



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*



EASTER SUNDAY

4th April 2021

In the gospel reading today, we hear that Christ our hope is arisen! Christ died to rise again, so that his Father will be glorified. We too are brought back to true life in Christ. If we died with him we will rise with him and in our lives be witnesses to the power of the resurrection. *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*



Jesus is Risen, Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Easter Sunday today is the queen of all feasts. The Resurrection of Jesus is so important this season has 50 days; it's celebrated every Sunday of the Year and today is stretched from one day to eight.

Easter Day does not exist: it's Easter Sunday, Monday, Tuesday... one-into-eight does go!

Easter Mass each day this week at 10am, come physical or virtually.

Easter Liturgies will be different this year. If you are attending physically, bring the Mass sheet, printed or on a device. Those taking part on-line will need, the sheet, a bowl of water and a candle. In church, we will need our imagination.

Festal Evensong & Benediction 4pm today

Easter Offering, like everything these days, these are on-line this year. You are always so phenomenally generous, thank you in anticipation. You can also use the station at the back of Church.

Andrew will be made a Christian today! A welcome to him, as he makes baptism promises for the first time!

And as it's Easter Sunday, we will all renew our Baptismal Promises. During Eastertide we'll recall them each Sunday in the *Vidi Aquam* - Waters of Life.

Wear something white for Easter Sunday, as we renew our baptismal promises.

Baptism is the event of our lives. When was yours? We have lots of new babies atm and as baptism weren't possible in lockdown, we have a back-log. We could have a baptism ever Sunday in Eastertide... imagine!

Easter Flowers. Thank you to those who have responded to the call, donated and arranged.

The Regina Coeli replaces the Angelus in Eastertide. Do you know it by heart? Sing with Mary the Resurrection joy of her Son.

Thank you to all who worked so hard in making the church ready for today.



Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!



Already immersed in the spiritual atmosphere of Holy Week. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist, we renew this mystery of redemption.

In this Sacrament, Jesus substituted the sacrificial victim - the Paschal Lamb - with himself: his

Body and Blood grant us salvation from the slavery of sin and death. The salvation from every form of slavery is there. It is the evening in which he asks us to love one another by becoming servants to one another, as he did in washing the disciples' feet, a gesture that anticipates his bloody oblation on the cross. And indeed, the Master and Lord will die the next day to purify not the feet, but the hearts and the entire life of his disciples. It was an oblation of service to us all, because with that service of his sacrifice he redeemed us all.

In the darkness of Holy Saturday, joy and light will break through with the rites of the Easter Vigil and, in the late evening, the festive singing of the Alleluia. It will be an encounter in faith with the Risen Christ, and the joy of Easter will continue throughout the following fifty days, until the coming of the Holy Spirit. He who was crucified is risen! All questions and uncertainties, hesitations and fears are dispelled by this revelation.

The Risen One gives us the certainty that good always triumphs over evil, that life always conquers death, and it is not our end to descend lower and lower, from sorrow to sorrow, but rather to rise up high. The Risen One is the confirmation that Jesus is right in everything: in promising us life beyond death and forgiveness beyond sins. The disciples doubted, they did not believe. The first to believe and to see was Mary Magdalene; she was the apostle of the

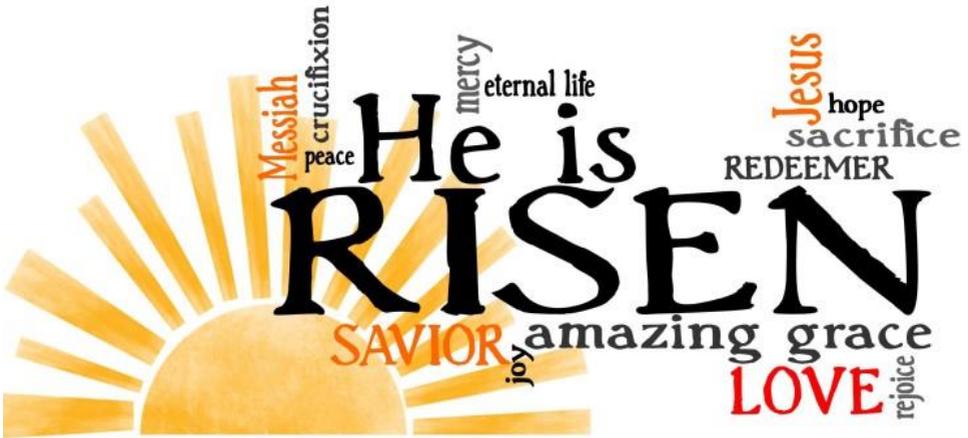
resurrection who went to announce that she had seen Jesus, who had called her by name. And then, all the disciples saw him.

But, I would like to pause at this point: the guards, the soldiers, who were in the tomb to prevent the disciples from coming and taking his body, they saw him; they saw him alive and risen. His enemies saw him, and then they pretended not to have seen him. Why? Because they were paid. Here is the true mystery of what Jesus once said: "There are two masters in the world, two, no more: two. God and money. He who serves money is against God". And here it is money that changed reality. They had seen the wonder of the resurrection, but they were paid to keep quiet. Think of the many times that Christian men and women have been paid not to acknowledge in practice the resurrection of Christ, and did not do what Christ asked us to do, as Christians.

Dear brothers and sisters, again this year we will live the Easter celebrations in the context of the pandemic. In many situations of suffering, especially when they are borne by people, families and populations already tried by poverty, disasters or conflicts, Christ's Cross is like a beacon that indicates the port to ships that are still afloat on stormy seas. Christ's Cross is a sign of the hope that does not disappoint; and it tells us that not even one tear, not one sigh is lost in God's plan. Let us ask the Lord to grant us the grace of serving him and acknowledging him, and of not letting ourselves be paid to forget him.

*Pope Francis
The Apostolic Palace
31 March 2021*

The word "alleluia" is written in a vibrant, multi-colored brush-stroke font. The colors transition from purple on the left, through blue, green, yellow, orange, and red, to purple again on the right. The letters are thick and have a textured, painterly appearance.



Jesus sets us free!

Why worry excessively about what came before? Why obsess over your past sins? God is much more interested in your future than in your past. We have a God who "makes all things new." And in that we find hope.

It is a sad commentary indeed, but religious people are often tempted to trap others in their past, nail them to the cross of the mistakes they have made, using religion itself to affect this imprisonment. This is as true today as it was in the time of Christ when the mob brought the woman caught in adultery before him.

In one of the great one-liners of the entire Bible, Jesus disarms them: "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Our solidarity in sin ought to awaken in us a greater compassion for one another. At this prompting, they drifted away, one by one until Jesus was left alone with the woman.

Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore." How rich is that little word, "Go." Again, what is being emphasized is the future not the past, straining on to what lies

ahead, not obsessing with what lies behind.

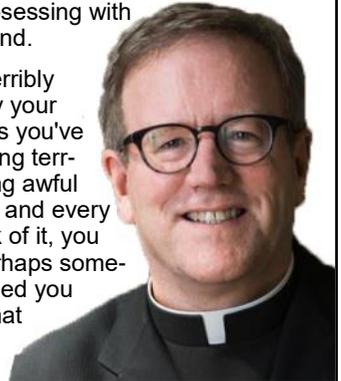
Do you feel terribly imprisoned by your past? Perhaps you've done something terrible, something awful and shameful and every time you think of it, you cringe. Or perhaps someone has harmed you so severely that you just can't let go of the hurt and you continue to see the with resentment.

Perhaps you feel that you've done something so wrong that not even God can forgive you. You don't even bother going to confession because you're just too ashamed, convinced that God wouldn't forgive you.

What I want you to know right here and now is that there is a way out, a way forward, a path opening up in the desert.

You might be *miseria* (in misery) but standing right in front of you is *Misericordia* (mercy).

Bishop Robert Barron



Alleluia!



This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday EASTER SUNDAY	09.30 11.00	Bridie Dooley ✕ <i>recently</i> Parishioners
EASTER MONDAY 5th	10.00	Len Mepsted <i>priest</i> ✕ <i>d.1999</i>
EASTER TUESDAY 6th	10.00	Those baptised this Easter
EASTER WEDNESDAY 7th	10.00	Ada Pearson ✕ <i>d.1973</i>
EASTER THURSDAY 8th	10.00	Those who work in the NHS
EASTER FRIDAY 9th	10.00	Reg & Alice Blake ✕ <i>d.1982</i>
EASTER SATURDAY 10th	10.00	Geoffrey Kirk ✕ <i>year's mind, foundation</i>
Next Sunday Divine Mercy SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	09.30 11.00	Dee Lobo ✕ <i>recently</i> Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Acts 4:32-35 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31

Sacrament of Confession. *By appointment during lockdown*

Evensong 4.00pm, & Benediction, 1st Sunday
6.00pm, Thursday *term-time*

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 April: *Fundamental Rights* We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

For your prayers:

In formation: for Ministry, Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes)

Those who are Sick: Mary, David, Michael

And for all those with Coronavirus

Coronavirus: The medical profession, doctors, nurses, first responders, support-staff, research scientists, those who make big-impact decision,

Recently Departed:

Anniversary this week: Geoffrey Kirk (2020)

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson *OLW Parish Priest*

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