

21st March 2021: Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)



I WILL WRITE MY LAW ON THEIR HEARTS

Christ, like a grain of wheat that dies in order to produce new life, dies for us. Following his example, we are called to realise that if we want eternal life we have to be prepared to give our lives to God. The Lord writes his law in our hearts and we submit humbly to his will, even in times of pain and suffering. There is no greater school in which to grow in holiness.

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Sat 20	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	Bridie, Joe, Steven, Patricia Murray RIP
Sun 21	✠ FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
09.30	Intention of the Fisher family
11.00	Dr Danny White RIP
Mon 22	
09.30	Wellbeing for the Present & Past Priests of the parish
Tue 23	
09.30	Barbara Huntley RIP
Wed 24	
09.30	Wellbeing of Esther Bell
Thu 25	<i>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</i>
09.30	In Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri 26	
09.30	People of the Parish
19:00	Stations of the Cross
Sat 27	
09.30	Wellbeing of Esther Bell
	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	Doffou Norbert Eden RIP

HOLY WEEK

Sun 28	✠ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
09.30	Therese Farina RIP
11.00	Stanislaus Wekwe RIP

St Joseph

Last Friday we celebrated the feast of St Joseph. In a new Apostolic Letter entitled **Patris corde** ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

Patris Corde is worth reading – outstanding quote.

"Fathers are not born, but made. A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child. Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person."

Prayer to St Joseph

"Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen."

Given in Rome, at Saint John Lateran, on 8 December, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year 2020, the eighth of my Pontificate.

From the Knights of St Columba (Council 472)

Parishioners who are experiencing financial problems can receive assistance for the payment of small bills such as the charging of Electricity Key or Gas Meter Card from the KNIGHTS' CHARITY. We are also available to support persons with Mental Health Problems. Please contact Fr Regis for further information.

SECOND COLLECTION - This Week: Pew Kneelers

MASS COUNT LAST WEEK

Saturday: 18:30 (23) Sunday: 09.30 (75), 11.00 (47)

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE

Gift Aid Tax payers, please sign up. We receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Visit www.olspn.church for details.

Tap to Donate Please use the Card Payment Machine in Church Foyer or donate via our website: www.olspn.church

Standing Order A/c Name: **RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham**
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COLIN DUNNE RIP



It is with great sadness we announce the sudden and unexpected death of Colin Dunne at home on Monday 15th March. As a builder and landscape gardener his works can be seen throughout our Church and Hall.

Please remember him in your prayers, and also his remaining wife and two young boys.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS



Please remember to put your clocks forward before going to bed next Saturday night (27th March).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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.

FIRST READING – Jeremiah 31: 31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 50

R. **A pure heart create for me, O God.**

SECOND READING – Hebrews 5: 7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me; Wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL – John 12: 20-30

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this

hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’ By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.