

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance **Antiphon Cf. Ps 98 (97): 1-2**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal  
Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy  
Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to  
the joys of life eternal.  
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: Acts 6:1-7**

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the  
Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribu-  
tion their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a  
full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, "It would not be  
right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you,  
brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good repu-  
tation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this  
duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the  
service of the word." The whole assembly approved of this proposal  
and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, togeth-  
er with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of  
Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles,  
who prayed and laid their hands on them.  
The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in  
Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made  
their submission to the faith.

**Responsorial psalm: 32**

*R./ May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our trust in you.*

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *R./*

2. From the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. *R./*

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their soul from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. *R./*

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9**

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and  
precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy  
priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has  
made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual  
house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone  
that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be

disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious;  
but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be  
the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They  
stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate  
in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a con-  
secrated nation, a people set apart to sing

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the father except through me.",  
Alleluia!**

**Gospel: John 14:1-12**

Jesus said to his disciples:  
"Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house if there were not, I should  
have told you.  
I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and  
prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where  
I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going."  
Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can  
we know the way?" Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know  
him and have seen him."  
Philip said, "Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfac-  
tied." "Have I been with you all this time, Philip," said Jesus to him  
"and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the  
Father so how can you say, 'Let us see the Father'?"  
Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
It is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father  
is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work,  
if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father."

**Prayer over the Offerings**

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have  
made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that,  
as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy  
way of life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 15: 1, 5**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever  
remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**Prayer after Communion**

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those  
you have imbued with heavenly mysteries  
to pass from former ways to newness of life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 7th May 2023

## FIFTH 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 5**

**Divine Office  
Easter Week 5/ psalms 1**

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

### THIS WEEK

<b>Sun 7 May</b> 6.15pm (vigil)	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Francis Philbin RIP Christine Knottenbelt RIP Gerald Doody RIP Father Michael Johnston Ints. THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
<b>Mon 8 May</b> 9.30am	<b>Easter feria</b> Neil & Anne McDuff RIP
<b>Tues 9 May</b> 9.30am	<b>Easter feria</b> Eddie Rozario Ints.
<b>Weds 10 May</b> 9.30am	<b>Easter feria</b> Louis Hoareau RIP
<b>Thurs 11 May</b> 9.30am	<b>Easter feria</b> Paul Turnbull RIP
<b>Fri 12 May</b> 9.30am	<b>S. Pancras, Martyr</b> Divine Mercy
<b>Sat 13 May</b> 9.30am	<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b> Don Treacy
<b>Sun 14 May</b> 6.15pm (vigil)	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH John Walsh RIP Nellie Graham RIP Dorothy Coomarewel & family Ints. Ann O'Connor RIP

### TODAY'S MASS

"Christ is our Way, Truth  
and Life"



*We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a consecrated nation, a people set apart  
to sing the praises of God. God has  
poured out all these gifts on us through  
the Holy spirit. We are to devote ourselves  
to proclaiming God's Word revealed in  
Christ, and to trust that Christ always has  
a special love and care for us.*

**First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7**

The early Christian community chooses seven people to serve at table so that the  
Twelve can devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word.

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:1-2,4-5,18-19**

The Lord is merciful toward those who trust in him.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9**

Those who have faith are chosen in Christ to be a holy priesthood.

**Gospel Reading: John 14:1-12**

Jesus tells his disciples, "I am the way and the truth and the life."

### SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A humble soul does not trust itself, but places all its  
confidence in God."  
St. Faustina

### 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)

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**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, 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

Sales Dias, Birthday Intentions

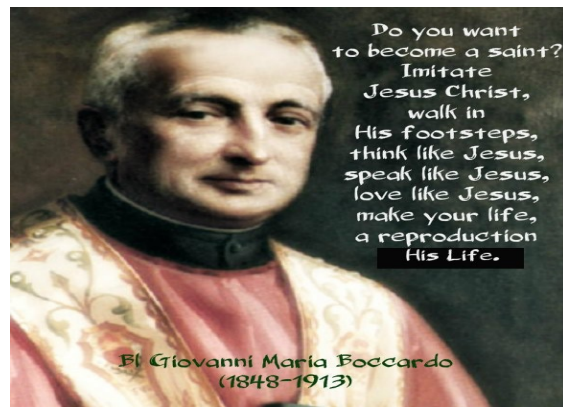
#### LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

In Memory of Rosario S de Jesus RIP

#### 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.



As much as we try to avoid it, we all inevitably encounter troubles and trials, and sometimes more than we think we can handle! Jesus knew that his disciples would have to face adversity and trials after he left them to return to his Father. Jesus assured them that his departure is for their good, in order to secure a place for them in God's house – a place of refuge, peace, and everlasting happiness. If the Father's home in heaven is our destination, how can we find our way without a map or a guide? The scriptures speak of the way that leads to peace and union with God. *You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the way which the Lord your God has commanded you* (Deuteronomy 5:32-33).

Jesus proclaims: *I am the Way*. The Lord does not simply give counsel and direction. He personally is the *Way*, and we cannot miss it if we follow him. He leads and guides us personally every day. The Lord Jesus also is the *Truth*. Many can say, "I have taught you the truth." Only Jesus can say, *I am the Truth*. Moral truth cannot be conveyed in words alone; it must be conveyed in example. Jesus embodies the truth in his person. Jesus also is the *Life*. He not only *shows us the path of life* (Psalm 16:11); he gives the kind of life which only God can give – eternal and abundant life.

Jesus shows us the true aim and purpose for our life – what we were created for – and what we should strive for with all of our strength and being. What is that purpose? To *know* God. What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, contentment, life and happiness, than anything else? Knowledge of God! One of the greatest truths of the Christian faith is that we can know the living God. Our knowledge of God is not simply limited to knowing something about God, but we can know God personally. The essence of Christianity, and what makes it distinct from Judaism and other religions, is the knowledge of God as our *Father*. Jesus makes it possible for each of us to personally know God as *our* Father. To see Jesus is to see what God is like. In Jesus we see the perfect love of God – a God who cares intensely and who yearns over men and women, loving them to the point of laying down his life for them upon the Cross. Jesus is the revelation of God – a God who loves us completely, unconditionally, and perfectly for our good.

## NEWS UPDATE



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

**THE CORONATION:** in commemoration, the National Anthem will be sung at the 9.45am and 11.15am Masses this Sunday. A prayer of intercession will be included for the King and for the exercise of his office, in the general intercessions, at all weekend Masses.

**The National Anthem**  
*God save our gracious King!*  
*Long live our noble King!*  
*God save the King!*  
*Send him victorious,*  
*Happy and glorious,*  
*Long to reign over us,*  
*God save the King.*

**THIS SUNDAY** we are having our CORONATION BRUNCH which begins at 12.30m in the Parish Centre. Please bring your ticket(s) with you as we cannot admit anyone without a ticket as we are completely sold out.

**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 LITURGY** of David O'Brien on Monday 22nd May at 12 noon at Northwood Hills Cemetery. May he 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. Parents, please make sure your children don't waste these sheets and take them home after Mass.

**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 **13th May** are reminded that their **FHC Rehearsal** starts in the church at **7pm on Tuesday 9th 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 15th 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**— thank you to all who have collected your weekly giving envelopes and 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. We have now sent out the remaining envelopes that have not been collected (at great expense). **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).

**Knights of St. Columba MAGICAL MYSTERY COACH TOUR** has returned and will take place on Saturday 17th June, meeting here at 8am sharp. Price per person is £23. Please contact the Parish Office to book your seat.

**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 – THANK YOU!** Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. We have raised £1457 so far, which is a wonderfully generous amount to forward to the Diocese. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and to the Diaconate. Please pray also for those men who have offered themselves for formation and are in

training at this time. The Diocese regularly holds events to foster men's vocations. The next occasion is: a Vocations Evening on **Wednesday, 17th May** at St James, Spanish Place, beginning with Mass at 6pm.

If you think you might have a vocation, or just want to know more, please speak with Mgr Jeremy or Fr Mike.

**RETOUVAILLE:** 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)

**THE ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER** for Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse, initiated by Pope Francis will be held on Tuesday 9th May. The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have prepared thoughtful and helpful materials for the day. Visit the website here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/prayer-for-survivors-of-abuse/>

#### LOOKING AHEAD—DIARY DATES:

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD** – Thursday 18th May, Masses at 9.30am & 8.00pm

**PENTECOST SUNDAY** – 28th May  
Usual weekend Masses

**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**— Sunday 4th June  
Usual weekend Masses

**CORPUS CHRISTI** – Sunday 11th June. Usual weekend Masses, and a Blessed sacrament Procession at the end of the 11.15am Mass.

**THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS** – Friday 16th June Mass at 9.30am

**SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER & PAUL** – Thursday 29th June, Masses at 9.30am & 7800pm

**THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR EASTERN CHRISTIANS** takes place annually on the Sixth Sunday of Easter, which this year occurs next Sunday (14th). Organized by the Catholic charity Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East (FACE) together with the Dicastery for Oriental Churches and the Eastern Catholic Churches, it offers an opportunity Christians from all over Europe, the Middle East, the Horn of Africa and India, to unite in prayer during Eastertide. They have set up a dedicated page for this year's Day of Prayer. You can find it here: <https://facecharity.org/day-of-prayer-for-eastern-christians-14-may-2023/>