

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

## Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 33 (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 2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

## Responsorial psalm: psalm 22

**R/. The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near the restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R./**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R./**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R./**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R./**

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
*I am the Good shepherd says the lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me, Alleluia!*

## Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

## 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.

## Communlon Antiphon

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

## Prayer after Communlon

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.

# ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUBBURY

Sunday 30th April 2023

Vocations Sunday

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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  
Easter Week 4

Divine Office  
Easter Week 4

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

## THIS WEEK

Sun 30 April

6.15pm (vigil)  
8.30am  
9.45am  
11.15am  
5.30pm

Mon 1 May  
9.30am

Tues 2 May  
9.30am

Weds 3 May  
9.30am

Thurs 4 May  
9.30am

Fri 5 May  
9.30am  
10.45am

Sat 6 May  
8.00am

Sun 7 May

6.15pm (vigil)  
8.30am  
9.45am  
11.15am  
5.30pm

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Good Shepherd Sunday for Vocations to the Priesthood**  
Mr Devendran  
Ellen Gallagher RIP  
Max & Anton Isaacs RIP  
Norah O'Toole RIP  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

**S. Joseph the Worker**  
Reparation of sins

**S. Athanasius**  
Elvira Fernandes

**Ss. PHILIP & JAMES**  
Lucille Thomas Ints.

**THE ENGLISH MARTYRS**  
Richard O'Dwyer RIP

**Easter feria**  
Holy Souls  
**FUNERAL MASS**  
Bridie Ruane RIP

**Easter feria**  
Private Intentions

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Good Shepherd Sunday for Vocations to the Priesthood**  
Francis Philbin RIP  
Christine Knottenbelt RIP  
Gerald Doody RIP  
Father Michael Johnston Ints.  
**THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

## TODAY'S MASS

Christ the Good Shepherd brings us life."



*God has appointed Christ as the Shepherd of the whole human race. He has become our gateway to eternal life because he lays down his life for us. Even though we have gone astray through sin, nevertheless by his wounds we are healed and given a new direction in our lives.*

**First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a,36-41**  
Peter and the other apostles baptize 3,000 people.

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23:1-6**  
The Lord is my shepherd.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25**  
We have been healed by the wounds of Christ.

**Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10**  
Jesus is the gate for his sheep.

## SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*The Resurrection became the confirmation of his victory; the victory of the love of the Good Shepherd who says: 'They follow me.'*  
Pope Saint John Paul II

## 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/ SVF 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, SMR, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, 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, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger..*

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** *Olivia Grace Brooker*

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** *Anton Isaacs, Owen Corcoran, Teresa Anne O'Sullivan, Anthony Burgess, Bridget Ruane, Margaret Courmane.*

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:** *Thomas Maguire, John Calnan, Neil Cummins (2nd anniv.)*

### BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

*In memory of Bertram Jacob RIP*

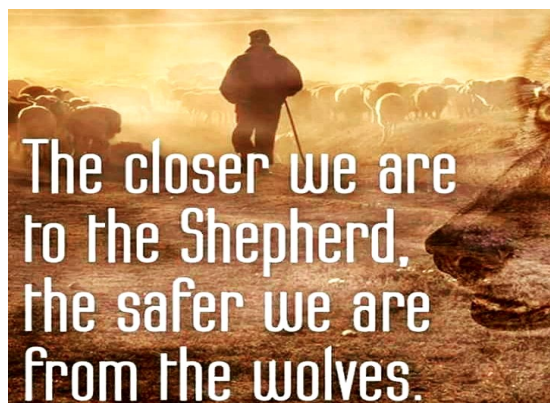
### LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

*Private Intentions*

### POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR May 2023

#### For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.



This Sunday is traditionally called 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because of the Gospel references to Jesus as the Good Shepherd. It is also the day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. On this Sunday we hear one of the great 'I am' statements of Jesus from Saint John's Gospel today: 'I am the gate of the sheepfold'.

Through Jesus we enter into life and safety, and we 'go through Jesus, the gate' by baptism. This image is implied in all today's readings: the people listening to Peter find this gateway and enter through it: Peter writes to remind us that we have come back to the Good Shepherd, who heals us by his wounds.

Moreover, the most comforting of the Psalms begins "The Lord is my shepherd." It ends with this line: "Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

Goodness and mercy are present in the person of the Good Shepherd. Thus, they have to follow the lost sheep, because the shepherd is heading out after them, to look for them.

In the Gospel, on the other hand, the order of leading and following is reversed. Jesus says that his sheep know his voice, and so they follow him. Now, a sheep doesn't recognize the voice of the shepherd unless it already knows the shepherd! The difference, then, between being a lost sheep who is followed by the Shepherd and being a faithful sheep who follows the Shepherd is a matter of knowing the Shepherd. It's a matter of personal relationship. Personal relationship requires openness to love, with all its risks. That openness is the reason why Jesus is not only the Good Shepherd, he is also the Gate into the fold, open to the sheep that are his own. To be a sheep that is Christ's own, a person has to open to love of the Lord. You have to go within Jesus, through Jesus, who is the Gate and the Way, as well as being the leader along the way. Here is the good news, then. Whether a person is faithful or astray, they will be surrounded by the love of the Good Shepherd. Saint Patrick's prayer says it well: *Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ with me.*

## NEWS UPDATE



Switch mobile phones  
off or to silent



### St George's CORONATION BRUNCH

on  
Sunday 7th May from  
12.30pm onwards in the  
Parish Centre Tickets £5.00 on  
sale after Mass, from the  
Repository, The Office  
& Presbytery

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

**THANK YOU** to all who bought tickets for our Coronation brunch. A good number are coming! Just to make sure there's enough to go round, you might like to bring something extra with you such as a cake or scones or something similar. Thanks!

**THE CORONATION** takes place this Saturday. The Bishops of England & Wales have asked that we say a special Mass for the new king. Mass on this Saturday will be at 8.00am (not 9.30am) and for the King's intentions.

**THIS FRIDAY** as there are many festivities for the Coronation the Bishops of England & Wales have lifted the rule of abstinence. Enjoy your sausages etc!!!

**WE NEED YOUR HELP** for Welcomers (6.15pm Vigil Mass, 9.45am and 5.30pm) and Collectors (6.15pm and 5.30pm). If you could help, please let us know.

**FUNERAL MASS** of Bridget Ruane on Friday 5th May at 10.45am followed by Cremation at Breakspeare Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** all throughout the church who are preparing for baptism and the Sacraments of initiation at this time especially in our parish.

**COLLECTION OF LENT APPEAL BOXES** - If you still have one, please bring it back ASAP so we can tally up our amount and let the Passage have our giving.

**CHILDREN 4-9 YEARS OLD** please take one of our new sheets called "LOOK" to help you understand the Gospel message of the day.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - We keep the FHC children in prayer as they receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time this weekend. A huge thank you to our Catechists and Helpers for all their support during the year preparing the children for this important moment. Those making their First Holy Communion on 13<sup>th</sup> May are reminded that their FHC Rehearsal starts in the church at 7pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you for arriving in good time to ensure the children are in place for the beginning of the rehearsal. Thank you.

**CONFIRMATION 2023** - At Session 8, on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, the Confirmation Candidates will be reflecting, at the Sent Forth in the Spirit Session, on some of the ways they can use the gifts of the Holy Spirit they are receiving in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at 7.30pm.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS AT 9.45 FAMILY MASS** - We are seeking new volunteers to help the younger children (4-7yr) reflect on Sunday's Gospel during Mass in a fun, creative & simple way. If you might consider helping once every six weeks, joining an established group of experienced Catechists, please contact Una Moran [una@bfmconsult.co.uk](mailto:una@bfmconsult.co.uk). Thank you.

**MAY** is the Month traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. Many families have discovered the importance of the prayer of the rosary. Why not give it a go either by yourself or with your family?

**CAN YOU SING?** We really need you to help with our music at the 9.45am & 11.15am Masses on Sunday. Please do think about this carefully. St Augustine reminds us that *the one who sings prays twice!* Please don't leave this important ministry to others.

**ROSARY AT HOME** If you'd like to be part of our prayer network, or know more please simply contact Cheryl on 07941002161 .

**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.

**PLANNED GIVING—envelopes for 2023/2024** Those who have not collected theirs are still available at the back of the church.

Also, Thank you to parishioners who have now switched over to a standing order and those who are using our card machine. This saves us printing costs. **PLEASE** let us know: If you are new to the

parish and wish to use the weekly envelope scheme or to regularly donate and Gift Aid your donation. Contact us on: [sudbury@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudbury@rcdow.org.uk) or 020 8904 2552 (option 2).

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

**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/>

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND:** This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and our second collection will support the Priest Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 48 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 14 of whom are from our own Diocese, as well as two men studying in Rome and two in Valladolid. Last year five men were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests.

The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, some are still available at the back of the church. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) Thank you, as always, for your generosity.

**RETRouvaille:** A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. Help Your Marriage - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)