

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Collect

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,
grant that we may be so fashioned
by your grace as to become
a dwelling pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 31:1-2,5,11

*R/. You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

1. Happy the man whose offence
is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. *R/.*

2. But now I have acknowledged
my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. *R/.*

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. *R/.*

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all,
do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: cf. Ep 1:17,18

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: Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 77: 29-30

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

Prayer after Communion

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord,
so that we may always long
for that food by which we truly live.
Through Christ our Lord.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 11th February 2024

THE SIXTH 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 B

Weekday Mass Readings
Year 2 Week 6

Divine Office
Week 2

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

THIS WEEK

Sun 11 Feb
6.15pm (vigil)
8.30am
9.45am
11.15am
5.30pm

THE 6th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
Leesha Guifoyle RIP
Patricia Klebetz RIP
Baptiste Fernandes Ints
Anne Griffin RIP
THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Mon 12 Feb
9.30am

feria
Santom T. Joseph RIP

Tues 13 Feb
9.30am

feria
Bridget Dunne RIP (2nd)

Weds 14 Feb
9.30am
12.30pm
8.00pm

ASH WEDNESDAY
Melinda Peter RIP
John Campion Hirsh RIP
Pat O'Rourke RIP

Thurs 15 Feb
9.30am

Lent feria
Mary O'Keefe RIP

Fri 16 Feb
9.30am
11.00am

Lent feria
Margaret Horne RIP
FUNERAL MASS
Sheila Ann Campbell RIP

Sat 17 Feb
9.30am

Lent feria
Holy Souls

Sun 18 Feb
6.15pm (vigil)
8.30am
9.45am
11.15am
5.30pm

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Helen Brady & Alice Cullen RIP
Soares Family Ints.
THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Eileen Nicklen RIP
Frank Rowan RIP

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel, the man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. His request to Jesus can be interpreted as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. But his words can also be read as a challenge to Jesus, asking just how far Jesus was willing to extend himself in order to heal someone. While healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses.

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

St. Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:40-45

Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"For prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God."
Saint Teresa of Avila

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@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
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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, 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,*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Aaron Daniel Blair*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Humphrey Liew, Sheila Ann Campbell, Bridget Margaret Canning, Gloria.*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Melinda Peter (7th), Eric Duffner, Bridget Dunne (2nd)*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Baptiste Fernandes Intentions

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Baptiste Fernandes Intentions

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.



This Sunday is the last before we enter the Season of Lent. In today's reading we meditate on the case of a person who suffers from leprosy, which was a contagious skin's disease at time. The diagnosis of both the illness and healing was reserved to the priest. The person who was either suspected or infected with the illness, was secluded from the community, and put into isolation to avoid further infections. While they had the disease, they were unable to have a normal life: they could not be with their family and above all they were not able to join the public worship. In some cases, the illness was incurable, as there was not a cure for this. (Please note that any similarities with the present situation is mere coincidence).

As if this was not enough, we are told, in the first reading, that the person had to wear torn clothing and to cover their lips (again any similarities to today's situation is simple accident), while shouting "Unclean, unclean". We can only imagine how painful and stressful it must have been for the person at that time, as we who are in a more advanced and developed environment. Please also be aware that this was written nearly 700 years B.C. with the actual event going back to nearly 1200 years B.C.

This is the background of the leper found in the Gospel. However, unlike the many others who were like him, he was fortunate to recognise the one who had the power to heal him. Not only this, but we are told even more, he pleaded on his knees saying, 'if you want you can cure me'. Notice that this man is not demanding a healing now and there, he was aware that this only depended on the will of Jesus, the Will of God. To his surprise, he meets with a favourable response from Jesus, who cured him and told him to go back to the priest to do what was prescribed by Moses. However, after experiencing the healing power of Jesus, this man realised that his life was not the same. He could not remain indifferent to the suffering of others and instead of going to the priest, he joyfully went everywhere telling what Jesus did for him!

This is the experience of the Church, the experience of the Christian, who cannot remain indifferent for the graces that Jesus has done for us!



NEWS UPDATE



THIS WEEK
14th February

Masses with the imposition of ashes

9.30am

12.30pm

8.00pm

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).

LENT LEAFLET please take one today and don't forget it is Ash Wednesday this week!

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

FUNERAL MASS of *Sheila Ann Campbell* on Friday 16th February followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium at 1.00pm. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of *Humphrey Liew* on Tuesday 20th February at 12 noon followed by cremation at West London Crematorium. 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..

THIS WEEKEND WILL BE THE LAST OPPORTUNITY to return any palm crosses that you may not want to keep. These will be burned to make the ash for use on Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Look out for the basket at the back of church to return your Palms.

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

FRIENDS OF JESUS - This Parish Programme offers 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. For further details please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

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).

CONFIRMATION 2024 - We keep our 46 Confirmation Candidates in prayer as they begin to prepare to be confirmed later this year. The first session of the Confirmation Preparation Programme,

'Meet the Team' on Monday 19th February at 7.30pm, is for Parents/Carers only. Thank you for making any child-care arrangements well in advance to ensure a Parent/Carer is able to attend this important introduction and meet their son/daughter's Small Group Catechists. Please note, registration on this year's Programme is now closed.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At Session 3 of Part 3 of the FHC Programme, on Tuesday 20th February, Children should be dropped off and picked up from their unique Catechist Group Entry/Exit point. Thank you for ensuring the children arrive promptly for the start of the session at 7pm. We wish al our children a happy half term.

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 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.

MASS CARDS - Mass Cards are available from the Repository after all Sunday Masses.

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.

BUILDING WORKS: These are all completed and all the area where the plaster has cracked (and begun to fall) have been rectified, re-plastered and repainted making the church look very tidy. This is only possible through what you give each week, a proportion of which is earmarked for maintenance of this type. Thank you to all of you who make this possible.

CHILDRENS LITURGY not during half term.

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!

THE WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK for 2024 is now available in the Repository, last few, priced £5.00
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: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> For further details:

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL: Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

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.

ONE BEDROOM FLAT desired by devout parishioner. Can you help. See Fr Jeremy.

TO LET Twin bedroom. Easy access to amenities, St George's Church, shops, buses. And underground. If interested: Contact 07717124517

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).

THE IRISH CHAPLAINCY is seeking a new CEO. As the oldest Irish Catholic welfare charity in Britain, our aim remains to galvanise the whole Irish community to work together to improve the lives of those most vulnerable of Irish emigrants and ensure that no member of our community is forgotten. If working with a dedicated team on projects that make a real difference to the lives of Irish in Britain is of interest, please contact sue.crozierhr@gmail.com for the application pack or to learn more. The deadline for applications is Sunday 18th February 2024.

