

17th MARCH 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Mass book: p173 1st Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31-34 2nd Reading: Hebrews 5: 7-9 Gospel: John 12: 20-33

11am Mass Hymns	Entrance: 910 Gloria: -	Gospel Accl. ⁿ : 200 Communion: 965	Offertory: 749 Post-Communion: 938	Euch. ^c Prayer: 490 Recessional: 749
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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.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the martyrs of our day, witnesses to Christ

Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 16 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Alan Mode RIP
Sun 17	✠ FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B) Saint Patrick
09.30 11.00	Wellbeing - Annie, Fidelia, Zahiri Anderson Thomas Healy RIP
Mon 18 09.30	Agnes Takiwaa RIP Rosary
Tue 19 09.30	SAINT † JOSEPH Angelo Noto RIP Rosary
Wed 20 09.30	Mickie Fay RIP Rosary
Thu 21 09.30	Mary Cormack RIP Rosary
19:00	Lenten Service of Reconciliation
Fri 22 09.30	Josie Killarney RIP Exposition
19:00	Stations of the Cross
Sat 23 09.30 18:30	Anthony Cummins RIP First Mass of Sunday Josephine & Albert Lowell RIP
Sun 24 09.30 11.00	✠ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (B) Therese Farina RIP Celia Carroll - Nee Richardson RIP

Prayer Requests

If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter. Please send an email to: regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk.

Please Pray for the wellbeing of:

Bernadette Dowswell and Patrick Watts.

Please Pray for those who have died recently:

Frank Mealey and Ruby Veronica Gale.

Sharing the Word

First Reading - Jeremiah tells a shattered people that God has not forsaken them, but will soon make a new covenant with them. The new covenant will not be written on tablets of stone, but it will be written in the hearts of his people. God will forgive and forget the past sins. Jesus brought about the new covenant.

Second Reading

Here we hear an echo of the passion, we have the agonised prayer of Jesus and also his obedience to the Father. "He learned to obey through suffering". Through his death, Jesus became the source of eternal life for all who obey him.

Gospel

Jesus talks about his hour. The hour is the culmination of his mission and it is also the condemnation of this world and its ruler. Now the hour of his passion and death has finally come. On the one hand Jesus fears it, but he also longs for it, because he is sure that in his hour of crisis and suffering the Father will glorify him.

He uses the example of the grain of wheat dying in order to yield a harvest. In the same way his death will bear much fruit. Jesus' followers must not cling to their lives but must be ready to give them up in the service of God.

Lenten Service of reconciliation Thursday 21 March at 7.00pm

Jonah preached to the people of Nineveh in these words: "Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed". The people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented; he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened. (Jonah 3:1-10)

Let us come together on Thursday to implore God's mercy. God will see our efforts.

Sick and Housebound

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend mass because they are in poor health, please let Fr Regis know and he will take them Holy Communion.

First Holy Communion Programme 2023-24

We next meet in the hall on Sun 17th March at 10am for, Chapter 10: Body of Christ.

Confirmation Programme 2023-24

We next meet in the parish house on Sat 16th March at 5pm for, Session Nine: Confirmation: Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13th, at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/ 10th/ 25th/ 40th/ 50th/ 60th+ wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than May 31, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass.

Spaces are limited. Email us at mflse@rcaos.org.uk. As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Sydenham.

Easter Flowers

It is customary in this parish to make donations for the flowers and decorations for the Church at Easter in memory of the 'Faithful Departed'.

The 09.30am Mass on Sunday 5th May is dedicated to them. Please mark your envelope "Easter Flowers", and

write the name (s) of those being remembered in block capitals. Please post your envelope at the parish house.

Job Opportunity

The Diocesan Education Service is recruiting for a Trust Relationship Officer to support the Catholic Academy Trusts in the Diocese. More information is available at <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/recruitment/>

Gift Aid Boxes

For those who use gift aid boxes, please note the new set of boxes will be given out after Mass on the weekend's of 9th /10th and 16th /17th March.

Special Ministers and Readers

The Rota for Holy Week (Palm Sunday - Easter Sunday) is now available in the porch for those who have not received one via email.

Last Week

Offertory: Gift Aided: £172, Not Gift Aided: £365

Mass Count: Sat (57), Sun 09.30 (110), 11.00 (115)

Second Collection

Last week: None

This week: Poor Parishes

Next Week: None

Donate

Gift Aid: Tax payers, please sign up, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated. Email Treasurer for details.

Card: Card Machine in Church Foyer or www.olspn.church

Standing Order: Email Treasurer for details.

Cheque: Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

David Simpson

Treasurer: sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk

Steven Pearce

Secretary: weekdays 9^{am}-12^{noon}

sydenham@rcaos.org.uk

Margaret Doherty

Catholic Club: 07930 889632