

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words. He said, "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no gods except me. You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

"Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath and made it sacred.

"Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

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| 1 The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. | 3 The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. |
| 2 The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. | 4 They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb |

SECOND READING

1Corinthians 1:22-25

And so, while the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL

John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, "What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man: he could tell what a man had in him.

Holy Family Church

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Priests: Fr. Peter Draper (Tel: 725193)

Sunday Mass: 11.00 am.

Weekday Mass: Thur: 9.15am. (Other weekdays: 9.15am at St. Anthony's)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: on request

Holy Family Primary school: 727471 **Covenant Books:** 735993



The Christ Mystery

'In every post-Resurrection story we notice that the people involved do not recognise Jesus. Mary Magdalene thinks he is the gardener. The disciples on the way to Emmaus think he is another traveller. When they are telling their story to the other disciples in today's gospel, Jesus appears again and they all thought he was a ghost. They are unable to recognise the holiness that stands among them. This is God revealing himself in the oh-so-ordinary, oh-so-daily world. 'Touch me, my hands and my feet .. and see.' [1] 'He was flesh and blood. He ate. He still wore the wounds of crucifixion. That Christ's flesh remained broken, even in his resurrection, serves as a powerful reminder that his intimate familiarity and solidarity with our human condition did not end with his death.' [2]

"He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures." 'With Jesus' resurrection, God shatters human preconceived ideas of who God is, where God's life and energy are to be found, and how God works in this world. This is not a rejection of the natural order. It is allowing the natural order to open to and reveal something more.' [3] 'The limited presence we called Jesus has become a newly revealed presence, a universal presence available beyond all the limitations of space, time, ethnicity, nationality, class and gender. Jesus has now become a universally available presence whom we call the Christ, in whom "were created all things in heaven and earth; everything visible and invisible." (Col.1:16) The Christ Mystery is the indwelling of the Divine Presence in everyone and everything. We live in a Christ-soaked world. All is an apparition of the Divine.' [1]

Albert Einstein is supposed to have said, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." "We opt for the latter when we learn to offer a foundational, daily 'Yes' to the moment right in front of us, when we say 'Yes' to the universal Presence that is available everywhere, when we say 'Yes' to the forgotten reality that all creation is both the hiding place and the revelation of God.' [1] 'We, like the apostles, can then become witnesses to this, based not on an intellectual understanding, but on our growing awareness of the Christ mystery. This is resurrected life.'

Adapted: [1] Richard Rohr [2] Jan Richardson [3] Michael Marsh

Third Sunday of Easter

18th April 2021

Year B

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 18th April 2021

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Agnes Dunnaghan	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Helen Duffy For our parish Private Intention	Third Sunday of Easter
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Alan Southworth	
Tue 11,30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary Lawler	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Madden Family	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Margaret Watson	<i>Feast: St. George</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bernard Ward	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Ben Aspin Fr. Peter Dolan For our parish	Fourth Sunday of Easter Prayer for Vocations. EEF Collection

Masses received this week: Alan Southworth, Jude Fernandes, Coutinho, Rodrigues & Fernandes families.

Last Weekend: Attendance 36. Offertory £115.00. Thank you for your generosity.

BIDDING PRAYERS

In today's Gospel we hear how when Jesus broke the bread the disciples' eyes were opened and they recognised him. Let us pray that our eyes, too, may be opened to God's infinite love.

- For Pope Francis. May all our church leaders aspire to their integrity and deep faith and lead us forward into a bright future.
- For Peace in our troubled world, especially for those who suffer in places of violence and conflict. May Christ's love touch them with peace and safety.
- Let us pray for all who are lost and lonely that the Lord will again show compassion to those who have wandered from him and empower us to lead others to his presence.

We pray for those who are sick: Harold Slack, Bill O'Shaughnessy, Malaya, Ray Mannion, Bill York, Vera, Lawrence Dunnagan, Trevor Hughes, Claire;

those who have died recently: HRH Prince Philip, John Myerscough, Joyce Hilton, James Gormley;

and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Wilf Hubbersley, Len Clarke, Bob Eccles, Agnes Dunnagan, Margery Anderton, Frederick Hutchinson, Eleanor Harrison, Hilda Dobson, Doris Collins, Margaret Howard, Winn Vanders, George Birkett, Terence Disley, George Chatburn, Joseph Monk, Sheila Holderness, Emily Bamford, Eileen Parker, Edward Collins, John Carthey, Fr. Peter Dolan, Hannah Wilson, Ann Field, Johanna Wilson, Martha Smith, Elsie Brown, Arthur Simpson, May they rest in peace.

Cardinal Nichols prays for the repose of the soul of Prince Philip

"At this moment of sadness and loss I pray for the repose of the soul of Prince Philip, Her Majesty the Queen's faithful and loyal husband. I pray for the Queen and all of the Royal Family.

"How much we will miss Prince Philip's presence and character, so full of life and vigour. He has been an example of steadfast loyalty and duty cheerfully given. May he rest in peace."

+ Vincent Nichols, *Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.*

Livestreaming Mass

As well as normal Mass in church we are now able to livestream the 9.30am Mass from St. Anthony's church. Go to the St. Anthony of Padua YouTube page for the link.

Gift Aid

A Gift Aid tax reclaim will be submitted shortly to HMRC. Please notify us if you are no longer a taxpayer, or you paid insufficient tax during 2020/21 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities during the tax year. At the present standard rate of tax of 20%, 25p is reclaimed for every £1.00 donated. If you have moved house during the tax year please ensure that you let us know your new address. Thanks once again.

We are extremely grateful to all parishioners who give weekly and monthly donations to the parish and who Gift Aid their offering. If you can support the parish this way, please leave your details with Fr. Peter.

CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

The British Government is hosting the United Nations Climate Change Conference in November this year in Glasgow. The hope is that when the governments of the world come together they will be able to build on the agreement reached in Paris in 2015. Although we are still living through the current pandemic, the Pope has pointed out that this is actually just one of the 'pandemics' that affect our world at the moment; human trafficking, corruption, hunger, but also climate change which affects all of these. The experience of Paris showed that governments are encouraged to take this matter seriously when they hear expressions of concern from the public.

The Glasgow conference COP26 is an event of world significance challenging the way the world does business. It opens the door for all of us to live in a way that is less demanding on Creation and more sympathetic to becoming a global citizen. Fr. Hugh Pollock, Chair of the Faith and Justice Commission, Lancaster invites you to contact him should you or your parishioners wish to know more details of matters related to care of the gift of God's creation please contact Father Hugh Pollock at lfjcmm@gmail.com.

'Churches Together' Evening Stroll

On Wednesday 9th June, meet at The Sherwood 7.00 pm for a 7.15 pm set-off into Masonwood. Our stroll is 3 days before the climate change conference in St. Ives and will be a prayer walk to give thanks for our environment. Hopefully we can enjoy some refreshments on our return to The Sherwood, perhaps outdoors.