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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Acts 10:34, 37-43

**Response to the Psalm:** This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

**Second reading:** Colossians 3:1-4

**SEQUENCE**

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, our Passover has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 20:1-9



Dear Parishioners

**THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED**

**ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.**

If the Resurrection were just a happy ending, it would be no more than a reversal: an undoing of an evil that had occurred. But we can't reverse things. The

Resurrection is not simply Christ coming back to life. Resurrection is not resuscitation. Easter Sunday doesn't pretend Good Friday never happened,

because the Risen Christ still bears the wounds of his crucifixion!

It is because life is so good that death is so terrible. And only by taking death seriously can we take the Resurrection seriously. The Resurrection does not pretend our lives were nothing; it doesn't pretend that the body is accidental to who and what we are. The Risen Christ bears His wounds, and they are no longer marks of weakness or pain, but of the glory of God.

The Resurrection is not a *turning back* of time; it is a *stepping out* of time. It is the complete triumph over death. Because of the Resurrection we can mourn our dead, but with hope, for God will wipe away every tear. "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." We often imagine ourselves pursuing an elusive God, trying to find him as the treasure in the field. The message of the Resurrection is that he finds us. The seekers at the tomb could not find him until he found them. Redemption is allowing oneself to be found by God.

I would like to wish you all a very happy and holy Easter.

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



**Easter Sunday (Year B)**

**Week commencing Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: [sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern

## Masses

|                             |         |                                  |                            |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> March  |         |                                  |                            |
| Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> March  | 10.30am | Easter Sunday                    | People of the Parish       |
| Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> April   |         | Easter Octave                    |                            |
| Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> April  |         | Easter Octave                    |                            |
| Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> April   |         | Easter Octave                    | Private Intention          |
| Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> April |         | Easter Octave                    |                            |
| Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> April   |         | Easter Octave                    |                            |
| Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> April   | 5.00pm  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter | People of the Parish       |
| Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> April   | 10.30am | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter | Hannah & Stan Williams OSB |

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

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, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.

### Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:

Derek Sollis, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield, Alan Clatworthy, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Tim Harrison

### Those who have recently died: ,

Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart. Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross, Agnes McIlravey, Helen McCarthy, Patricia O'Brien, Pauline Burton, Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache, Lionel Quigley. Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew, John Knox and all those we have been asked to pray for.

## INFORMATION

### Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass near the end of each month. **The next coffee morning is TODAY (Easter Sunday)**. Please come and enjoy a coffee, cake and a chat.

### Coffee Rota

We hope to continue coffee mornings and sales once a month but need volunteers so that this can happen. **The rota sheet for 2024 is at the back of the church for you to sign if you can help.** We will also need new gift sets and other saleable items so please put aside any unwanted gifts you receive at Christmas. We are always happy to receive contemporary paperback fiction that is in good condition. We are unable to accept general bric-a-brac.

### Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority.

### Missio

The 'Red Box' has been around for over 100 years. Whether you still have one at home, or remember having one growing up, we would love to hear from you as we plan for the future. Would you be happy to speak with us? If so, please complete a short form to show your interest and to find out more at: [missio.org.uk/research](http://missio.org.uk/research) or scan the QR code. If you cannot access the form online you can call 020 7821 9755. Thank you!

Please could you bring in your red boxes asap and leave them on the front bench of the church after Mass. Thank you.