SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Cf. Is 66: 10-11***
Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Collect
O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way,
grant, we pray,
that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
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: ***1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a***

In those days: The LORD said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.' But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The LORD has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23:1-6.
The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading: ***Ephesians 5:8-14***

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Gospel Acclamation: ***John 8:12***
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel: ***John 9:1-41***

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' And they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, 'Are we also blind?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

Prayer over the Offerings
We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord,
praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting,
for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon
The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion
O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world,
illuminate our hearts, we pray,with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty
and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People
Look upon those who call to you, O Lord,and sustain the weak;
give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death,
and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good.
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 15th March 2026

THE FOURTH 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 4
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2

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

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 15 March	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Bridie O'Donoghue RIP
8.30am	Bosco Fernandes Intentions
9.45am	Paixao Cardoso RIP & Jose Soares De Almeida RIP
11.15am	Begonia Petridies Get Well Intention
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon 16 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9:30am	Intentions of Noah
Tues 17 Mar	**S. PATRICK**
9.30am	Nimal Perera RIP
11:00am	**FUNERAL MASS** Tony (Attilio) Pucci RIP
Weds 18 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9.30am	Coral Clasby Intentions
Thurs 19 Mar	**S. JOSEPH**
9.30am	Lloyd Blackford RIP
Fri 20 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9.30am	Jose A Fernandes RIP
Sat 21 Mar	**Lent Feria**
9:30am	Caitan & Luisa Fernandes RIP
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

TODAY'S MASS



In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

First Reading: ***1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a***
Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 23:1-6***
The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading: ***Ephesians 5:8-14***
The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

Gospel Reading: ***John 9:1-41***
Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus reveals to the blind man whom he had healed that he had come into the world for judgement, to separate the blind who can be healed from those who do not allow themselves to be healed because they consider themselves healthy." **(Pope Benedict XVI)**

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Ogaga
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, Anne McShine-Jones, 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: *Emily Swapnil Pateliya, Ezra Obiekwu-Nkwo*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Tony (Attilio) Pucci, Frederick Lowe, Maria Doyle*

RECENTLY MARRIED:-

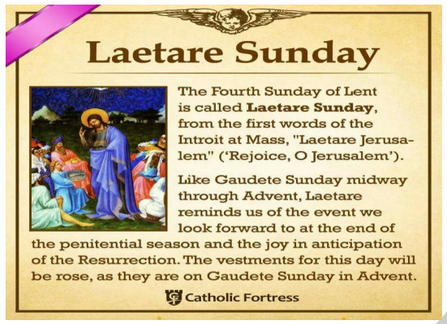
RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: -

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of Kathleen Egan

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Tyler Joel Caiado 6th Birthday Intention

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.



In today's gospel, when Jesus meets a man who was blind from birth, he awakened hope in him by proclaiming that he was the light of the world. Jesus then did something quite remarkable, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw faith and confidence in him as well. He touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam. Jesus not only gave physical sight to the blind man, but spiritual vision as well. That is why Jesus proclaimed himself the "light of the world" (John 9:4).

So what is the significance of this miracle at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water and light which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit (John 7:38). The Pharisees were upset with Jesus' miracle on two counts. First, he healed the blind man on the Sabbath, which they considered a serious violation of the command to rest on the Sabbath.

Second, how could a sinner and a Sabbath-breaker do such a marvellous work of God! The cured man must not have really been blind at all! This blind man was well known to many people and his parents testified under oath that he had indeed been blind since birth. Their prejudice made them blind to God's intention for the Sabbath and to Jesus' claim to be the One sent from the Father in heaven to bring freedom and light to his people. They tried to intimidate both this cured man and his parents by threatening to exclude them from membership in the synagogue. This man was shunned by the religious authorities because he believed that Jesus was the Messiah. There is no sickness, whether physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual that the Lord Jesus does not identify with. In fact there is no place of suffering the Lord has not shared with us. This is good news!!! But do we believe it?

NEWS UPDATE

A BIG WELCOME TO FR JUDE AS HE JOINS OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND.
We pray that God will richly bless you and you will be very happy.

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



THIS SUNDAY is the Fourth Sunday of Lent and a half-way point on our journey to Easter. It is also traditionally **MOTHERING SUNDAY** when we remember our Mothers, our Mother the Church and Our Blessed Lady. We traditionally give flowers to our children to give to their mothers and/or guardians and carers. We will do this at 9.45am and 11.15am Masses.

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.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP "WE DARE TO ASK" ON WEDNESDAY DURING LENT: SESSION 4 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 **Tony (Attilio) Pucci** on Tuesday 17th March at 11.00am followed by burial at Northwood Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

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

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?

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
The Annunciation of the Lord 25th March
Palm Sunday – Holy Week commences 29th March
Maundy Thursday - 2nd April
Good Friday - 3rd April
Holy Saturday - 4th April
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection - 5th April
St George - 23rd April

ST PATRICK'S DAY falls on this Tuesday. Mass as usual at 9.30am. As well as patron of Ireland he is also patron of Nigeria—good for Fr Jude! Wishing our parishioners from Ireland and Nigeria a very happy day.

SOLEMNITY OF St. JOSEPH will take place this year on Thursday 19th March. He is traditionally patron of the Universal Church, unborn children, fathers, workers, travellers, immigrants, and a happy death, so there's plenty not only for which we should pray, but also give thanks.

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.

HOLY WEEK 2026 Details of all our Holy Week and Easter services are available this weekend. 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.

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 weekends of 21/22 March and 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 7** of Part 2 of the FHC Communion Programme, on **Tuesday 17th March**, we will be reflecting on how **We receive Holy Communion.** Two of the Small Groups will be enjoying an Activity in Church. If this affects your child's Group in Session 7 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 at 7pm**.

CONFIRMATION 2026 - At **Session 3**, on **Monday 16th 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 21st March at 6.15pm** there is a **Confirmation Group Mass** in anticipation of the **Confirmation Sponsored Walk** for **Let the Children Live!** on **Sunday 22nd March**.

SPONSOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES - Our Confirmation Candidates are making a **5km Sponsored Walk** on **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.

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.**

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 17th – 24th July 2026. Registration is now open **https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk/registration-form/** or via the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173. If you would like to sponsor or fundraise for an Assisted Pilgrim, member of the medical team or volunteer, then please also contact the Pilgrimage Office for further details.

AN AFTERNOON OF PRAYER, PAINTING & CRAFTS DURING LENT Monday 16th March, 2.00pm-5.00pm in the Russell Room. Just turn up bringing your own materials.

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.

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 **March's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 16th March 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.

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