

OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST JOHN FISHER PARISH
Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia
Charity No. 278742

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Our Lady of Lourdes (LOL) Church
135 High Street,
Sawston, CB22 3HJ

St John Fisher (SJF) Church
Church Centre, High Street
Cambourne, CB23 6GW

Week commencing Sunday, 29th March 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Year A, Weekday Cycle II, Psalter Week 1

+ CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES:

- Newly weds: Nicola & Thomas
- Baptism: Joseph

Both celebrations took place with immediate family members before the 'lockdown'. Good timing !

+ WALK WITH ME booklets: if you would like to have a copy for Easter, please email Fr. John. He will send it to you by post.

+ Veiling the crosses & sacred images: Many churches will cover the crosses and sacred images, except the stained glass windows and the Stations of the Cross, from this Fifth Sunday of Lent. As we cannot go to church these days, why don't we cover the crosses & images in our homes ? This may help us and our children live the spirit of Lent during this testing time.

+ In Memoriam: All who have gone before us, especially members of our communities whose anniversaries occur around this week:
Bernard Fishenden, Peter Mountain, Roberta Mundell, John Higgins, Joachim Vincent, Elizabeth Price, Kitty Costello, Margaret and Mary Angell.

+ Condolences:

- Our deepest sympathies with the family and friends of Aileen Jones who sadly passed away recently.

- We also pray for Fr Sandro's Bishop - Rt Rev. Angelo Moreschi SDB who passed away on 25th of March 2020.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Stole fees: £309-00. Many thanks.

* **DONATIONS:** If you would like to make a donation by cheque, direct debit, or standing order, please see below:

- **CAMBOURNE:** Cheques payable to **SJF CHURCH**. Bank transfer details: Barclays Bank UK Plc, Cambridge Branch, Sort code: 20-17-20, Account number 33031454.

- **SAWSTON:** Cheques payable to **OLOL & SJF PARISH**. Bank transfer details: Barclays Bank UK Plc, Cambridge Branch, Sort code: 20-17-20, Account number 03187187. Please note that although this is named as a parish account it is in fact the Sawston account.

* **LEGACY & WILLS:** If you would like to leave a legacy or include the Parish in your will, please contact Fr. John or a member of the Finance Committees.

+ NB to all Gift Aiders: It is hoped that you are still able to continue your support to your Parish and the Diocese. However, if your circumstances have changed, please contact your parish priest +/- the Diocese.'

+ Hope into Action is very grateful for any/all offers of warm children's clothing offered for relatives of the Syrian family we are helping. Please continue to leave these at the Church house where we can collect them and arrange for delivery.

+ Due to the new development of the coronavirus pandemic, all public Masses in England and Wales stopped from Friday evening – 20th March 2020 – until further notice.

I will continue to say Mass in private for the parish and for your intentions. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email if you need necessary sacraments.

For live stream Masses, just type 'Catholic Mass online', or a similar phrase, on an internet search engine and you will have links for Masses all over the world in different languages.

I believe you will continue to say personal prayers, and family prayers if possible, every day. May Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us. May St. John Fisher assist us in our prayers.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for all of you during this testing time. With every blessing from your parish priest – JM.

+ PARISH PRAYERS LIVE STREAM: You are welcome to join James for Morning Prayer at the usual time of 9.15am live every weekday morning from the comfort of your own homes.

Go to either of the parish websites <http://cambournerc.com/> or www.ololawston.org.uk at the designated time (9.15am or 6pm) and click on the audio link on the front page to listen live. The Rosary will be recited after Morning Prayer on Saturday mornings. The Angelus and Evening Prayer will be live at 6pm (Monday to Friday).

+ **Email subscription service:** OLOL Pastoral Council are creating a new email subscription service in order to keep you informed of news and events taking place within the OLOL Parish. If you wish your name to be added to this list please provide your email address on the slip in the church foyer. Many thanks.

+ **Wednesday 6th May:** AGM of OLOL Community at 7.30pm in the church hall. We need new members for OLOL Pastoral Council. Please contact Giles for more information.- This date may well change.

DIOCESAN NEWS

+ The Diocese is recruiting a **part-time Finance and Administration Assistant** on 20 hours per week.

Details can be obtained by emailing the Diocesan office at finance@rcdea.org.uk or go to <https://rcdea.org.uk/> and click on the link on the home page. The closing date is Monday April 6th.

+ What are you doing in September?

Are you leaving school or university this summer, in between jobs or would like to do something 'different'? The Diocesan Youth Service is looking for people age 18-29 to join the Ignite Team, You would be working with young people in schools and parishes, developing your gifts such as in music, drama, art and tech. These are full-time positions, with food, accommodation and a monthly allowance provided. Ideal as a 'gap year'. For more information see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth

* The Diocese is advertising for a **Stewardship and Fundraising Coordinator**. He/She will take the lead role in helping parishes to engage their parishioners to consider how they can support their local parish with their skills and enthusiasm and also financially. Working closely with parish finance committees and clergy, the Coordinator will guide them through Stewardship Campaigns and help to encourage Parish Giving through regular donations and Gift Aid. See www.rcdea.org.uk for details.

* **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** will take place on 21st -28th August. This pilgrimage is organised by Catholic Action for Dioceses of Clifton, East Anglia, Northampton, Southwark with Stonhurst College and the Glanfield Group. Archbishop John Wilson will lead the pilgrimage this year. The theme is: 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. If you would like to join, please pick up a form from OLOL Church, or talk to Fr John. For further information, please visit www.catholicassociation.co.uk or booking with www.tangney-tours.com/CA; Tel: 01732 886 666

* April 3rd is a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse. **A Mass for victims and survivors of abuse, their families, supporters and all those affected by abuse** is to be celebrated on Saturday April 25th at Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham. Mass starts at 12 noon followed by buffet lunch. **Please note that this may be celebrated behind 'closed door', but please be united in prayers.**

OTHER NEWS

Re-Dedication: A personal rededication as the Dowry of Mary. will be done in Westminster, Walsingham, every Cathedral, every cooperating parish, and as many homes as possible on Sunday 29th March 2020. Please follow the guidelines in the book 'The Angelus Promise' which can be obtained from the Shrine of Walsingham. Please visit www.behold2020.com for information.

The Angelus Promise is a spiritual exercise created to assist you to embrace the message of Our Lady, as expressed in the Angelus. It invites you to "share in the joy of the Annunciation" by following Mary's openness to God's call, through her faith-filled "yes". Through your own faith-filled "yes", the Lord will work wonders in your life.

R: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary V: And she conceived by the Holy Spirit

As God once chose Mary to become the Mother of His Son through the message of an angel, so He chooses me this day, and invites me through the ministry of the Church or the example of another, to seek and do His Will at this moment in my life. Hail Mary full of Grace...

R: Behold the handmaid of the Lord V: Be it be done unto me according to thy Word

Mary's response to her invitation, "let it be done to me according to your Word", opened her heart to God's grace and all things became possible. Let my "yes" today take away fear, as I embrace God's Will, and like Mary "ponder these things in my heart". Hail Mary full of Grace...

R: And the Word became flesh (Bow or genuflect) V: And dwelt among us

At a moment in history, Mary's faith-filled "yes" conceived Him, first in her heart, which then led to the birth of our Saviour. Through accepting Him in my heart, enable me to recognise my role in bringing Christ to my sisters and brothers today. Hail Mary full of Grace...

R: Pray for us most holy Mother of God V: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

Let us pray: O Holy Mother of God, pray for us, and assist us as we dedicate ourselves this day. Your Yes at the Annunciation brought our Saviour Jesus into the world, and you invite us to contemplate the great mystery of the Incarnation, sharing your joy in announcing that "the Word was made flesh and lived among us." May our yes, this day, open our hearts to serve our sisters and brothers in this your Dowry, that they too may share our joy in the Good News that God walks among us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

There is a Plenary Indulgence for all Catholics united to the Pontifical Mass celebrated at the Shine Basilica, at the Norwich Cathedral and privately for those who make their confession, Eucharistic communion and pray for the Holy Father's intentions (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be) within a week prior or a week following this Act of Rededication.

+ **PRAYERS & MASS READINGS IN YOUR PHONE:** With modern technology, you can easily download an app and get all the necessary prayers & Mass readings onto your phone. Many people find <https://universalis.com/> useful. If you know a better one, please recommend it to Fr. John.

OPENING THE SCRIPTURES: SETTING OUR HEARTS ON FIRE: Taken from the account of a mysterious stranger who meets two people journeying on the road to Emmaus, whose identity is eventually revealed as the three of them break bread together (Luke 24:13-38), this biblical story is the starting point for this Lent course which invites us to 'open the scriptures' and read them with both our hearts and our heads. This downloadable resource can be found on <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent>.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 2020.

Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel (37:12-14)

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live

The Lord say this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm: (Ps 22.. R. v.1)

R With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.. R

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. R

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak
(Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) R

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. R

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans (8:8-11)

The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation: (Jn 11: 25-26)

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord:
whoever believes in me will never die
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel: John (11:1-45) (shortened version below) (3-7,17,20-27,33-45)

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving this message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already.' When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight for the heart, 'where have you put him? They said, 'Lord come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone, Jesus lifted up he eyes and said: Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ' Unbind hm, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, **(bow)**
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

Reflection on today's readings:

All three readings today focus on our resurrection rather than the Resurrection of Jesus, from the dead. In the first reading we need to have faith in God to know that he will deliver us in due course, at his appointed time, to heaven.

In the second reading, St Paul reminds us that our soul needs feedings as well as our body and that sin starves our soul. If we believe that Jesus lives in us we need have no fear of death.

Whilst in the Gospel John tells us that God will be glorified because of the raising of Lazarus from the dead and, if we believe in the resurrection of Jesus. Christ.