

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

## Entrance Antiphon Ps 13 (12): 6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who  
has been bountiful with me.

## Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, always pondering spiritual things,  
we may carry out in both word and deed  
that which is pleasing to you.  
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: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy. You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118

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 is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. R./

4. As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear Him. R./

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it; if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this

world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Allelula, allelula!*

*If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.  
Allelula!*

## Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

## Prayer over the Offerings

As we celebrate your mysteries,  
O Lord, with the observance that is your due, we humbly ask you,  
that what we offer to the  
honour of your majesty may profit us for salvation. Through Christ  
our Lord.

## Communion Antiphon Ps 9: 2-3

I will recount all your wonders,  
I will rejoice in you and be glad,  
and sing psalms to your name,  
O Most High.

## Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that we may experience the effects of the  
salvation which is pledged to us by these mysteries.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 19th February 2023

# THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Welcome to all at mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle  
Readings Year A

Weekday Readings  
Week 7 year 2

Divine Office  
Week 3

For children,  
download a weekly sheet:  
<http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/>

## THIS WEEK

Sun 19 Feb  
6.15pm

### 7th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Helen Brady RIP  
& Alice Cullen RIP

### THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Ken Durcan RIP  
Eileen Nicklen RIP  
Manuel Martin Lopez RIP

8.30am  
9.45am  
11.15am  
5.30pm

Mon 20 Feb  
9.30am

feria  
Piedade Fernandes (Birthday  
Thanksgiving)

Tues 21 Feb  
9.30am

feria  
John Murphy RIP

Weds 22 Feb

ASH WEDNESDAY  
Imposition of Ashes at both  
Masses

9.30am  
8.00pm

Bridie Carey RIP  
Joe Fernandes Ints.

Thurs 23 Feb  
9.30am

Lent feria  
Eleanor O'Leary RIP & Leslie  
Valles RIP

Fri 24 Feb  
9.30am

Lent feria  
Ian McMonagle RIP

Sat 25 Feb  
9.30am

Lent feria  
Baptiste Fernandes Ints.

Sun 26 Feb  
6.15pm  
8.30am  
9.45am  
11.15am  
5.30pm

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
Mary & Richard Cooksey RIP  
Margaret Mc Elwee Ints.  
Charles Pinto RIP  
Matthew Rammelt RIP  
THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH



## TODAY'S MASS



Jesus asks his followers to take a different approach by resisting retaliation altogether. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth. The other difficult demand of those who are called to the kingdom is to embrace the enemy. St. Matthew emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbour are the fundamental commands on which all else depend. Because God's love is unconditional, we are to strive to love as God does, though, of course,

it is challenging. Is it even possible? We are to be perfect as our heavenly father is perfect. We are not to be perfect as in doing everything correctly, that is, as in being absolutely morally correct. We are to be perfect as in striving to reach the completeness we are called to in the Kingdom of Heaven. Attempting to love our enemies is part of striving for that completeness.

First Reading: *Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18*  
Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 103: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13*  
Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 3:16-23*  
Are you not aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 5:38-48*  
My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors.

## SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist."*  
Pope St. Gregory the Great

## MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead [jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk)  
Assistant Priest: Fr Mike Guthrie [michaelguthrie@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:michaelguthrie@rcdow.org.uk)  
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley [peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk)  
Secretary: Mrs. Toni Miles [sudbury@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudbury@rcdow.org.uk)  
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price [scottprice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:scottprice@rcdow.org.uk)  
Hall Bookings: via the office or [sudbury@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudbury@rcdow.org.uk)  
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis [sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
Tel 07751804978  
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE  
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr. Mike; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.  
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)

# GOSPEL REFLECTION

## DAILY MASS TIMES

**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:** Friday 9.00-9.30am, 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.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, SMR, Aaran Thayaparan, Jocalyn Almeida, John, Rowland Watts, Catherine Corcoran, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Jean Lurshay, Patrick.*

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** *Maja Liss*

**RECENTLY MARRIED** *Liam Cunningham & Laura Collins*

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** *Juliana Etan, Susan Scannell,*

### ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:

*Eileen Nicklen (6th), Helen Brady, Alice Cullen, Laura Mckim, Paddy McKim*

### BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

*In memory of Kevin Durcan RIP*

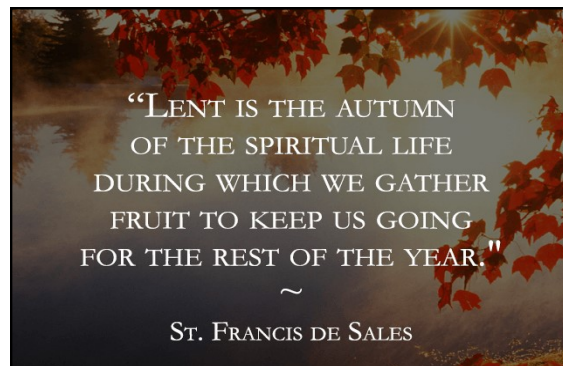
### LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

*Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes*

### POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR February 2023

**For parishes**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



What makes Christians different from others and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is living and working through *grace* – treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated – with loving-kindness and mercy. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. His love embraces saint and sinner alike. God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return. Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and grief. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction.

Was Jesus exaggerating when he said we must be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect? The original meaning of “perfect” in Aramaic (the language Jesus spoke) is “completeness” or “wholeness – not lacking in what is essential.” God gives us every good gift in Jesus Christ so that we may not lack anything we need to do his will and to live as his sons and daughters (2 Peter 1:3). He knows our weakness and sinfulness better than we do. And he assures us of his love, mercy, and grace to follow in his ways.

# NEWS UPDATE



Switch mobile phones off or to silent



## THIS WEEK ASH WEDNESDAY 22nd February

marking the beginning of Lent. It is also a day of fasting for those in good health from 18 years, up to the age of retirement (1 regular meal and 2 smaller meals are permitted). Ash Wednesday is also a day of abstinence from meat. Masses with the imposition of ashes at **9.30am & 8.00pm**. Please let others know who might not be at Mass this weekend.

**WELCOME** to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

**LENT LEAFLET & COLLECTING BOX**—Have you taken yours? If not take one as you leave Mass today.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - At Session 4, on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**, the children will be reflecting in their Small Catechist Groups about how 'The Eucharist Is our Family Meal'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at 7pm. Following the request of a number of Parents/Carers, **during Session 4 Parents/Carers will be welcome to enjoy a Tour of the Church** led by John Sexton, beginning in the Church at 7.05pm.

**CONFIRMATION 2023** - At Session 1, on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February**, the Confirmation Candidates will be reflecting on 'The Purpose of Confirmation'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at 7.30pm. The **Confirmation Day Retreat** is taking place at **SPEC (Pinner)** on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February** from 9.45-4pm.

**YOUR OLD PALM CROSSES ARE WANTED**- To allow preparations for Ash Wednesday, please return your old Palm Crosses from last year to the basket provided at the back of church on either of the next two Sundays. These are burnt to provide the ash for Ash Wednesday. Please **DON'T** return any palm crosses after 19 Feb. Maybe when you return your cross, you might make a prayer of penitence in church and make a plan to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Please don't take these crosses (as evidentially they are needed!) - its not Palm Sunday for a while!!

**CAN YOU SING OR PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?** If so we need you. As we have begun a new year it would be good to see more of our community in-

involved with the Music at both the 9.45am Family Mass and the 11.15am Solemn Mass. Too many of us leave it to a few. The great Saint Augustine reminds us that the one who sings prays twice! Our music and singing is one of the great ways we give glory to God especially when we are celebrating Mass. If you feel you could help, please let us know as you'd be very welcome.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)** : If you are feeling isolated and would like a home visit or a chat with a friendly person over the phone please get in touch. If you are struggling financially or would like other practical assistance please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are over 18 and are interested in becoming a member of the SVP you would be very welcome, just call the number below or drop in to our next meeting. Tel. 0775 3654154 (Theresa). Email. [frain.home@gmail.com](mailto:frain.home@gmail.com)

**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.

**MENS BREAKFAST** Saturday 25th February from 9.00am. Speaker: Jake Scicinski on the subject "Whatever happened to music and singing in the Catholic Church in England". (Jake is studying the organ at present at the Royal College of Music). All welcome—Father, sons etc.

### SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Ash Wednesday beginning of Lent- 22nd February  
First Sunday of Lent - 26th February  
St Patrick - 17th March  
St Joseph - 20th March  
The Annunciation of the Lord - 25th March  
Palm Sunday - Holy Week commences 2nd April  
Maundy Thursday - 6th April  
Good Friday - 7th April  
Holy Saturday - 8th April  
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection - 9th April  
St George - 24th April

**PARENTING FOR FAITH** - a new online course starting for those with Babies and Toddlers over 5 weeks from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 23 via Zoom starting at 8:00pm. There is a £5 registration fee.

<https://www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith>

**A VERY RESPONSIBLE** Catholic adult male is looking for accommodation. Any chance you could help? Contact Fr Jeremy for more information.

**EVERY BABY IN THE WOMB HAS A RIGHT TO LIFE: A Petition to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth.** In 2021, abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to a Government Bill that would have introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion). This amendment did not go to a vote, but the abortion lobby is expected to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would introduce one of the most extreme abortion

laws in the world. Right To Life UK is running a petition to ask the Prime Minister to do everything in his power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. Please add your name to the petition here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/signthepetitionorishi>

**INTRODUCING CATHOLIC LISTENERS:** Catholic Listeners; Diocese of Westminster, a new confidential listening helpline launching this month, has been set up for those who are returning to the faith. The number is 0800 448 0704. This service is based on the Landings ethos of compassionate listening. Although not a counselling service, they have a professional team trained on signposting to other services and agencies. They aim to help those in need of a safe space to talk. For further information please contact Ade at [Catholiclisteners@gmail.com](mailto:Catholiclisteners@gmail.com) or queries about this please ask one of the clergy.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 21-28 JULY:** Bookings are not open yet, but 'Expressions of Interest' are sought from all who intend to participate in the Pilgrimage, whether as Praying Pilgrims, Clergy etc. An expression of interest can be made at the website: <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/>

**GRANTS TO HELP WITH ENERGY DEBTS:** Possible help from a charitable trust plus links to other advice providers at <https://fuelpoverty.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

**LENTEN TAIZÉ PRAYERS** in Notre Dame de France (French Church, 5 Leicester Place WC2H 7BX) at 19:30 on **25th February** and **25th March 2023**. A time of prayer with Taizé chants, scripture and silence in the heart of London. All are welcome!

**ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY** The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries – 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th 50th, 60th and 60+. As usual couples are asked to register their wish to attend with their parish, which then sends on the details by Saturday, 1st April 2023.

**THE CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY** will be on Friday 3rd March. In preparation, envelopes and prayer cards will be available from next week for those who wish to use them.

Merciful God,  
look upon us as we enter these Forty Days,  
bearing the mark of ashes,  
and bless our journey through the desert of Lent.  
May our fasting be hunger for justice;  
our alms, a making of peace;  
our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.  
All that we do and pray is in the name of Jesus,  
for in his cross you proclaim your love  
for ever and ever. Amen.