

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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18TH APRIL 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.30am Parish Mass

(The People of the Parish)

Mon 19th April - St Alphege, Bp

Tue 20th April - Easter Weekday

Wed 21st April - St Anselm of
Canterbury, Bp, Dr of the Church
12 noon Mass

(HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh RIP)

Thur 22nd April - Easter Weekday

Fri 23rd April - Solemnity of St
George, Mr, Patron of England

Sat 24th April - Easter Weekday

25TH APRIL 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.30am Parish Mass

(The People of the Parish)

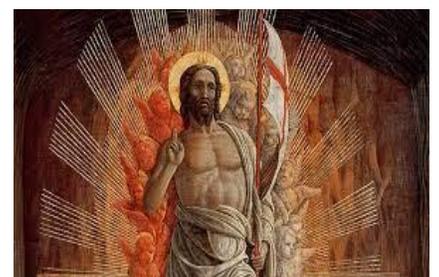
Please ensure that you book a place
for Mass on Eventbrite.

LATEST NEWS

TODAY'S EASTERTIDE GOSPEL records the final appearance to the disciples by St Luke. Jesus showed the Apostles his hands and his feet, explained to them that he was to suffer, die and rise, as was foretold by the prophets. He says that the disciples are witnesses to this. Jesus explained that very soon the Holy Spirit would come from the Father, and then walked with them to Bethany where he ascended to Heaven. These, the final earthly words of Jesus, set forth the mission of these Apostles as well as the mission of all of us. 'You are witnesses to these things', Jesus said. What things? The Apostles were to be witnesses to the Paschal Mystery: Jesus' suffering, death and Resurrection. The proclamation of these truths are the central mission of Jesus' Apostles and all of us.

How often do we contemplate the Paschal Mystery? Perhaps we have heard those words but do not fully understand what they are. What is the "Paschal Mystery?" The Paschal Mystery was what Jesus told the Apostles to be witnesses to and to live themselves. They were to be witnesses to others that Jesus came from the Father, suffered death for our sins, rose from the dead to conquer sin and then ascended into Heaven to invite us to follow. This is the most central message of our faith. Sometimes our Christian faith can be treated more like a book of "do good lessons" than as the saving truths of our redemption. Though it's essential to understand the moral laws and the call to charitable works, we must always remember that the heart of the Gospel is about salvation. It's about Jesus dying for our sins and rising victorious so that we can enter the glories of Heaven. We do not enter Heaven simply because we are good people; rather, we are able to enter Heaven only

because of the saving act of the Paschal Mystery. And though this saving act calls us to a life of charitable service to others, that charitable work is more of an effect of salvation than it is the central purpose of our faith. The Gospel says that Jesus "opened their minds to understand the Scriptures." Therefore, if we, like the Apostles, are to understand the Gospel and the central purpose of Jesus' life and our own lives, then we must allow him to open our minds also. We must allow Jesus to reveal to us the Paschal Mystery, because it is not something we can comprehend by ourselves. Let us reflect, this Sunday, upon how clearly we understand the purpose of the life of Christ and our immersion into that life. Do we understand the mysteries of his human life, suffering, death and Resurrection? Do we understand how these truths of our faith must change us at our very core? And do we understand our duty to be witnesses to these mysteries of faith to others? Let us sit with these questions and allow them to sink in deeply so that we may join the Apostles in both the gift of redemption and the call to evangelise the world.





BOOKING FOR MASS We are thankfully seeing a gradual return to Mass now that so many have been vaccinated. If you have not yet celebrated your Easter communion, we look forward to seeing you soon. Mass is celebrated on Wednesday at 12noon and Sunday at 10.30am. Please remember that booking is still required to attend Mass to ensure right numbers for social distancing. We will increase the number of masses as the number of people booking rises. The booking link is: www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644. If book and you later find that you do not require the place, please let us know or cancel it through

Eventbrite to enable another person to come to Mass. Covid regulations mean that sadly we are still not permitted to sing as a congregation. Masks are required (unless medically exempt) Communion is given in one kind on the hand only. Please observe the one-way system in Church: the car park door is for ENTRANCE only and the Bath Road door for EXIT only. If we all observe these regulations, we help to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

NEXT SUNDAY: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Vocations Sunday or Good Shepherd Sunday and is marked as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to fulfil Jesus' instruction to "*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest*" (Matthew 9:38). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates her attention on raising up shepherds for God's people - vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN BATH is seeking a deputy head teacher for September 2021. Full information can be downloaded from the 'Our Community' section of our website <http://www.st-marys.bathnes.sch.uk> Closing date is Sunday, 2nd May with interviews on 12th and 13th May.

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL We wish teachers, staff and children a safe return and a fruitful term following the Easter holidays. Please remember all our schools in your prayers at this time.

BEING A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH There will be a webinar on Love and Loss. Exploring questions around dementia, bereavement and grief. This will be on Tuesday the 20th April on zoom at 11.00am - 12.30pm. The Webinar, led by Peter Slee, will be framed around four questions: Can anyone who feels love avoid feeling loss? What are the losses that cause you the most grief? How does loss affect those caring for someone living with dementia? How does loss affect a person living with dementia? Please book your place through Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dementia-friendly-church-love-loss-exploringquestions-around-dementi_a-tickets-147405946153

THURSDAY EVENING ZOOM PRAYERS The prayer session organised by Pat Ruffell & Cath Elms is open to everyone and continues through Eastertide. It is approximately 15 minutes long and starts at 6.30pm each Thursday (excluding Holy Thursday). You can join from 6.20pm. Email thurs.pray@gmail.com for joining details.

CAFOD CLIMATE CHANGE PETITION This year, the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the 'COP26' climate talks in Glasgow in November. As Prime Minister, Boris Johnson must push world leaders to show the ambition we need to keep temperature rises below the disastrous 1.5-degree threshold. This means that all countries must play their part. With the eyes of the world on the UK, we must urge the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. Please sign our petition at www.cafod.org.uk/reclaim





BISHOP DECLAN'S STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH On behalf of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton, I would like to express our condolences and promise of prayer for her majesty Queen Elizabeth II and all members of the royal family at the death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Philip was a man dedicated to supporting the Queen and accompanying her on many visits both at home and abroad. Prince Philip was his own person and had strength of character. The Prince's death is a loss to United Kingdom and the commonwealth.

DIOCESAN GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE Due to the ongoing pandemic the decision has been made to cancel the pilgrimage this year.

THE REGINA CAELI (Queen of Heaven) replaces the recitation of the Angelus for the duration of the Easter season before 12noon Masses. There are copies available at the back of the Church to take away. "Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary, Alleluia! For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

DARE TO DREAM This inspiring and resource from Clifton Diocese continues throughout this Easter Season. See www.cliftondiocese.com for full details.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER AND ENGAGED ENCOUNTER - New dates for marriage preparation (Engaged Encounter) and Marriage Encounter opportunities are now available. Information and dates regarding events organised by Marriage Encounter can be found by visiting their websites: <https://engaged-encounter.org.uk> & Home - World Wide Marriage Encounter England and Wales (wwme.org.uk) The dates and venues: Marriage Encounter Experiences 15/16 May - online video conference experience. 10/11 July - non-residential weekend - Savio House, Macclesfield. (Covid permitting). Engaged Encounter (marriage preparation) 17and 24 April - online video conference experience. 19 and 26 June - online video conference experience.

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE Wednesday 14th April 2021. Dear Brothers and Sisters, in our continuing catechesis on Christian prayer we now consider the Church herself as a great school of prayer. Our parents, who first taught us to pray, planted within us a seed that matures through our experience of the Christian life. Through the example of other men and women of faith, through our sharing in the life of our parishes and above all through the sacred liturgy, we not only develop our prayer life as individuals, but gradually come to appreciate the richness of the Church's patrimony of prayer and spirituality. Particularly at difficult moments in life, we come to realize the importance of prayer in strengthening our faith and hope. History shows the importance of communities of prayer – monasteries and religious congregations – for the spiritual renewal of the Church and of society as a whole. Prayer remains the wellspring of the Church's life and the true source of her strength in bearing witness to the risen Lord. For this reason, Jesus insists on the need of his disciples to pray tirelessly and without ceasing. To pray and to teach others to pray, then, is essential for the Church's mission of proclaiming the Gospel, serving Christ in our brothers and sisters, and drawing all people into the unity of his kingdom.

PLEASE HELP TO RENOVATE OUR STATUE OF SAINT JOSEPH Please pop your donation in an envelope marked 'St Joseph' and post it in the presbytery letter box if you can help. The statue has now been stabilized and St Joseph is back in Church! We now need to restore the statue. Thank you to those who have kindly contributed so far!

RUH If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

Saint Patrick's Community at Prayer

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, James Gallagher, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, John Hunt, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price and Christopher. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

Pope Francis April Prayer Intention: Universal Fundamental Rights: for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental right under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Edmund, Calne and St Anthony of Padua, Melksham

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: St Aldhelm's United Reform and Methodist Community



April - Month of the Holy Eucharist

Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The Church traditionally encouraged the month of April for increased devotion to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. "The Church in the course of the centuries has introduced various forms of this Eucharistic worship which are ever increasing in beauty and helpfulness; as, for example, visits of devotion to the tabernacles, even every day; Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; solemn processions, especially at the time of Eucharistic Congresses, which pass through cities and villages; and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament publicly exposed . . . These exercises of piety have brought a wonderful increase in faith and supernatural life to the Church militant upon earth and they are re-echoed to a certain extent by the Church triumphant in heaven, which sings continually a hymn of praise to God and to the Lamb 'Who was slain.'"

--Pope Pius XII

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament
have left us a memorial of your Passion,
grant us, we pray,
so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood
that we may always experience in ourselves
the fruits of your redemption.
Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

(Collect for Corpus Christ)

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion



“My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Let me never be separated from You.”

An Act of Contrition



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen. I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Third Sunday of Easter



First reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 3:13-15,17-19

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

OR

Alleluia!

Psalm 4:2,4,7,9

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second reading

1 John 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John

I am writing this, my children,
to stop you sinning;
but if anyone should sin,
we have our advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ, who is just;
he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,
and not only ours,
but the whole world's.

We can be sure that we know God
only by keeping his commandments.
Anyone who says, 'I know him',
and does not keep his commandments,
is a liar,
refusing to admit the truth.
But when anyone does obey what he has said,
God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 24:35-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord.