



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

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7th April 2024
EASTER

Mass Times this Week

Sunday	10.00
Monday	07.30
Tuesday	07.30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07.30
Friday	09.00
Saturday	18.00



Mass Intentions

Sat 06:	Gilbertson/Ramsey Family
Sun 07:	Nila & Mina, thanksgiving
Mon 08:	Thanksgiving
Tues 09:	No intention
Wed 10:	No intention
Thu 11:	No intention
Friday 12:	No intention
Sat 13:	Val Warren
Sun 14:	No intention

Homily Notes

Forgiveness, Reconciliation, Peace

Today's Gospel tells us about two apparitions of the Risen Jesus and of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Risen Lord greets his disciples with the word "Peace", *shalom*. This means peace with God, peace in the heart, peace with everyone. Our world needs this gift of peace, not only in the Holy Land, and between Russia and Ukraine, but wherever there is conflict, in many countries of Africa and elsewhere, and even in our own country where many people are suffering on account of the dire economic situation.

Jesus repeats his greeting 'Peace'. Then he says: "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven." This is Mercy, the goodness of God, always ready to forgive if we turn to Him. Jesus teaches forgiveness; he gave us the prayer "Our Father" where we say: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." Forgiveness is the way to reconciliation, reconciliation the way to Peace. Forgiving is difficult, but we have the Holy Spirit to help us, giving us wisdom, understanding, courage and strength to bear witness to Jesus through our lives.

Thomas was absent the first time Jesus appeared. The disciples were closed in out of fear. Thomas then was not afraid. He could not believe the others when they said they had seen the Lord, but he did not cut himself off from them, nor did they cut him off. The next time the Lord appeared he was there, professing his faith: "My Lord and my God."

Jesus says: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This applies to us. Let us pray that we may be strong in faith, full of mercy, ready to forgive, artisans of peace in our world.

Michael

Sunday Thoughts

I have an advantage that many of you in our Parish Community do not have. That is, I spent 22 years in Burkina Faso, where I was able to learn other values and other priorities for life and faith. That experience changed my soul.

I was reminded of this when I received pictures from one of my brother missionaries, Fr. Kariim Konseibo. His mission parish is the refugee camps of Maaji, Uganda, where he and 2 other missionaries serve some 35,000 refugees. The people who populate these camps have lost everything. Many have lost their families in the wars in Sudan and Somalia. They have nothing to stay for and nothing to go back to. Yet their faith in Christ, the Risen Lord, keeps them alive, gives them hope, helps them live in Christian communities that do what they can to relieve the sufferings of their fellow refugees.

They celebrated Christmas. They sang and danced in thanksgiving. These images remind me of how people throughout Africa are turning to Jesus in faith and hope. Their faith is both a comfort, knowing that God is with them in their terrible suffering, and also an encouragement not to give up in face of the crushing poverty and debilitating injustice that rob them of all their rights and the means to improve their situation.

Their faith-commitment is an example to us, who gather each weekend in our community, of what it is to be alive in Jesus, the risen Lord. Already we do much in our community to restore dignity to nature and to the people who are so misused and maltreated by the capitalist system that is robbing the poor to pay the rich. We recognise this in the works of Tuesday morning and the many hours put in preparing them; in the individuals who visit the sick and care for them, even when they are not of their own family; in the spirit of welcome that opens doors to new members of the community and to those who are only passing; in the care for each other; in the contributions to charities beyond our doors.

We give thanks to the Risen Lord for what He inspires us to do already and pray that we may respond more each day to his call.

Terry

Parish Notice Board

FAMILY OF PARISHES

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

- Adoration: Thursday 1pm-4pm

St. Patrick's

- adoration Friday 7.30pm – 9pm

Spring Concert: a varied programme of classical music by the students of the University of Liverpool. Entrance free.

- Sat. 20 April, 4.30pm – 5.30pm
2nd

(see notice board)

Parish Justice, Peace & Care for Creation Group

Our group is essential to the life of the Christian Community. Our main function is to raise the

Community's awareness of issues of injustice and conflict, where they destroy the harmony of People or Nature. We meet monthly. Why not join us? See Moira, Frank, Barbara or Terry for further information.

The Gift of Easter

For three Wednesday evenings (17,24 April, 1 May), there are a group of sessions at St Teresa's, Norris Green, on The Gift of Easter. These sessions take inspiration from Scriptures, and Fr Chris Thomas of the Irenaeus Spirituality Centre. See the poster, with more information. Bookings made to, stteresang@rcoal.org.uk

Lottery Results – 24th March
01 05 06 07 08 12

OFFERINGS 31st March

Envelopes £32.00

Plate £222.16

PREPARATION OF INFANT BAPTISMS

The next set of preparatory meetings for parents and godparents who desire baptism for their children will be on Saturday 27th April and 4th May at 10am – 11.30am.

The first meeting is for parents only, the second for parents and godparents. Infants are accepted for baptism only after the adults have attended their sessions.

Please confirm your attendance in advance with a priest or Catechist
Angela Everett.

Congratulations to

Jude Antonymswamy and Mariya Antony Joseph for the birth of their daughter **NILA ADELE**, after many years of hoping.

Baby Nila Adele will be baptised Sunday at 11.30am. Those who wish to join the happy family for this sacrament might take some refreshments after Mass.

MUSIC MINISTRY

All members of the music ministry, singers and musicians, are invited to meet on **Sunday 21st April, 3pm – 5pm**, to discuss their essential place in the prayer of the community. We really need a stronger group of singers and musicians to help the community raise their voices in joyful homage.

If you wish to be part of a revamped music ministry, please join the group. *Thank you in advance.*

HOLY PLACES

In case you have not noticed, a yellow box in this newsletter denotes "money". Today it is good news, however.

Last week's collection for the support of the **Holy Places**, despite its impromptu nature, raised £259.15, of which £100 was an

😊 anonymous gift.

More good news: together we raised **£412 by the Easter Raffle**.

What a generous and charitable

😊 community we are! 😊

Thanks be to God.

Still talking of money, next weekend Sr. Maureen of the **Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph** will be with us at both Masses to make an **appeal** for the works of her congregation. This is our annual contribution to the works of missionary congregations.

This also means that the 2nd collection for **Nugent**, announced last week, will be postponed for a couple of weeks, or more. Let's welcome Sr. Maureen with our usual generosity.

The Pope's Official Prayer Intention for April

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.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:, Kathleen CUMMINS, Maria Louisa DRAGO, Joe EDIE, Carole & Tony GALVIN, Lin GINLEY, Tony GRACE, Yvonne GRACE, Albert JONES, Edie JONES, Maria JUDGE, Frances KERWIN, Jane MANN, Maureen MAGUIRE, Molly M'EVOY, May McGARRY, Joan MOORE, Frankie POWER, Peter O'BRIEN, Ronnie SALTERS, Martina STEWARD, Jean TAYLOR, Mary TUIITE, Pauline WALSH, Joanne WILCOCK, Philip WONG.

Also, for the intentions of: Anne BAXTER, Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, Carol GALVIN, Beverley HARPER, Joan HART, Mary HOWARD, Charlotte KELLY, Ann MOORE, Susan MORSELLINO, Skylar REID, Maureen RICE, Sreya Rose, Ronnie SALTERS, Teresa SWIFT, Martha TAGUE, David THOMAS,

Those who have died recently: Michael HAMILTON

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