



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



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

17th March 2024



In the gospel reading today, we hear that Christ dies for us, just like the grain of wheat, in order to produce new life. Following his example we must realise that if we want eternal life we must be prepared to give our lives to God. He writes his law on our hearts and we submit humbly to his will even when it causes us pain. We obey through suffering. There is no greater school in which to grow in holiness.

Passiontide begins today. Everything in Church is veiled as we enter into the sufferings and death of Jesus. This is the most solemn time in the Christian year. Please make an effort to mark it as such.

The Lenten Fast might have slipped a little. Never mind: resolve to do something from now, make an extra effort these last two weeks of Lent.

Baptism at Easter. Any more candidates?

Easter Flowers. Easter Lilies are available - the flower of the Resurrection. Would you like to offer one for a departed relative or friend? See Maureen. Their names will be on the Altar during Eastertide.

Posters for Holy Week are now available (but don't put them up until Holy Week!). Put them in your window, at the dentist, in the psychotherapist... wherever they will be seen.

Passion Sunday is next week (Palm Sunday). The Mass will start next week in the Flat Iron complex, by kind permission of the manager. at 11am, as we begin with the Triumphant Procession into Jerusalem.come prepared!

Comings and goings. It's always nice to have new people at MPB, but sad that due to other circumstances some have to move away. Please let FrC know.

St Patrick's Day, is celebrated on 17th March, but as a Sunday this year, the Resurrection takes precedence. So this year there's no liturgical celebration. However the good thing is that Sundays are not fast days, so have as much Guinness as you like!
St Patrick, pray for us!

Getting Ready for Easter. So much still to do, and that's just at Church! As well as preparing the Church, we need to prepare ourselves. The mark of a Catholic is not what goes on in Church, but what goes on in our hearts.: how moved by the Gospel they are to confess their wrong doings to God.

Mass Times this week and next week to accommodate the Chrism Mass. Thursday this week., Mass at 08.00 (chrism Mass at Warwick Street 11am) and next Wednesday in Holy week, 08.00 & 18.30 (Chrism Mass at St George's at 11.30.

Additional Mass times for Lent continues 08.00 Wednesdays and 18.30 Friday.

Rosary during Lent will be said in Church each Thursday at 19.00

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 19.00 after the Mass. Walk with Jesus.

Keep Church prayerful during Lent, especially after Mass. Please refrain from chatting, but keep silence to give the angels a chance to leave; and to allow those who want to pray, to pray. Come through for coffee.



These last two weeks before Easter are known as the Passiontide. It begins today, the fifth Sunday of Lent. There is a tradition in the Church dating back to the 9th century where the crucifixes and statues are veiled in purple cloth. In some parishes, this practice fell away after the Second Vatican Council, but still continues in many parishes throughout the world.

Some might ask that during the time of year we look to the Cross and the Death of Jesus, why does the Church veil them?

In many Churches, especially in Mediterranean countries, the statues, pictures and crucifix are very highly decorated. Often gilded or painted in bright fine colours. At one time, the main Cross would have been a *Christus Rex*, the figure of Christ reigning from the cross, sometimes in Mass Vestments or wearing a gold crown. All this 'glory' was covered up, to be seen with new eyes at Easter. So, as we draw closer to the Lord's passion and death, the church invites us to remove all the glitz and glamour, as we have though our prayer and fasting this Lent, so to concentrate our minds and focus on the Cross and Death of Jesus: the greatest sign of his love for us.

The Church is always trying to direct the faithful into deeper participation and understanding of the sacred mysteries of faith. In this case, the passion and death and resurrection of our Lord. During these two weeks before the celebration of the resurrection, we experience the humiliation of our Lord and are reminded of it by the veiled crucifixes. "When the Jews picked up stones to throw at Jesus, he hid from them." (John 8:59) But why the statues also? "The statues of the saints, too, are covered; for it is but just that, if the glory of the Master be eclipsed, the servant should not appear." (Abbot Gueranger)

So once again, the Church invites us during Lent to experience deeply the suffering, humiliation and passion of our Lord. But why all this suffering and humiliation? Didn't Jesus suffer and die so I don't have to? Yes and no. Yes he died so we may have eternal life being freed from our sins by His cross and resurrection. But no, we must also share his suffering as he asks us also to take up our crosses and follow him. "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." (Phil 3:10)

Finally, after Passiontide is over, the Resurrection of our Lord is experienced with even greater joy during the Easter *Triduum* when the veils are removed. "And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." (Matt 27:51)

So you can see these Lenten practices of the Catholic faith are not "man-made inventions and meaningless rituals." They are based on Scripture and promoted by the Church to nourish and enhance our love for the Saviour who suffered and died for us. Once again, the Church uses the "stuff of earth" to bring us grace from Heaven!

***We adore you O Christ
and we bless you;
Because by your Cross
you have redeemed the world!***

Dates for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday

09.30 Low Mass

11.00 Procession and Solemn Mass

Holy Monday

13.05 & 18.30 Mass

Holy Tuesday

13.05 & 18.30 Mass

Holy Wednesday

08.00 & 18.30 Mass

11.30 Chrism Mass at St George's Cath

Maundy Thursday

18.30 Solemn Mass with 1 hr watch

Good Friday

14.00 Stations of the Cross

15.00 Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday

10.00-12.00 Church cleaning

20.00 Easter Vigil & First Mass

Easter Sunday

09.30 Low Mass

11.00 Solemn Mass

We adore thee O Christ and we bless thee; because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world!

Our Stations were restored during the restoration. Generous donors sponsored one (or more) to be restored at £1,600. There are a few unclaimed. See website preciousblood.org.uk/store/p17/Stations



Over the last couple of weeks you have heard about Stewardship and Planned Giving. We have asked that all parishioners prayerfully reflect on what they contribute to our parish, having taken into consideration the needs of our parish and having reflected on the message of stewardship.

This weekend we ask that **all** parishioners complete a pledge card. These cards will remain private and confidential. Please provide your full contact details and select the method of offertory giving best suited to you. If you pay UK income tax, please sign the **Gift Aid** declaration (in one name only) so that the parish can claim 25p back from the government for every £1 that you donate, at no extra cost to yourself.

Finally, we thank you for all that you already do for our parish. Without your continued support, this wonderful, living church would not continue to be the spiritual center it is today.

If you have any questions, there shall be volunteers available after Mass.

Thank you.



Pilgrimage
to
Walsingham

Sat 27 April
led by
Bishop
Philip Moger

Adult £40
Child £10

Sign up on
the website

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	09.30 11.00	DG Stephen Panicker Parishioners
<i>Mon</i> 18th (<i>St Cyril of Jerusalem</i>)		
<i>Tue</i> 19th ST JOSEPH	13.05	Deceased teachers & pupils of St Joseph's
<i>Wed</i> 20th <i>feria of Lent</i>	08.00 13.05	DG baby Jaisy
<i>Thurs</i> 21st <i>feria of Lent</i>	08.00	
<i>Fri</i> 22nd <i>feria of Lent</i>	13.05 18.30†	Mária Volčėková
<i>Sat</i> 23rd (<i>St Turibius</i>)	10.30†	
Next Sunday PALM SUNDAY	09.30 11.00	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Mark 14:1-15.47

Sacrament of Confession. Tuesday - Friday 12.30-12.55 Saturday 10.00-10.25

† **Mass in the Ordinariate Use** of the Roman Rite

Last week: £958.43 (cash £211.74; card £455.00; standing orders £291.69) **Thank you!**

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: Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 03330 509296

Holy Father's Intention for March 2024: *For the new martyrs*

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm. .

For your prayers:

In priestly formation: Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes), Dn Timothy Ezat

Peace: In Ukraine, in the Holy Land, Syria

Those who are Sick: Mary, Monica, Chi Chi, Anne Marie, Rita, Chris, Richard, Hermon, Alastair, Amaogechi Martina, Fr John, King Charles

Recently Departed: Charlie Bianco *deacon*, Carmina Carrapa, Dennis Barratt *deacon*, Rev Bryan Parry

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW Parish Priest

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Donation
Station

On-line banking

Sort code: 60 50 01

Number: 36249572

Account: RCAS Borough

