

## 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2026: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Mass book: p170

Preface: Lazarus p72

Eucharistic Prayer: III p28

9.30am	Hymns are on the back of this Newsletter.		
11am	<b>Gathering:</b> Gather your people, O Lord <b>Gloria:</b> Nil Gloria <b>Offertory:</b> We cannot measure how you heal and Bless the Lord, my soul <b>Sanctus:</b> 576 Holy, Holy, Holy <b>Post-Communion:</b> My God Loves Me (Hymn Sheet)	<b>Entrance:</b> Love divine, all loves excelling <b>Gospel Accl.<sup>n</sup>:</b> 200 Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour <b>Memorial Accl.<sup>n</sup>:</b> Save us Saviour	<b>Kyrie:</b> Lord have mercy... <b>Communion:</b> Now in this banquet <b>Final:</b> Freely, freely

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - 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.

### Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 21 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Margaret Loftus RIP
Sun 22 09.30 11.00 12:30	✠ FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A) Samuel Lowell RIP Divine Mercy Intention Baptism of Uchechukwu Eze, Sobechukwu Eze, and Chukwuebuka Linus-Urewuji.
Mon 23 09.30	Rene Pears RIP No Rosary: School rehearsal after Mass
11:30	Funeral - Cecil Jackson
Tue 24 09.30	Lily Fay RIP Rosary
Wed 25 09.30	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD Deceased Members of the Cairns, McPhillips & Kerr families Rosary
Thu 26 09.30	Stephano Khan - Birthday Blessings Rosary
Fri 27 09.30	Dr Martin Lloyd - Well Being Exposition
19:00	Stations of the Cross
Sat 28 09.30	Elena De Masi - Birthday Blessings
<b>HOLY WEEK</b>	
18:30	First Mass of Sunday Terry Mead RIP
Sun 29 09.30 11.00	✠ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A) Tom Bell RIP Genevieve Abeydeera & Neil Thorne - Well Being Mary Jocelyn Philip (Anniversary 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: [gregoryackron@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:gregoryackron@rcaos.org.uk).

#### Please Pray for the wellbeing of:

Geoff Brady, Margaret Ann Baker, Henry & Philomena Hutcheon, Nkechi Roberts, Germani Vemalaragni, Steven Pearce, Carol Bonehill, Kamila Silke, Elizabeth De Masi, Matilda Ogutu, Irene Clarke, Denise Sullivan, Bridget Carberry, Pat Travers.

#### Please Pray for those who have died recently:

Ann Maria Jalees, Sam Lowell, Tony Rawsthorne, Adam Taylor, Iris Scott, Heather Browne, Sally Kennedy, John McSweeney, John Kennedy (Esther Bell's brother), Kathleen Edkins.

### Sick & Housebound

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend Mass because of poor health, please inform Fr Gregory and he will take them Holy Communion.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7.00pm.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

During Lent there will be confessions before and after all Masses, except on Sunday.

### 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". A mass will be said after Easter dedicated to them. (Continued on next page)

Please mark your envelopes "Easter Flowers" and write the name (s) of those being remembered in block capitals. Please post your envelope at the parish house.

### Catholic Women Praying Together (CWPT)

Join CWPT Group at Our Lady & St. Philp Neri Church every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month, after 11am Mass. See you all there.

### Sydenham Catholic Social Club

Just nearby in Watlington Grove - 2 minutes walk. Available for hire at weekends, during the week for celebrations, funerals, any special occasions or business use.

Call Mags on 07930 889632

The Club opens for drinks and socialising with friends at weekends. Come and join us on Fridays at 7-11pm, Saturdays 4pm to 12.00am (live music) and Sundays 12.00 noon - 11pm.

### Gift Aiders

When you use Gift Aid envelopes for first, special and second collections, you must write your Gift Aid number on the envelope. There is a supply of envelopes at the back of the church.

If you have forgotten your number, please email the treasurer on [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

### Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

The Holy Week Rota is now available in the church porch for those who have not received it by email.

### SDC Bible Study Meetings

Join us for our weekly SDC Bible group meetings on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. These are hybrid meetings so some join online on ZOOM while others meet in person at the SDC House at 38 Ryefield Road, Upper Norwood SE19 3QU. Meetings include reflections, readings and prayer. The main focus this year will be on the theme of the BIBLE TIMELINE.

To join us online go to the Zoom website at [pwa.zoom.us/jc](https://pwa.zoom.us/jc) and enter the Zoom ID: 4454292726.

All are welcome. For more information email us at [sdcreetings@gmail.com](mailto:sdcreetings@gmail.com)

### Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

I warmly invite you to join me on this year's SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 21 to 28 August 2026. A pilgrimage is a great opportunity to refresh and renew our relationship with the Lord Jesus, with the help of Our Lady's prayers.

Details for booking travel and accommodation can be found at <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

We also ask pilgrims to complete a form with details, including medical requirements (if any) at <https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026>

For more information, please contact Canon Edward Perera ([edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk)) or Deacon John Fogarty ([johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk)) or myself, Bishop Paul Hendricks ([paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk))

### Poor Parishes

This week's second collection will be for the poor parishes in the diocese which enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.

### Church Toilets

Please **DO NOT** flush nappies, baby wipes, and ladies hygiene products down the toilet. Instead please place these items in the white bin. Thank you.

The only thing allowed is toilet paper. Anything else causes blockages which puts the toilets out of action.

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**KEEP THE DATE FREE**

**SUNDAY 12 APRIL @ 1pm**

**EASTER CELEBRATION IN PARISH HALL**

**'POT LUCK LUNCH AND BBQ'**

Last Week	Average Week Standing Orders £406		
<i>Offertory:</i>	Gift Aided: £150	Not Gift Aided: £497	
Second Collection	£423		
<i>Mass Count:</i>	Sat (50)	Sun 09.30 (82)	11.00 (150)

Second Collection	
<i>Last week:</i>	Parish Development Fund (£)
<i>This week:</i>	Poor Parishes
<i>Next Week:</i>	None

Donate  
*Gift Aid:* Tax payers, please sign up, using the white envelopes at the back of the church, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated.  
*Card:* Card Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)  
*Standing Order:* Email Treasurer for details.  
*Cheque:* Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact  
*David Simpson* Treasurer: [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)  
*Steven Pearce* Secretary: Working from Home  
[sydenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk)  
*Margaret Doherty* Catholic Club: 07930 889632

**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.

**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.

*Amen*

**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.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 129****R. With the LORD there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption**

1. 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.
2. If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness,  
that you may be revered.
3. I long for you, O LORD,  
my soul longs for his word.  
My soul awaits the Lord  
more than watchmen for daybreak.
4. 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.

**R.**

**R.**

**R.**

**R.**

**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.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God*

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL**

Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God. I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Everyone who believes in me shall never die. Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.

**GOSPEL – John 11:1-45**

At that time: A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, 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.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are

there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.' After saying these things, he said to them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.' Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 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.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he 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.

The Gospel of the Lord

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**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.

*Amen*

**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.

*Amen*