SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Cf. Ps 42: 1-2***
Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

Collect
By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
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: ***Ezekiel 37:12-14***

Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 130: 1-8.***

With the LORD there is mercy,
In him is plentiful redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the sound of my pleadings.

With the LORD there is mercy, In him is plentiful redemption.

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
that you may be revered.

With the LORD there is mercy, In him is plentiful redemption.

I long for you, O LORD,
my soul longs for his word.
My soul awaits the Lord
more than watchmen for daybreak.

With the LORD there is mercy, In him is plentiful redemption.

More than watchmen for daybreak,
let Israel hope for the LORD.
For with the LORD there is mercy,
in him is plentiful redemption.
It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

With the LORD there is mercy,In him is plentiful redemption.

Second reading: ***Romans 8:8-11***

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Gospel Acclamation: ***John 11:25a, 26***
Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.
Everyone who believes in me shall never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory

Gospel: ***John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45***

At that time: The sisters of Lazarus sent to Jesus, saying, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.'

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'

Jesus was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Prayer over the Offerings
Hear us, almighty God,
and, having instilled in your servants
the teachings of the Christian faith,
graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon
Everyone who lives and believes in me, will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion
We pray, almighty God,
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Prayer over the People
Bless, O Lord, your people, who long for the gift of your mercy,
and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire
they may receive by your generous gift.
Through Christ our Lord.

Copyright © 1996-2024 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com. The English translation of the Psalm Responses from "Lectionary for Mass" © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL). Excerpts from the English translation of "The Roman Missal" © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 22nd March 2026

THE FIFTH 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 A
Weekday Mass Readings
Lent, week 5
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2

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

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 22 March	**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	John Broderick RIP
8.30am	Annie Toal Intentions
9.45am	Watts & Ledo Families RIP
11.15am	William Patrick Johns RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 23 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9:30am	Margaret Lane Get Well Intentions
Tues 24 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9.30am	Santan & Rosalina Fernandes RIP
Weds 25 Mar	**The Annunciation of the Lord**
9.30am	Patrick Joseph O'Sullivan Birthday Remembrance
Thurs 26 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9.30am	Nuala Ryan RIP
11:00am	**FUNERAL MASS** Frederick Lowe RIP
Fri 27 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9.30am	Intentions of Friends of Angela Griffin
Sat 28 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9:30am	Peter McGrath RIP
Sun 29 March	**PALM SUNDAY**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Doug Belton RIP
8.30am	Kathleen & Dan O'Connor RIP & Patrick Hannon RIP
9.45am	Molly Fabron RIP
11.15am	Rev. Pastor Paul Riani & Younike Younice Paul RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS

"Christ is our resurrection and our life"



When we are dead through sin , Christ brings us his spirit so that we may truly live the new life of grace. We are the spiritual brothers and sisters of Christ through God's Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead.

First Reading: ***Ezekiel 37:12-14***
God will open the graves and restore the people of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 130:1-8***
With the Lord is forgiveness and mercy.

Second Reading: ***Romans 8:8-11***
The Spirit of God dwells in you.

Gospel Reading: ***John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45***
Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Let our praise be with God, and not from ourselves, for God hates those who praise themselves"

Pope St. Clement I

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Awata
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary: Mrs. Mary Walsh sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Tel 07751804978
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 Jude; 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.
EUCHARISTIC 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, Noel Gill, Christopher Browne, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, John, Aaran Thayaparan, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Ramzan, Larry Sicat, Andras Nagy, Sheena Chambers, Tony Eivers*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Niamh Russell, Avenly Fernandes*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Frederick Lowe, Maria Doyle, Anne McShine-Jones, Chris Wheeler*

RECENTLY MARRIED:-

RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *William Patrick Johns (4th), Noel Samuel Laybourne (4th)*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of A. Mariyampillai

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of A. Mariyampillai

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for March
For disarmament and peace
Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



Why did Jesus delay in coming to Lazarus' home when he knew that his friend was gravely ill? Jesus certainly loved Lazarus and his two sisters and he often stayed in their home at Bethany. But to the surprise of his friends and disciples, Jesus did not go right away to Bethany when he was called. Jesus explained that Lazarus' sickness would bring glory to God. The glory which Jesus had in mind, however, was connected with suffering and the cross. He saw the cross as his supreme glory and the way to glory in the kingdom of God. For Jesus there was no other way to glory except through the cross.

Jesus also knew that it was dangerous for him to travel anywhere near Jerusalem at this time, since the religious authorities in Jerusalem were plotting his destruction. Jesus, however, was willing to pay the price to help his friend. For Jesus to come to Jerusalem at Passover time was an act of courage. In the longer version of this gospel (not printed here) the explanation which Jesus gave to his disciples was simple and challenging at the same time. *"Are there not twelve hours in the day?"* In so many words he said: "There are enough hours in the day to do what one must do." A day can neither be rushed nor extended. Its period is fixed.

In God's economy we each have our "day" whether it be short or long. While time is limited, there is enough for us to accomplish what God intends. God gives each of us our allotted portion in life. We can either waste it or use it to the utmost for God's glory. Jesus did not let circumstances or pressure dictate what he would do. Nor did he permit others to dictate his actions or timetable. He took action of his own initiative and in his good time. Don't we often try to get God to do things in our way and on our timetable?

Both the Romans and the Jews divided the day into twelve equal hours from sunrise to sunset. The day's work and travel, however, ceased when the daylight was gone. If someone wanted to get their day's work done, he had to do it before it got dark. Jesus made a spiritual analogy with our relationship with God. While the light of Christ is with us, we must live and walk in the truth and grace of his light. There's a right time to make peace with God, and that time is now. When darkness comes, then judgment follows for those who refuse God and spurn his love.

When Jesus announced that Lazarus was dead and that he was going to Jerusalem, Thomas showed both his courage and pessimism. *"Let us go, that we may die with him."* This courage, however, was not tempered with faith and hope in God's promise to bring victory out of defeat. Even though Thomas was a witness to Lazarus' resurrection, he betrayed his master when arrest and death stared him in the face. He doubted his master's resurrection until Jesus showed him the wounds of his passion. God gives us faith, courage, and the strength we need to persevere through any trial and suffering we must face in this life. If we embrace our cross with faith and trust in God, then we, too, will see victory and glory in the end.

NEWS UPDATE

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



NEXT SUNDAY British Summer Time begins on 29th March which means the clocks go forward one hour — you lose an hour in bed so don't be late for Mass!!!

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 photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery.

THANK YOU TO all who have made Fr Jude welcome. He is already missing his African food. If anyone is doing any cooking and has a bit left over he'd be very grateful.

NEXT SUNDAY is Palm Sunday and it is one of those Sundays that you really need to arrive on time as the Blessing of Palms takes place at the beginning of Mass. Arriving late means you don't get your palm blessed. You have been warned!

SECOND COLLECTION There will be a second special collection towards the Easter flowers after all the Palm Sunday Masses next weekend. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP "WE DARE TO ASK" ON WEDNESDAY DURING LENT: SESSION 5 a discussion for all who would like to rediscover the value of one's Baptismal Vocation. 10.30am in the Café/Bar. All welcome. You don't need to have come previously to attend.

FUNERAL MASS of **Frederick Lowe** on Thursday 26th March at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Muriel Anne McShine-Jones** on Wednesday 8th April at 11am followed by cremation at West London Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

THANK YOU to our donor for the new altar cloth and to all those others who offered. If you'd like to give something in memory of someone for the church, do have a chat with Fr Jeremy and he can give you some possibilities.

THIS EASTER we have 4 adults being baptised and Confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Please pray for them as they continue this last stage. How about saying a rosary for their intentions?

HOLY WEEK 2026 Details of all our Holy Week and Easter services are available at the back of the church. Please take a copy home with you today.

SERVERS FOR HOLY WEEK Lists are in the Sacristy for you to sign up. The Thursday and Saturday Masses starting at 8.00pm will be for servers 12 years and older.

CATENIAN ROSARIES FOR THE WORLD If you have one too many rosary's at home and wish to help spread Our Blessed Lady's message of Love, Peace and Hope, we are collecting unwanted rosary's to donate them to people in Australia, Africa and Prison Chaplains in England and Wales. Even broken rosary's are accepted. A basket will be placed in the Church Porch for you to drop them off. Thank you for your donations and generosity.

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP & STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Children are welcome**, accompanied by a Parent/Carer,** to reflect on the meaning of Good Friday through a **Workshop In the Parish Centre** followed by **Stations of the Cross** in the Church taking place from **11.30am-12.30pm.**

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES This weekend the planned giving envelopes are being distributed after all Masses. The envelopes will also be out for collection on the weekend of 28/29 March. You can collect your envelopes from the Parish Office, Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm, until Thursday 26th March. If you are a UK tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your contribution (this can increase your donations by 25p in the £ at no extra cost to you), forms will be available for completion. **Please note if you have a Gift Aid in place and your circumstances have changed (I.e. you are no longer paying tax), it is your responsibility to inform the Parish Office.** Please address all queries to:- sudbury@rcdow.org.uk.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - At **Session 8** of Part 2 of the FHC Communion Programme, on **Tuesday 24th March**, we will be reflecting on how **Jesus' love unites us.** Two of the Small Groups will be enjoying an Activity in Church. If this affects your child's Group we will send you information in advance via email. Thank you for arriving in **good time** for the start of the session, at your child's unique **Catechist Group Entry/Exit point,** so the Catechists can **begin promptly at 7pm.**

CONFIRMATION 2026 - At **Session 4**, on **Monday 23rd March**, the Confirmation Candidates will be reflecting on **Holy Week & Easter.** Thank you for arriving promptly for the start of the session at **7.30pm.** The two Catechist Groups making their **Faith-In-Action** visit on **28th March** will receive a **handout** with further information at Monday's session. **Sunday 29th March** at **5.30pm** is a **Confirmation Group Mass** that all Candidates are to attend.

SPONSOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES - Our Confirmation Candidates are making a **5km Sponsored Walk this Sunday 22nd March** for **Let the Children Live!** our Lenten Charity. To sponsor our Candidates please visit the **Sponsored Walk Page** on our **Website** (under **News and Events**) or visit **https://letthechildrenlive.enthuse.com/pf/sponsoredwalk**. Thank you.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP &

THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of May. Please contact the Parish Office.

CHURCH CANDLES must always be placed on a candle stand (and NOT beside a particular statue on the wood) as this poses a fire risk. Recently we have had to move candles from St Anthony's shelf on a number of occasions. Please ONLY use candles that are supplied in the church.

SYCAMORE is an informal course about the Catholic faith and its relevance to life today. All are welcome to join us in the **Café Bar** on **Thursday 26th March** at **7.30pm** when we will be reflecting on **Mary and the Hope of Heaven.**

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S CLUB Lots of people and great fun too! Why not join them? All over 60's welcome—just turn up on Tuesday in the Café Bar in the Parish Centre at 1pm. Come along and bring a friend. You don't need to be Catholic!

BAPTISM PREPARATION - Baptism Preparation sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **April's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 27th April 2026.**

PRAYER FOR PEACE - At **St. Peter's Italian Church**, Clerkenwell, on **Thursday 26th March at 6.30pm**, brothers from the **Taizé Community** are leading a **Prayer for Peace.** For those who would like to learn the chants beforehand, there is a **Song Practice at 5.30pm.**

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office on sudbury@rcdow.org.uk giving the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Thank you.

WINTERSHALL PASSION OF JESUS, Good Friday April 3rd, Trafalgar Square Free performances at 12pm and 3.15pm. A dramatic presentation of the Passion of Jesus. Get there early to get the best views in Trafalgar Square. For those who cannot get to the Square it is also livestreamed: https://www.wintershall.org.uk/event/the-passion-of-jesus-2026/

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
every FRIDAY in Lent
after the 9.30am Mass