



LITURGY

First reading: Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

Response to the Psalm: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Second reading: 1 John 2:1-5

Gospel Acclamation: 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



Dear Parishioners

We are told today that we are all supposed to be 'witnesses of the resurrection.' That we are to 'go into the world and announce resurrection, forgiveness and peace to all nations.'

Any spiritual experience or awakening brings about some initial fear. Why is this happening? What is going to be the outcome of such a happening? Is it real? Is it holy? It is new, it is unexpected. Such could be our response to something in a retreat. In the Gospel it was Jesus' being among them in a most unexpected way and at an unexpected time which was the scary moment.

When we understand the experience there is great joy, sometimes just out of relief that everything is still okay, maybe just different, maybe very different. Spiritual growth is like that, we become different, and with the difference there is a great joy. When they knew it was Jesus they were able to move to great joy. They moved from being upset to being at peace, from doubt to faith. And their joy and amazement was great.

When all is settled with them, he sends them out as witnesses. He did not come to show them himself for their own consumption only, but that they could be sent out to share what happened. Jesus sends them into the world as his witnesses.

We come to Mass to hear the word. To participate in the Eucharist and to experience fear, amazement and joy and the call to be witnesses to what we have seen and heard. We come to give thanks that we have seen and heard and partake of the great mystery. We are then sent to share it, to be witnesses so that others may come and hear and know the resurrected Lord is still in their midst.

God Bless,
Fr. Benedict OSB

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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Registered Charity Number 1063237

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



3rd Sunday of Easter (B)

Week commencing Sunday 18th April 2021

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Douai Abbey Parishes Trust is responsible for our Parish and is committed to ensuring high standards of information security, privacy and transparency. Check our website, address above, for full details

Masses

Sat 17 th April	5pm	3rd Sunday of Easter(B)	HRH The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh RIP
Sun 18 th April		3rd Sunday of Easter(B)	People of the Parish
Mon 19 th April			
Tue 20 th April			Private Intention
Wed 21 st April			
Thur 22 nd April			Paul Bunn RIP
Fri 23 rd April			
Sat 24 th April	5pm	4th Sunday of Easter(B)	Jill & Tony Smith RIP
Sun 25 th April		4th Sunday of Easter(B)	People of the Parish

Mass is celebrated daily except on Mondays.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers: Faith Lyons, Steve Smith, Jane-Christina Thomson, Joan Smith, Derek Sollis, Michael Hall, Christopher Hurd, Edward O'Neill, Michael Smith, Barbara Wall, Mick Sollis, Margaret Birkett, Annie McHugh, Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Carol Shuck, Tony Lyons, Jackie Ingrams, Brian Arthur, Michelle Norton, Melvin Probyn, Peter Sollis, Fred Chadfield. Mary Cross, Alan Clatworthy, Anthony Woodhouse, Robinson Family.

Those who have recently died:

Jennifer Harvey, Anne Nora Finnegan, Mary Hadley, Barbara Flowers, Gerald Clarke, Alma Clarke, Eric George Dunton, Jill Smith, Paula Brookes, Jean McCarthy, Joe Brennan, Paul Bunn, Richard Flynn, Denis Charlton, Mary Gardner, Charles Maries, Sheila Hall, Donald Newell, Helen Meaney, Bridget Clarke, Sylvia Flanagan, Robert McCarthy, Pamela Young, Norah O'Neill-Thomas, Susanna Westmeath, Nell Bridge. Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband.

Parish Safeguarding Representative:- Vacant

Information

A recent Health and Safety review advised that we should have a tree safety survey completed. This we have done and you will notice over the next few weeks that quite radical work will have been undergone. Also, we were reminded that **glass of any description, particularly vases** should **NOT** be placed in the graveyard as they very easily smash and when the groundsmen are working they could cut themselves.



PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever. Amen

Based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori

How to support your Parish

We still have no idea what the government means by 'return to normal' after June 21st. It has been suggested that we will still have to continue with 'track and trace' and that face coverings and hand sanitisation will still need to take place. If this is correct then presumably we will also need to continue to have the church cleaned after every service. Should this be the case the only way that this parish can continue is if we are able to put together a group of church cleaners who will be willing to be placed on a rota to clean the church every Saturday evening after mass, and sometimes, if needed, during the week. This is the only way we will be able to return to celebrating two masses on a weekend. If you feel you are able to help, then either telephone or email the parish office. Both the telephone number and email address are on the front of this bulletin and on the website. I look forward to hearing from you. God bless, Father Benedict OSB

A big 'Thank You' to all those people who have sent cheques and cash over the last week. Please let us keep each other in our prayers