

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon Ps 54 (53): 6, 8

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Collect

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants
and mercifully increase
the gifts of your grace,
that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity,
they may be ever watchful in
keeping your commands.
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: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial psalm: 85

R/. *O Lord you are good and forgiving.*

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call. Give heed,
O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. R./

2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name. O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. R./

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. R./

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."'

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon Ps 111 (110): 4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

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 23rd July 2023

16th 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 16 year 1

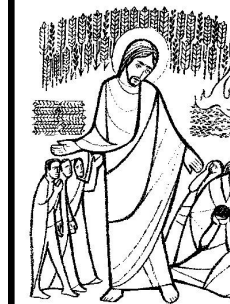
Divine Office
Week 16 psalms week 4

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

THIS WEEK

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| Sun 23 July 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm | 16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Thomas Fernandes RIP James McGovern RIP Watts & Ledo families RIP Bowe & Ryan families Ints. THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH |
| Mon 24 July 9.30am | S. Sharbel Makhluaf Maurice O'Grady RIP |
| Tues 25 July 9.30am | S. JAMES, apostle Graham Paynter RIP |
| Weds 26 July 9.30am | Ss. Joachim & Anne Molly Fabron RIP |
| Thurs 27 July 9.30am | feria Visit of the relic of st Columba Private Intention |
| Fri 28 July 9.30am | feria Anthony Goees RIP |
| Sat 29 July 9.30am | Ss. Martha, Mary & Lazarus Lucille Thomas Ints. |
| Sun 30 July 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm | 17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Bridie Grimes RIP Darren O'Sullivan RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH Maurice O'Grady RIP Swarna Perera Ints. |

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

God has shown himself to be a God of justice and mercy.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit intercedes for us with God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and explains them to his disciples.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Patience is the companion of wisdom"

St Augustine of Hippo

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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Hall Bookings: via the office or sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
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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 **Website:** 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, Roland Watts, Shaun Scoon, Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Patrick, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Jean Lurshay, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Chris Sweeney, Marjorie Horeau, Catherine Corcoran, Barbara Gill.*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Lishoy Cardozo*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Rose Taylor, Eileen Ryan, Teresa Hukowski, Martina Athy*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for July 2023

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

have patience
with all
things, but,
first of all
with yourself.

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES
WWW.VERYBESTQUOTES.COM

A common reaction when things in our lives don't go as planned is to quickly make changes without fully considering the consequences. When the farmer first realized that weeds were growing in the midst of his wheat he could have immediately began to get rid of the weeds so as to protect the wheat. But as Jesus points out, pulling out the weeds would also mean pulling out the wheat. Jesus calls them to be patient. Patience is a virtue that seems to be seen less and less today. The patience to wait for the right moment to speak or act is not always easy. Waiting for God to answer our prayer can be frustrating. We expect ourselves and others to act quickly in making decisions. The pressure is on for the quick fix, not the well thought out solution or resolution.

One of the first lesson we learn when it comes to planting is that it takes time. When we plant a seed we aren't going to see the plant, bush or tree mature for quite a while, sometimes years. Like the mustard seed in the parable, the seed is so small yet grows into the beautiful flower, spreading shrub, or mighty tree. It's hard to believe when we look at the seed to envision how with patience we will see the growth. The same is true in our spiritual lives. We might have experienced some conversion and we look at our lives and realize how much we have to change. That realization can become almost overwhelming and lead us to think that it is impossible to make all these changes. When the changes don't happen right away we can become frustrated and discouraged. God is patient with us and we would do well to imitate Christ by cultivating the virtue of patience. With patience we can walk to road of conversion, and progress in the spiritual life.

Patience does seem to be lacking in society today. We like "fast food", instant news and films via the internet, online banking, a quick response to our emails and texts. We have grown too accustomed to getting things taken care of quickly, and patience has faded into the background. A rediscovery of patience is necessary in our lives. It is patience that is needed for us to see the Kingdom of Heaven that is in our midst. God's presence slowly becomes more evident in our lives, and the answer to prayers involves our slowly uniting our prayers with the will of God. Sometimes our vision of the Kingdom is small, but as we patiently grow in faith it becomes more and more evident in our lives. The three parables teach us that the Kingdom of God is here, and will take time for it to become fully established. Meanwhile, we have the need to be patient and attentive to how God is working within us and in the world.



NEWS UPDATE



Switch mobile phones
off or to silent

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

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 **Martina Athy** on Monday 31st July at 1.00pm followed by cremation at Breakspear. May she rest in peace.

GOOD NEWS...At long last we have the go ahead for the resurfacing of the Parish Car Park. Many you will know its not in a good state and this is long overdue. It's also quite expensive but we have saved enough to get it done. The approximate date for the works are the first two weeks of August. More news on the exact dates soon as cars will need to be parked elsewhere.

MORE GOOD NEWS We've had work done on the church roof to remove excess vegetation (largely brought by seeds carried by the relentless pigeons). Inside the church we have had continued redecoration of the walls especially in those few areas where the damp gets in. More extensive work will be undertaken in the area of the bell tower very soon.

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS.. Do you remember our rather successful Advent Fair last year? We hope, incidentally to have another one this year (more news of that in the Autumn). We have now with the help of a Charity—London Hearts—been able to purchase two defibrillators, one for the church and the other for the parish centre. Lets hope we don't have to use them but if we do we hope they will keep you alive and safe if they are needed.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY in 2024 Brochures are available from the back of church. If you think you'd like to go there is a deposit that should be made fairly soon. All the details are on the Booking Form which is part of the brochure. It would be great if a good group of us could go together. Any queries speak to Mgr Jeremy. He can also guide you if you want to make the booking on line. Just email him and he will send you the link and password.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023-24 - Those children starting **Year 3** in September, who are **registered and regularly attending Mass at this Parish**, are welcome to join the FHC Preparation Programme beginning in September. **Enrolment Packs are available to collect from the back of church.** If you have any questions or require any further information, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

CATECHISTS & HELPERS 'THANK YOU' PARTY - All adults who help in different ways at the Parish throughout the year (e.g. Catechists, Readers, Singers) should have received Mgr. Jeremy's Invitation, via email, to the **Catechists & Helpers Party on Friday 8th September**. If for any reason your invitation has not arrived safely, please speak to one of the Parish Team so we can ensure you are included on the list and are thanked for all you do for the Parish

throughout the year. Those attending should **RSVP** no later than **31st July 2023** so we can provide accurate numbers to those catering for the event.

CONFIRMATION 2024 - **Might you consider volunteering next year, helping our young people in Year 10 and above** prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit through our Confirmation Preparation Programme? You would be joining a wonderful team of experienced Catechists. If you might consider helping or would like a little more information, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

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. Thank you.

CHILDRENS LITURGY on Sunday at the 9.45am has now closed for the summer and will reopen as soon as the Autumn Term resumes in September.

MUSIC at the 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am will cease for the month of August. There will be simple said Masses. The usual timetable of Masses continues for all of the summer.

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.

THE KNIGHTS of St COLUMBA have organised a tour of the relic of St Columba. His relics will be brought and displayed on Thursday 27th July at the 9.30am Mass. A date for your diary.

THE FRIENDS OF JESUS Programme takes place during Term-Times 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. If you would like further information, or our keen for your child to attend this Programme from September onwards, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

READERS AT 5.30PM MASS: Might you consider committing to read once a month at Mass? The ministry of reader offers the opportunity to reflect a little more attentively on the Word of God whilst also serving the Parish Community. There are some gaps in our regular rota that we are keen to fill. If you might consider helping, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

A DAY WITH MARY has been booked for St George's. On Saturday 21 October. Again more details nearer the time

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

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC THROUGH THE RCIA PARISH PROGRAMME? This means: Adults who are not baptised at all and who wish to become Catholics: Adults who are baptised into another Christian denomination, but wish to become Catholics, and Adults who wish to become FULL members of the Roman Catholic Church (i.e., those who have been baptised but may not have received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist). If this is you or someone you know please appointment to talk with one of the priests to discuss what all this means.

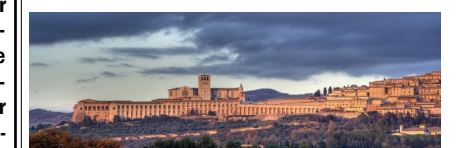
DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 19-27 NOVEMBER: The annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will take place from Sunday 19th Nov to Monday 27th Nov, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 0207 798 9173it will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! If you are preparing to go away, we wish you a safe journey and a restful break. If you happen to be listed on a church rota for any particular ministry, please help us, by arranging cover with someone else on your rota. If you are finding this difficult, contact the Parish team or the Office. This will help us enormously with the smooth running of the Masses and for all that we do together. Thank you in advance. Enjoy your time away and may God's speed be with you on your return.

WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. Fr. Mike will be away for a couple of weeks accompanying the young pilgrims in his capacity as Youth chaplain. If you can't attend the main event, why not join **WYD IN LONDON** - a day celebration on Saturday 5th August from 11am-5pm in the church by Leicester Square. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. To register go to: bit.ly/wydlondon

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY 20-26th May 2024

visiting the Holy House of Loreto (Our Blessed Lady), Assisi (St. Francis), Padua (St. Anthony) and Venice (St. Mark). Expanded and detailed



Itinerary and prices **Available now**. **PLEASE TAKE A BROCHURE WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH** **Approx cost is put at £1450.** We will be combining this pilgrimage with the Parish of St Mary Magdalene, Willesden—so a chance also to share and make new friends too!