

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 26: 8-9
Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

Collect

O God, who have commanded us
to listen to your beloved Son,
be pleased, we pray,
to nourish us inwardly by your word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
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: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 115:10,15-19

R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted,'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. *R/.*

2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;
I will call on the Lord's name. *R/.*

3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. *R/.*

Second reading: Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could

Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 17:5

*Praise to you, O Christ King of eternal glory!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
Praise to you, O Christ King of eternal glory!*

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them anymore but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse us of our faults
and sanctify your faithful in
body and mind
for the celebration of the paschal
festivities.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things
of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
with a blessing that endures for ever,
and keep them faithful
to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son,
so that they may always desire
and at last attain
that glory whose beauty he showed
in his own Body,
to the amazement of his Apostles.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUBBURY

Sunday 25th February 2024

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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 B

Weekday Mass Readings Lent week 2

Divine Office Week 2 (Lent)

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

THIS WEEK

Sun 25 Feb
6.15pm (vigil) SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
8.30am Private Ints.
8.30am Barbara Gill Ints.
9.45am Keith Kugaswaran RIP
11.15am Matthew Rammelt RIP
5.30pm THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Mon 26 Feb
9.30am Lent feria
Daniella Rozario Ints.

Tues 27 Feb
9.30am Lent feria
Lucille Thomas Ints.

Weds 28 Feb
9.30am Lent feria
Ignatius Fernandes RIP

Thurs 29 Feb
9.30am Lent feria
Watts & Ledo Families RIP

Fri 1 March
9.30am S. DAVID, Patron of Wales
Gloria & Joseph Soares RIP

Sat 2 March
9.30am Lent feria
Pauline & Eddie Spencer

Sun 3 March
6.15pm (vigil) THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
8.30am Eileen Cronin RIP
8.30am Gerry Donnelly Ints.
9.45am THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.15am Gabriella Henry RIP
5.30pm Yvonne Fernando

TODAY'S MASS



Christ did not come to explain away suffering. He came to fulfil it. Like Abraham we must be prepared to sacrifice everything to God and thus in turn we find fulfilment. God will refuse us nothing now that Christ, risen from the dead pleads our cause before his Father in heaven.

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18

Abraham obeyed God and prepared to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

God's faithfulness is shown in his offering of his own Son for our salvation.

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

At his Transfiguration Christ showed his disciples the splendour of his beauty, to which he will shape and colour those who are his: 'He will reform our lowliness configured to the body of his glory.'
Saint Thomas Aquinas (1225 - 1274)

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Mike Guthrie michaelguthrie@rcdow.org.uk
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Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ VPS
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, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, John, 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, Chris Sweeney, Marjorie Hoareau, Catherine Corcoran, Barbara Gill, Dan O'Connor, Ciara I.*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Cora Kate Coyle*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Anthony George, Pauline Brennan, Rose Lally, Bridget Canning.*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Pauline & Eddie Spencer, Keith Kugaswaran, Matthew Rammelt (23rd).*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

In memory of Joe Camilo Cardozo RIP

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Private Ints.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for February 2024
For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

The glory that shone around the disciples on the mount of the Transfiguration prefigures the contemplation of God in eternity. —Dionysius



The Word Among Us
wau.org

The season of Lent is fundamentally a time of preparation to celebrate the Mother of all liturgical feasts: The *Sacred Triduum*, which comprises *Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday*, and opens the door to the Easter Vigil which ends with Resurrection Sunday. Each of the days of the Triduum has a particular meaning and significance. But in order to live them with the right spiritual disposition, it requires that we prepare well during these forty days of Lent. Traditionally we are reminded of the spiritual weapons that the Church gives us: fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

However, there is more than just practicing them. Because we may fast, pray and give alms, but if these actions do not help us to get into ourselves, and see the things which prevent us from truly doing the Will of God; then all these things will be to no avail. Please notice the capital word for God's Will, which is different from my will or the will of someone else. Abraham tests may help us.

In the first reading, God tested if Abraham was willing to do His Will and asked Abraham to offer Him in sacrifice his beloved, and only son Isaac; the same one whom God has promised descendants as many as the stars of heaven. Abraham put his faith in God. He went to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac, as painfully as this may have been for him to believe that God has the power to even raise the dead. But, as we know, the angel of God stopped Abraham just before he extended the knife on the boy and provided a ram instead of the child. But there is more, the angel ratified God's blessing and protection on Abraham.

Each one of us has, figuratively speaking, an Isaac, someone, or something that God has given us as a part of his blessing. This may be a spouse, a child, family, a job, a career, etc... which God at a certain point in our life asks us to let them go. But instead of responding in faith, like Abraham, we cling to them, maybe thinking that God is a monster, that there is no reason for this. We forget of the resurrection. In the Gospel Jesus gives the condition for discipleship, *"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. Anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake and the sake of the gospel, will save it"*

NEWS UPDATE



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

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church (underneath the picture of Pope Francis).

THE LENT GROUP studying the Lord's Prayer is EVERY WEDNESDAY in the Café bar from 10.30am.

THE MENS BREAKFAST is now on 23rd March so as to not coincide with the day of recollection.

LENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION on Saturday 9th March. It begins with Mass at 9.30am, with talks and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and also time for Confession. The morning finishes with a bread and soup lunch. A date for your diary!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS this week on Friday after the 9.30am (around 10.00am).

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED MASS APPEAL - (OUR LENT CHARITY) This weekend, John Ravi from Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), our Lenten Charity, is speaking at all the Masses about how ACN supports Christians who are persecuted for their faith. ACN supports more than 5,000 projects helping the Church's mission internationally. At the moment ACN provides emergency aid for Christians who lost their livelihoods because of the war in Gaza. The newly announced aid package includes life-saving medicine, food coupons, help with tuition fees and housing costs. Your help will make a huge difference. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses. If you wish would like further information about ACN volunteer, please speak to John after Mass, call 07932973650, email John.Ravi@acnuk.org or visit www.acnuk.org

FUNERAL MASS of Anthony George at 12 noon on Friday 5th March followed by burial in Carpenders Park. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Bridget Margaret Canning on Friday 8th March at 11.00am followed by burial in Alperton Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Rose Lally on Thursday 14th March at 11.00am followed by burial in Capenders Park. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of Pauline Brennan on Friday 15th March at 12 noon followed by burial in Carpenders Park. May she rest in peace.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES Thursday & Friday from 11-3pm. You can be assured of booking Masses and receiving Mass cards at these times.

OVER 60'S GROUP: this Tuesday at 1pm in the parish centre. All are welcome. (PS you don't need to be a Catholic to attend).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At Session 4 of Part 2 of the FHC Programme, on Tuesday 20th 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 your child's Catechist Group entry/exit point at 7pm. 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 whilst the children are enjoying their session.

CONFIRMATION 2023 - At Session 1, on Monday 26th 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. Further

details, relating to the Confirmation Day Retreat taking place at SPEC (Pinner) on Sunday 3rd March from 9.45-4pm, will be provided at Monday's session.

CHILDREN READING AT 9.45 FAMILY MASS - If your child has made their First Holy Communion, they are welcome to read at the 9.45 Family Mass. If your child might be interested in reading, or your family might like to take responsibility for the readings once a month, please contact our 9.45am Family Mass Readers Coordinator, **Stephanie Brennan**, at sbrennan@ntlworld.com.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY (HEADSTONE LANE) - St Theresa of the Child Jesus Church, Headstone Lane in Harrow are looking for a new parish administrator, working 16 hours per week. The job involves all-round parish administration, preparing parish communications and bookkeeping. Deadline for applications is 5 March. Apply online: www.sttheresa.org.uk/1242.

REFERENCES - If you require a formal reference, for a job or voluntary work, or a passport signed from one of the Parish Team please ensure you contact them personally before providing their contact details to those requesting the reference.

SUPPORTING YOU WHILST IN HOSPITAL - If you, or a loved one, are heading to hospital and would like a little pastoral & sacramental support whilst you are there, please let us know so we can ensure this is provided. There is a Catholic Chaplain resident at Northwick Park Hospital.

READING AT 11.15AM SOLEMN MASS - Might you consider reading at the Solemn Mass? This ministry offers an opportunity both to reflect a little more attentively on the Word of God whilst also serving the community at Mass. The commitment would be no more than once a month. If you might consider helping, please contact Roger Nicklen, the 11.15am Readers Rota Coordinator, at r.nicklen@btinternet.com.

CALLING NEW CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS - Might you consider helping with our Confirmation Preparation Programme in 2025? This ministry offers an opportunity to serve the young people of the Parish, in Year 10 and above, as they prepare for this important moment in their life of faith. For those wishing to receive it, this also offers invaluable teaching experience. You would be helping to facilitate a Small Group with experienced Catechists. If you might consider helping next year please contact Peter, our Catechetical Coordinator, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you.

PLANNED GIVING: Planned Giving envelopes for 2024/2025 will soon be available. 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 the following: If you are new to the parish and wish to use planned giving envelopes for the first time. If you wish to change from Planned Giving envelopes to a Standing Order (ie direct through your bank).

- You wish to contribute by Standing Order.
- You are a standard tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your contribution - this can increase your donations by 25p in the £ at no extra cost to yourself.
- You need a supply of "paid by Bankers' order" cards.
If you have a Gift Aid in place and your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax, it is your responsibility to inform the parish office. Please address all queries to sudbury@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020 8904 2552 (option 2).

OUR CHURCH is cleaned and looked after by volunteer parishioners, so please help them to keep our church clean and welcoming. When Mass has concluded, please ensure that your seat area is left clean and tidy, ready for other parishioners coming to the next Mass. It's particularly helpful to lift the kneelers so they are not walked on and

so others can get in and out of the benches easily. A waste bin is available for any rubbish in the entrance, near to the card reader. Thank you for your assistance.

THE REPOSITORY now has items for sale: St Patrick's Day, Mothering Sunday, Easter. Why not take a look.

MINIBUS TO MASS since the advent of Covid we have not been able to continue this wonderful service to our elderly at the 11.15am Mass. This is largely because the 2 minibuses were stolen from the day centre and which has sadly now closed. We now have the possibility of the use of a new bus but quite naturally we need a team of drivers and helpers. Could you help? It may be a simple commitment just once a month. At this stage just speak to one of the parish team or even better, email us and let see if we can get this up and running again.

CHILDRENS LITURGY at the 9.45am Mass. If you have young children this is for them!

MUSIC at the 9.45am Mass and the 11.15am. Could you help with the singing or even playing a musical instrument at 9.45am We need your help...don't sit or stand on the side-lines in 2024!

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES in various parishes and jobs working centrally for the Diocese are advertised weekly. You can view the current vacancies via this link: For further details: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

WE ARE STILL ON THE LOOKOUT for anyone who might be a good counter of money. Each week our collection needs counting and bagging up. It takes time and a good deal of attention to make sure there are no discrepancies. Could you help? Let us know. The best way to do this is to drop us an email with all your details and which days you might be free. THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY OFFERED THEIR TIME ETC.

ADVICE ON ENERGY BILLS National Energy Action's Warm and Safe Homes (WASH) Advice Service is a free support service providing advice and help to householders on their energy bills and keeping warm and safe at home. They can also help with benefits advice and income. Information and advice are available via their website, <https://www.nea.org.uk/get-help/> and their dedicated helpline 0800 304 7159 (BSL interpreters available).

RETROUVILLE - Do you need help in your marriage? Retrouville has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouville confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvilleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouville.org.uk

CLEANER required at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School: 20hrs pw. Further details from school website. C/date 4 March.

BACH'S ST JOHN'S PASSION As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform J.S. Bach's St John Passion on Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm. Tickets (£45/35/20) are available via Ticketmaster. The Cathedral Choir will be conducted by Simon Johnson, the Cathedral's Master of Music, accompanied by a Baroque orchestra and soloists James Gilchrist (as the Evangelist) and William Thomas (Christus).