

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 24: 15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

Collect

O God, author of every mercy and
of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession
of our lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by
our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
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: Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18:8-11

R/. You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. *R/.*

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. *R/.*

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. *R/.*

4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. *R/.*

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Jn 1:25, 26*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

I am the resurrection and the life,

says the Lord;

whoever believes in me will never die.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,
and grant that we who beseech
pardon for our own sins,
may take care to forgive our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell
in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in
us in mystery may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 3rd March 2024

THE THIRD 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 3

Divine Office
Week 3 (Lent)

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

THIS WEEK

Sun 3 March 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Eileen Cronin RIP Gerry Donnelly Ints. THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH Gabriella Henry RIP Yvonne Fernando
Mon 4 March 9.30am	Lent feria Holy Souls
Tues 5 March 9.30am 12 noon	Lent feria Mrs. A Manuelpillai RIP FUNERAL MASS Anthony George RIP
Weds 6 March 9.30am	Lent feria William Gallagher RIP
Thurs 7 March 9.30am	Lent feria Harkin family RIP
Fri 8 March 9.30am	Lent feria Mr & Mrs Joshua & Elise Ints.
Sat 9 March 9.30am	Lent feria Melinda Peter RIP
Sun 10 March 6.15pm (vigil) 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Henrietta Kalogroulis RIP Harkin Family Kathleen Egan RIP (8th) Jerry Pathman RIP THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS



"What sign can you show to justify what you are doing?" Jesus replies: "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." They come back: "It has taken 46 years to build this temple and you can raise it in only three days?" This was indeed true and, in fact, the building had not yet been fully completed at this time. But Jesus was speaking about another sanctuary, another temple where God lived his own body.

Through this event we are reminded during Lent of what we are preparing to remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus.

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Moses is given the Ten Commandments.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

St. Paul preaches Christ crucified to the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-25

Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the Temple and says that he will destroy the temple and raise it up again.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A person's heart is light when they will what God wills."
St. Thomas Aquinas

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Mike Guthrie michaelguthrie@rcdow.org.uk

Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

Secretary: Mrs. Toni Miles sudbury@rcdow.org.uk

Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk

Hall Bookings: via the office or sudbury@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley,

Middlesex, HA0 2QE

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 **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, Felizardo Barreto (1st), Michael Hughes*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

In memory of Lourdes & Luico Ricafort RIP & George Ricafort RIP

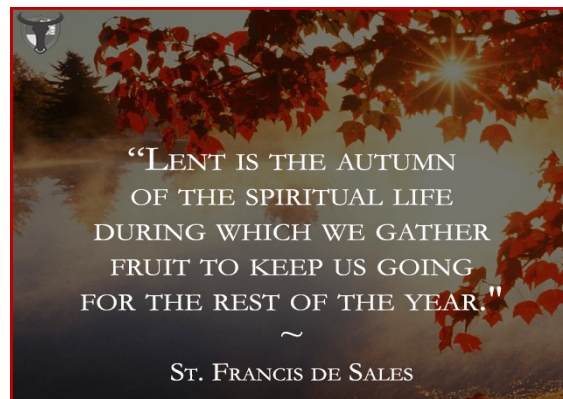
LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

In memory of Silvano & Ricardo Canlas RIP and Amancia Reyes RIP

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for March 2024

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



Our Gospel today presents a dramatic scene where Jesus shows himself as Lord of the Temple. It does not seem in character to see Jesus with a small whip of cords physically driving out the traders in cattle, sheep and pigeons – animals to be used in sacrifices. And the moneychangers. They were needed because only Jewish money could be offered in the Temple. Roman coins had the image of 'divine Augustus' and so were regarded as idolatrous; they had to be exchanged for Jewish coinage.

Jesus objected not to the trade as such which was quite legitimate but to its being done in the temple precincts, "my Father's house". "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Such business should have been carried on just outside the temple precincts. It is also not at all impossible that the temple authorities connived at the practice and may have even benefited if the traders had to "rent" spaces in the Temple to do their business.

This would explain the priests' anger at what Jesus was doing. "What's going on here? What sign can you show to justify what you are doing?" Jesus replies: "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." They come back: "It has taken 46 years to build this temple and you can raise it in only three days?" This was indeed true and, in fact, the building had not yet been fully completed at this time.

But Jesus was speaking about another sanctuary, another temple where God lived – his own body. Through this event we are reminded during Lent of what we are preparing to remember and celebrate – the death and resurrection of Jesus.

It is the very heart of our faith. But, as Paul explains, writing to the Christians of Corinth, Jesus' death to the Jews was (and is?) a stumbling block, a scandal, an insurmountable obstacle. It was impossible for them to accept that the Messiah, their Saviour and King, could suffer such an ignominious death at the hands not only of Israel's enemies but even more of his own people. That just could not be; God could not allow it.

To the Gentiles, the pagans, it was meaningless. Power and domination and influence were what counted in their world. The idea that someone executed like and with common criminals should be worshipped as Lord was nonsense, it was something to be ignored and laughed at and rubbished – as it still is by many in our own society today.

But to those who have been called and who answer the call – be they Jews or Gentiles, men or women, slave or free – it is the power and wisdom of God. The death of Jesus to any objective observer seems like utter failure, to believe in such a Lord seems stupid but those with the eyes of faith can see the power of love in that death.

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.

An opportunity for spiritual growth.

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.

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

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.

NEXT SUNDAY is also **Mothering Sunday**. There will be flowers for our young people to give to their mothers at the 9.45am & 11.15am Masses.

THANK YOU to all who gave so generously last week to our Lent charity—AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED. We raised £1490. This will be added to the amount our confirmation candidates raise by their sponsored walk. You can also give to this excellent charity via Envelopes (which can be found at the back of church). All these can be put in the collection basket and will be added accordingly.

ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE. We now have lighting bollards so as you come out of the north porch when it is dark so you can see your way. Another health & Safety improvement.

HAVE YOU NOTICED that the figures on the "Rood" (The large crucifix and statues over the sanctuary) have been cleaned? They had not been dusted for 20+ years so they now look good.

THIS WEEKEND our confirmation candidates will be on retreat as part of their preparation. Please remember them in your prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 5 of Part 2** of the FHC Programme, on **Tuesday 5th March**, the children will be reflecting in their Small Catechist Groups about how '**Jesus celebrates the Last Supper**'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at your child's unique Catechist Small Group entry/exit point at **7pm**.

NEWS UPDATE



CONFIRMATION 2024 - At **Session 2**, on **Monday 4th March**, the Confirmation Candidates will be reflecting on '**Christian Values**'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at **7.30pm**. Please remember that on **Saturday 9th March** two of the small groups will be making their **Faith-in-Action Visit** & on **Sunday 10th March at 9.45am** there is a **Confirmation Group Mass** which all the candidates should attend.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 5 of Part 2** of the FHC Programme, on **Tuesday 5th March**, the children will be reflecting in their Small Catechist Groups about how '**Jesus celebrates the Last Supper**'. Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at your child's unique Catechist Small Group entry/exit point at **7pm**.

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@ntworld.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.

GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING: If you are a standard tax payer and do not already have a gift aid in place, PLEASE consider completing a gift aid declaration. By gift aiding your donation, which must be made by planned giving envelope, bankers' order or cheque, you are increasing your donation by 25%. That means every £1 donated become £1.25. At the end of the financial year we can claim this 25% tax back from the Inland Revenue. This does not cost you anything extra because as a standard tax payer you have already paid this tax.

OVER 60'S GROUP: Meet every Tuesday at 1pm in the Bar/Café in the parish centre. Every Tuesday, apart from tea/coffee and cake and a friendly social gathering, they have an

speaker on very useful informative topics. More details to follow on this. This coming Tuesday, March 5th and on every first Tuesday of the month they will be holding a Keep Fit session in the hall. **ALL** are welcome.

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 sidelines 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.**

RETOUVAILLE - Do you need help in your marriage? Retrouvaille 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 Retrouvaille 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 retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.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. There is now a 30% discount for people from the parishes. 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).