attending. From 17th May: Holy Baptisms, weddings and funerals with up to 30 people attending are allowed. From 21 June: no restrictions on numbers providing restrictions are not reimposed.

EVENING MASSES on SUNDAY The Sunday evening Mass of 5.30pm have now recommenced. If you wish to come to a mass that isn't crowded on a Sunday, this is the one for you. We thank all those who will do extra stewarding and cleaning to make this happen. **However we do need extra volunteers to make it possible. Could you help? Please let us know.**

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? Please do fill in a Parish Registration Form which you can find at the back of the church. You can return it in the presbytery letter box or by post. This is important for use to know who you are and help you when the occasion arises.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 - Thank you for keeping our FHC children in prayer as the Year 3 children prepare to make their First Holy Communion this coming week. Parents/Carers will have received full details of the rehearsals in an email last week. Those attending rehearsals are reminded to please **arrive promptly**, to remember **face coverings** (face coverings for children under 11 years of age are optional) & **your own hand sanitizer** (to clean the children's hands before they go up to practice receiving their First Holy Communion).

CONFIRMATION 2021 - Thank you to Candidates, Parents/Carers, Catechists & Stewards for helping our COVID-secure Confirmation Registration Evening go smoothly last week. **CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION IS**

NOW CLOSED FOR NOW THIS YEAR —IF YOU MISSED THESE SESSIONS YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR. Our Confirmation Catechists will be meeting this coming Monday to continue preparing as attentively as possible for this year's COVID-secure Programme. A little reminder that the **Meet the Team Session**, taking place in the Parish Centre on **Monday 10th May at 7.30pm, is for just one Parent/Carer only.**

WEEKLY ENVELOPES FOR YOUR OFFERINGS These should have either been delivered or posted to you. If you have not received them please let us know. By the way, we only send them out to those who request them or have received them previously. In order to be part of the envelope giving scheme all you need to do is simply to send us an email making that request.

STANDING ORDERS: April is the beginning of the new financial year, if you are a gift aider and giving your offer-tory donation via the weekly envelopes why not consider giving by standing order? If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email.

GIFT AID DETAILS: In order to gift aid your donations you need to be a UK tax payer, if you are one you can gift aid your donations at no extra cost to yourself, we would be able to claim 25% of your donations from HMRC. It is also important that we keep our donor records up to date as we do not want to cause anyone any trouble, if your circumstances have changed or you are no longer a tax payer please inform the Parish Office at your earliest convenience. If we claim on behalf of someone who is not paying taxes HMRC may ask that person to refund the amount claimed.

SVP - During the current Pandemic, the **Parish SVP Group** is there to help the vulnerable of the Parish with tasks such as shopping, posting letters, urgent supplies and can provide telephone support if you are feeling isolated or lonely. If you need their help please call **0208 9000250, 0775 3654154 (Theresa)** or email **StGeorgeSVP@pm.me**

CHURCH LAMPS: Both the Sanctuary Lamp and the lamp of Our Lady of Walsingham have been sent away for some minor restoration. Whilst the lamps are not in their holders they are burning in the relevant places and for the intentions given. Under the present circumstances there are plenty of spaces during April and beyond.

THE PARISH OFFICE remains closed. If you wish to book a Mass and for a Mass Card, the best way to get one is to give us all the details, your offering and an SAE and we will post it back to you ASAP.

TABLE TOP SALE: Great bargains to be had. From Real Silver Jewellery, to Scones and Preserves. The sale will be held in the car park, at the Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre, (just behind the Methodist Church at Sudbury Town) on the following Saturdays: 17/4/21 / 15/5/21 / 12/6/21 Please come along, grab a bargain, whilst supporting a well loved local Charity.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, a day in which as a whole Church, we pray for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. This is an urgent intention as we need priests to celebrate the sacraments and preach the word of God as they serve our various parishes and communities. No less important, we need religious who are signs to us of Christ in our midst, carrying out various ministries and particularly caring for those who are in most need.

In our Diocese, there will be a second collection to sup-

port the Priest Training Fund. Our offerings pays for the priestly formation of those preparing for the priesthood. At present there are 42 men studying at Allen Hall seminary; 18 of these are seminarians for our Diocese of Westminster. The others come from other Dioceses and religious orders. In addition to the 18, there are two men are studying in Rome. Last year two men who studied at Allen Hall and one who studied in Rome were ordained to the priesthood. This year, God willing, four men will be ordained to the priesthood and three to the diaconate. One of the three being ordained to the diaconate is Dan Daley from our parish.

The fund also supports the ongoing formation of our ordained priests. The Cardinal and his auxiliary Bishops commend this collection to your kind generosity. Money is one thing but our prayers for vocations are far more important. Please also pray for your priests, that they may be holy men. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

ROOM TO LET 3 minutes from the church. Call 07504 739081

CLEANER REQUIRED. Please contact Elizabeth on 07958376085

CANISTAN JUSAY, one of our stewards, is looking to rent a two/three bedroomed flat in the area. Canistan's number is: 07404 127098,

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY, via live-stream from Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 15th May at 3.00pm. The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for 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 2021. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy/parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email), and these details will be sent to those organizing this celebration. An Order of Service can be downloaded from the Cathedral website prior to the event. www.westminstercathedral.org.uk

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: Hosted by the Archdiocese of Southwark on Saturday 1st May at 11.30am. Celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan The Mass will be live streamed from St William of York, Catholic Church, Forest Hill. To live-stream the Mass, use this link: <https://www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/>

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE FAITH?

St Joseph at the Crossroads A talk on Zoom for *The Year of Saint Joseph* by Fr John Hemer MHM, Thursday 29th April at 7.00pm.

Let Us Dream - Easter Resource Four sessions for groups or individuals, produced by the Spirituality Committee of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The Year of the Word - The God Who Speaks - some rich resources focused on Easter Glory: god-whospeaks.uk/easter-glory

SEMINARY: Allen Hall in Chelsea is our local seminary. They have published their latest newsletter electronically which can be viewed here: https://issuu.com/rcwestminster/docs/allen_hall_newletter_-_easter_2021

GOD CALLING: The latest video for those interested in a vocation to the priesthood can be viewed here:



Scan to Give

We must keep on protecting each other.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT. CONTROL THE VIRUS. SAVE LIVES.

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Ps 32: 5-6*

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First reading: *Acts 4:8-12*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

hanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 117:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29*

*R/. The stone which the bullders rejected has become t
he corner stone.*

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men;
it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. *R/.*

2. I will thank you for you
have answered and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected has become
the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. *R/.*

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
You are my God, I thank you.
My God, I praise you.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. *R/.*

Second reading: *1 John 3:1-2*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused
to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God

but what we are to be in the
future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him
as he really is.
The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Jn10:14*

Allelula, allelula!

*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep
and my own know me.*

Allelula!

Gospel: *John 10:11-18*

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.
'I am the good shepherd;
I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.
'The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it
down, so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these
paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in
eternal pastures the sheep you have redeemed by the Precious
Blood of your Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.