


2nd Sunday of Easter (B)

Mass Times and Intentions

Divine Office – Psalter Week 2



Saturday 6 th April	5.30pm	John Bone
Sunday 7 th April	11.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 8 th April Annunciation of the Lord	10.30am	Special Intention (RJ)
Tuesday 9 th April	10.00am	Funeral Service – Elizabeth Sandra Lathom
Wednesday 10 th April	11.00am	Requiem Mass – Edward James Callery
Thursday 11 th April	9.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday 13 th April	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 14 th April	11.00am	Dominic Tucker (Anniversary)

Please note changes in times of Masses/Services this week.

Sunday Liturgy

Proper of the Mass		p. 255
Profession of Faith	Apostles' s	p. 12
Preface	Easter I	p. 60
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 1	p. 18

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention



For the role of women. We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

April is the month of the Holy Spirit. To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: "with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)



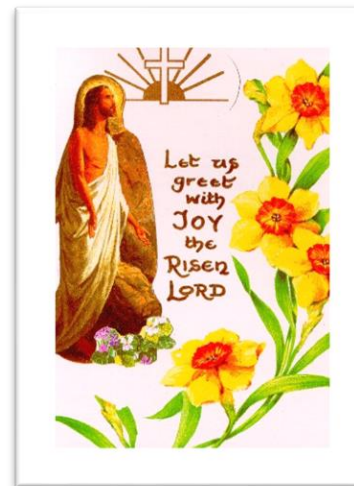
The Roman Catholic Parish of
Our Lady Help of Christians
 Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT

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2nd Sunday of Easter (B)

7th April 2024



In the First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles we read that all the followers of Jesus, not just the apostles, were so enthusiastic about this "new way" of life that they lived in communities in order to share everything, both material and spiritual. This way they could help in nourishing and sharing their newfound spiritual life in Christ with each other. Because of this joy many others came to believe and "the Lord added to their number."

The Responsorial Psalm is a continuation of the same Psalm from Easter Sunday. It is an important liturgical poem sung at the Jewish Seder or Passover Meal. It recalls how the Israelites implored the God of Israel to save them from slavery to the Egyptians and how God came to their rescue. The Psalmist then goes on to offer praises of thanksgiving acknowledging God's benevolence.

The Second Reading from the First letter of John is a brief summary of the Christian life then and now. We should not think of Christ's Resurrection as something that happened 2000 years ago. Rather, we should be thinking about it on a daily basis as something that God does for us in every Mass that is offered on our behalf--not just those we attend, but all Masses. They are the greatest prayers of thanksgiving that one could offer for this sublime act of divine love.

The Gospel Reading is the concluding part of the Gospel of John. John's Gospel contains the only two unmistakable declarations in the New Testament of Christ's divinity. At the beginning of his Gospel he tells us that "the Word was God", and here at the end of his Gospel he relates Thomas' profession of faith "my Lord and my God". It is with divine authority that Jesus confers on his Church the authority to forgive sins through sacramental absolution.



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

Parish Collection – Standing Orders

Many thanks to those who have taken a Standing Order form and/or a Gift Aid form. Additional forms are available after Mass this weekend. Completed forms can be returned in the basket at the back of Church or handed in to the sacristy.

If you have a standing order and haven't changed it for a while you might want to kindly consider increasing it to keep up with inflation and increasing costs. Many thanks for your support of our Parish.

Offertory Envelopes

The new Offertory Envelopes are available. If you need some please contact Anne-Marie Austin on 07806 778 674. This applies to people who have received envelopes in previous years as well as any new parishioners. Thank you for your continued support.

Fr Dave's memorial

The collection for a memorial to Fr Dave eventually realised £800 – thank you all for your generosity. The parish garden team was asked to suggest a suitable arrangement for the memorial and has recommended one based on a slate panel (with a suitable inscription) to be sited under a copper beech tree to be planted in the parish garden. This has now been agreed and the memorial will be installed over the coming weeks. Sincere thanks to Angela Steward and her team for the work they are doing on this project.

Red Mission Boxes Annual Collection

Anne Fidler, the new parish secretary for Missio, will be collecting the Missio Red Boxes for emptying in APRIL over two weekends.

Would all holders of Red Boxes bring them to weekend Masses on Saturday, 6th April/ Sunday 7th April & Saturday 13th April / Sunday 14th April. Anne will be in the chapel to collect the boxes before each mass. If you would like information on how to donate to Missio, please see Anne in the chapel.

Thank you to all who donate to Missio direct, contributing either by cheque, on-line, by direct debit/standing order or by the traditional red boxes. We are extremely grateful for your continued support, which allows us to continue our Missionary Work of sharing God's love throughout the world. We are proud to be the Pope's charity for World Mission.

SVP Appeal

This weekend the SVP will be making an appeal for volunteers from our parish. The St Vincent de Paul Society is part of an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need. It has done invaluable work in parishes in England and Wales since 1844.

50 Plus Group

The next meeting of the 50 Plus Group is on Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 2:00pm in the Church Hall.

Liverpool Bach Collective

The Liverpool Bach Collective aims to put on performances of J S Bach's cantatas in churches in and around Liverpool every month as part of Sunday Evening Prayer. The next event takes place at 6.30pm on Sunday 14th March at St Francis Xavier's Church, Salisbury Street, L3 8DR. An account of the Risen Christ's appearance to his disciples: three times the bass soloist sings Christ's greeting "Peace be with you" and the chorus responds. The chorus, three soloists and the usual ensemble are joined by trumpet, flute and oboes d'amore.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

HE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD – we commemorate the Visit of the Angel Gabriel to Mary at Bethlehem, when Mary learnt that she was to become the Mother of God's only Son. Although frightened and confused, Mary put her complete trust in God, and responded to the Angel with the words "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done to me". In this Feast we see the true beginnings of our salvation, preparing to celebrate the Incarnation of God's only Son

Tuesday

St Waldegrudis – She was the daughter of Saints Walbert and Bertilia and the sister of St Aldegundis of Maubeuge. Marrying St Vincent Madelgarius, she became the mother of Saints Landericus, Madalberta, Adeltrudis and Dentelin. When her husband chose to become a monk in the year 643 she established a convent at Chateaulieu, around which grew the town of Mons, Belgium.

Thursday

St Stanislaus - He was born of noble parents in the town of Szczepanow in Poland in about the year 1030. He studied in Gnesen and was ordained to the priesthood, then in the year 1071 he succeeded Lambert Zula as the Bishop of Cracow. He ruled his diocese as a good shepherd, helping the poor and making a visitation of his clergy every year. He fearlessly rebuked the King, Boleslaus, for his cruelties and injustices, especially for kidnapping the beautiful wife of a nobleman. He was murdered by the King while saying Mass in the year 1097.

Friday

St Julius – The son of a Roman called Rusticus, he was elected Pope on 6th February 337. He was soon involved in the Arian controversy, and was one of the first to claim the primacy of the Bishop of Rome, asserting the authority of the Pope over the Arian Eastern bishops. He is also credited with splitting the birth of Jesus into two distinct celebrations, with the Epiphany staying on the traditional date but the Nativity moving to 25th December. He built several basilicas and churches in Rome and died there in the year 352.

Saturday

St Martin – He was born at Todi in Umbria. He joined the diocese of Rome and was elected pope in the year 649. He had been a reader and deacon before his election, and was crowned without the consent of the Emperor Constans II. The same year he presided over the Council at the Lateran that condemned the heresy of the Monothelites that taught that as a human Christ had no free will. In 653 he was seized by the Emperor Constans and taken to Constantinople where he was treated harshly; then he was moved to Kherson in the Crimea where he starved and died three months later in the year 656. He is the last Pope to have been martyred.

Blessed Milo or Miles Gerard of Ince, Wigan – He was born about the year 1550 at Wigan and executed at Rochester on 13th April 1590. In 1579 he went to the seminaries of Douai and Reims, where he was ordained to the priesthood on 7th April 1583, and then stayed on as a professor until 31st August 1889. Though bound for London, he was driven out of his course into Dover harbour, where they were examined and arrested on suspicion of being Catholic priests. After many tortures he was condemned and hanged, drawn and quartered. He was beatified in the year 1929.