



Ordinariate and Parish Church MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

*a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham*



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 2nd February 2020



In the gospel reading today, we hear that Christ is our light and our help! Christ lightens our darkness and helps us to see the meaning of life. When he calls us to follow him, we must learn to put aside our differences. It is in true Christian charity that we are able to proclaim the good news of the kingdom and it is for this purpose that Christ calls us to follow him.

The Candles, will be blessed today on this Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, aka Candlemas. Thank you to all those who have donated candles for special intentions. Please return your envelope asap.

Christmastide truly ends today, 40 days since Christmas Day. If you were brave enough to keep your crib up (or your tree) today's the day they come down. Happy Christmas!

The Word of God Sunday, last week was the beginning a year of focus on the Scriptures. There are copies of St Matthew's Gospel at the back and a leaflet on how to read the bible. Do not start at Genesis and go to Revelation: pick and dip.

Rededication of England to Mary. There will be a Novena before the feast of the Annunciation; a three-day personal dedication and a National re-dedication on 29th March. Put the dates in your diary. A prayer book will be available soon.

Evensong and Ordinariate Use Mass on Thursday each week, 6pm & 6.30pm

Sunday School meets each Sunday during term time for children of primary school age. There is a small bank of teachers, Would you train as a leader?

The Portal Mag is available the back, the monthly magazine from the Ordinariate.

Word Day for the Sick is 11th February. The Archbishop has asked we give thanks and pray for all those in the medical profession. We have lots at MPB. Would you like to receive a Dedication next Sunday? It is the nearest Sunday to OL of Lourdes?

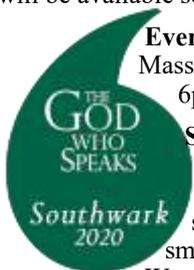
Catholic Heritage Trail. This year sees the 75th anniversary of VE Day; we have a different Bank Holiday in May to commemorate. Do you have any memories or stories from a Catholic perspective? Write them down and email: catholicheritage@rcaos.org.uk or post to 150 Westminster Bridge Rd SE1 6HE

The Pilgrim is at the back, news and views from the Diocese.

The Stations of the Cross are going to be restored. It was delayed due to the roof beam repair which also took the funds! Would you sponsor one or two of the Stations, or club together for a favourite?

YAG The Young Adults Group meet on Friday this week, 7.30pm. We'll talk, amongst other things, about the film the Two Popes. Watch it on Netflix.

A prospective Student discerning Ordination is staying with us in March this year. Would anyone like to offer accommodation, or a meal, or a cuppa coffee sometime?





Forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for the rites of purification and dedication as prescribed by the Torah. According to the Book of Leviticus (12:1-4), when a woman bore a male child, she was considered “unclean” for seven days. On the eighth day, the boy was circumcised. The mother continued to stay at home for 33 days for her blood to be purified. After the 40 days, the mother and the father came to the temple for the rite of purification, which included the offering of a sacrifice — a lamb for a holocaust (burnt offering) and a pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering, or for a poor couple who could not afford a lamb, two pigeons or two turtledoves. Note Joseph and Mary made the offering of the poor (Lk 2:24).

Also, Joseph and Mary were obliged by the Torah to “redeem” their first born son: “The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites, both of man and beast, for it belongs to me’” (Ex 13:1). The price for such a redemption was five shekels, which the parents paid to the priest. This “redemption” was a kind of payment for the Passover sacrifice, by which the Jews had been freed from slavery.

However, St Luke in the Gospel does not mention this redemption, but rather the presentation of Our Lord: “When the day came to purify them according to the law of Moses, the couple brought Him up to Jerusalem, so that He could be presented to the Lord, for it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every first-born male shall be consecrated to the Lord’” (Lk 2:22-23). So the focus is on Jesus’ consecration to God. The verb “to present” (paristanai) also means to “offer,” which evokes Jesus being presented as

the priest who will offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice to free us from the slavery of sin, seal the new and eternal covenant with His blood, and open the gates to the true promised land of heaven.

Simeon, a just and pious man, who awaited the Messiah and looked for the consolation of Israel, was inspired to come to the temple. He held baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God, saying, “Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed, displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel” (Lk 2:29-32). Simeon, thereby, announced that the Messiah has come not just for the Jew but the gentile; not just the righteous, but the sinner.

He then blessed the Holy Family, and said in turn to Mary: “This child is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed— and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword — so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare” (Lk 2:34-35).

So the Presentation is a proclamation of Christ — Messiah and Priest, Lord and Saviour. He is the light who came into this world to dispel sin and darkness. For this reason, traditionally at least since the seventh century, candles have been blessed at Mass this day that will be used throughout the year, hence coining the term “Candlemas.”

As we consider the feast of the Presentation, we remember that our parents presented us at church for our baptism. We were dedicated to God, and given the name, “Christian.” We, too, received a lit candle from the paschal candle, at which the priest said, “You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom”. Therefore, as a light, each of us must bear witness to Our Lord. We must be the beacon that guides others to Christ. Also, we must realise that we, too, will be “a sign that will be opposed,”

A light to enlighten the gentiles.

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*3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sunday of the Word of God*

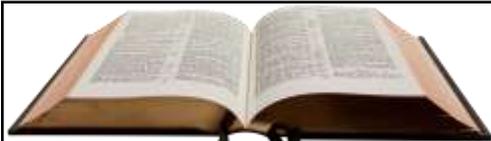
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

...I would like to invite you to Aylesford later for a Diocesan celebration marking the 'God who speaks'. **On Saturday 27th June** an event is being organised so that Parishes can come together for Mass and other activities focused on the Year of the Word. More details will follow....

As we listen for how the Lord is speaking to us, let pray for one another.



*The Most Reverend John Wilson,
Archbishop of Southwark*

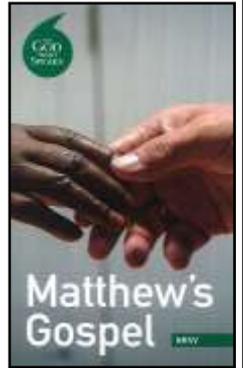


Which version of the Bible? The scriptures were written in different languages, mainly Hebrew and Greek. It has now been translated into more languages than any other book, and many different English versions too. So which should we get? If you have a bible check it's a suitable one: you might need a new one!

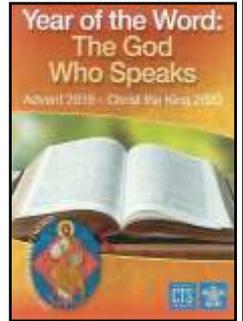
The versions not to have are TEV *Today's English Version* sometimes call *The Good News Bible*; the *King James Version* (old english); or anything which says 'International' (they usually aren't!). The ones to have are the *Jerusalem Bible*, which is used at Mass, so will be familiar; or *The New Jerusalem*. A better one is the RSV *Revised Standard Version*, or the best is the CRSV also sometimes called the RSV CE *Catholic Revised Standard Version* or the *Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition*. If English is not your first language, get a bible in the language you know best.

Bring your bible to Mass on first Sunday of Lent, for a Bible Blessing Ceremony.

St Matthew's Gospel is available at the back: take one and read it in one sitting, alone or in a group in-turns. Depending on your reading speed, it should take 1h30. Doing it in one go is important, so set as long as you need. Write your name in the front and the date you read it... in one go.



Also available is a booklet to give some idea of *how* to read the bible. It's not a history book, or a crime thriller, so do not read it from cover to cover. It tells, primarily, about Jesus, so that's where to start, at the Gospels.



Dowry Dedication of England to Our Lady of Walsingham

Feb 21st 2020. Begin a personal 33 day consecration to Jesus through Mary

March 25th, the Annunciation. All who are following the consecration will consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary.

26th, 27th, 28th, a three-day triduum of prayer in which all will be invited to recite the litany of Saints and Martyrs of England and pray the rosary in preparation for the rededication.

29th, a personal rededication as the dowry of Mary at Westminster, Walsingham, every Cathedral, every cooperating parish, and as many homes as possible



This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
Today <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Tony Waters ✕ <i>recently</i> Parishioners
Mon 3rd <i>(Ss Laurence, Dunstan & Theodore)</i>	1.05pm	Preciousa Godinho ✕
Tues 4th <i>feria</i>	1.05pm	Preciousa Godinho ✕
Wed 5th <i>St Agatha</i>	1.05pm	Preciousa Godinho ✕
Thurs 6th <i>St Paul Miki et al</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	Preciousa Godinho ✕ Luke & family
Fri 7th <i>feria</i>	1.05pm	Preciousa Godinho ✕
Sat 8th <i>(St Josephine Bakhita)</i>		
Next Sunday <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 11.00am	William Joseph Green (f) Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 58:7-10 1Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5:13-16

Sacrament of Confession. Sunday 10.30-10.50; Mon-Fri 12.30-12.55

Evensong 6pm Thursday during term time.

Last week: £1,417.07 inc Standing Orders and Cashless Card payments

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

Holy Father's Intention for February: Listen to the Migrants' Cries We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

The Ordinariate weekly intercessions: The Sevenoaks Group and Deacon Robert Smith

For your prayers:

Those in formation for Ministry, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

The Sick & Housebound: Dora, Mary, Ada, Fr John, Geoffrey, Mark, Christopher, David

Recently Departed: John Klyberg *priest*

Find us on: Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW Parish Priest

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