



# 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*



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25th April 2021

**In the gospel reading today**, we hear that Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd. Christ the Good Shepherd lays down his life for us. This gives us some idea of how lavish God's love for us is when he allows us to be called his children. We do so only in the name of the Lord Jesus and we can be sure that through him one day we shall see God as he really is in himself.



**Jesus is Risen, Alleluia! Happy Easter!**

**Easter continues** for 50 days (today is day 21) and we will celebrate it each and every Sunday. Are you still saying 'Happy Easter'? *Alleluia!*

**Lockdown road map** changes are taking place, but there are no changes yet for Catholic Churches. Hands, face, space. Just a little longer....

**No Mass on Mondays.** FrC's day off.

**Confession times** can now be published. A priest is available after each Mass.

**On registration** to attend Mass, details of those not registered with MPB are kept in compliance with gdpr regulations. Everyone is invited to register, so if you are not yet, please do.

**The Easter Lilies** in Church have survived very well. Must be a miracle!

**Mass Intentions** can be made on line - there are quite a few vacancies atm

**Vocation Sunday** is today. Vocation is not just for someone else, but for each of us. Today there is an opportunity to discern, pray and support financially those in formation for Ministerial Priesthood. You can do so when you register for Mass today, or by the [link here](#).

**Donations** can be made in Church using the card contactless device or online. Thank you for your continued generosity.

**Walsingham Pilgrimage** and Mass this Sat at 10am. Bring your petitions to Our Lady.

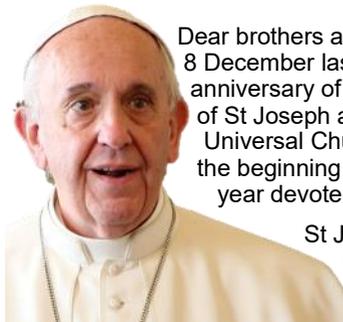
**Mary's Month of May** begins on Saturday. Bring flowers to her shrine in May, or an image of your counties National Shrine.

**Evensong & Benediction** next Sunday 4pm.

**The Sacred Silence** at Mass. Let God speak in the silence as he feeds us with his Word and Sacrament (after the Homily and after Communion) .

**London Elections**, Mayor and London assembly on 5th May.





Dear brothers and sisters,  
8 December last, the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, marked the beginning of a special year devoted to him.

St Joseph's life was vocation and service. The Gospels show how Joseph lived entirely for others and never for himself. The holy people of God invoke him as the most chaste spouse, based on his ability to love unreservedly. By freeing love from all possessiveness, he became open to an even more fruitful service. His loving care has spanned generations; his attentive guardianship has made him patron of the Church. As one who knew how to embody the meaning of self-giving in life, Joseph is also the patron of a happy death. His service and sacrifices were only possible, however, because they were sustained by a greater love: "Every true vocation is born of the gift of oneself, which is the fruit of mature sacrifice. The priesthood and consecrated life likewise require this kind of maturity. Whatever our vocation, whether to marriage, celibacy or virginity, our gift of self will not come to fulfilment if it stops at sacrifice; were that the case, instead of becoming a sign of the beauty and joy of love, the gift of self would risk being an expression of unhappiness, sadness and frustration"

For St Joseph, service – as a concrete expression of the gift of self – did not remain simply a high ideal, but became a rule for daily life. He strove to find and prepare a place where Jesus could be born; he did his utmost to protect him from Herod's wrath by arranging a hasty journey into Egypt; he immediately returned to Jerusalem when Jesus was lost; he supported his family by his work, even in a foreign land. In short, he adapted to different circumstances with the attitude of those who do not grow discouraged when life does not turn out as they wished; he showed the willingness typical of those who live to serve. In this way, Joseph welcomed life's frequent and often unexpected journeys: from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census, then to Egypt and again to Nazareth, and every year to Jerusalem. Each time he was willing to face new circumstances without complaining, ever ready to give a hand to help

resolve situations. We could say that this was the outstretched hand of our heavenly Father reaching out to his Son on earth. Joseph cannot fail to be a model for all vocations, called to be the ever-active hands of the Father, outstretched to his children.

I like to think, then, of St Joseph, the protector of Jesus and of the Church, as the protector of vocations. In fact, from his willingness to serve comes his concern to protect. The Gospel tells us that "Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night", thus revealing his prompt concern for the good of his family. He wasted no time fretting over things he could not control, in order to give full attention to those entrusted to his care. Such thoughtful concern is the sign of a true vocation, the testimony of a life touched by the love of God. What a beautiful example of Christian life we give when we refuse to pursue our ambitions or indulge in our illusions, but instead care for what the Lord has entrusted to us through the Church! God then pours out his Spirit and creativity upon us; he works wonders in us, as he did in Joseph.

Together with God's call, which makes our greatest dreams come true, and our response, which is made up of generous service and attentive care, there is a third characteristic of St Joseph's daily life and our Christian vocation, namely fidelity. Joseph is the "righteous man" who daily perseveres in quietly serving God and his plans. At a particularly difficult moment in his life, he thoughtfully considered what to do. He did not let himself be hastily pressured. He did not yield to the temptation to act rashly, simply following his instincts or living for the moment. Instead, he pondered things patiently. He knew that success in life is built on constant fidelity to important decisions. This was reflected in his perseverance in plying the trade of a humble carpenter, a quiet perseverance that made no news in his own time, yet has inspired the daily lives of countless fathers, labourers and Christians ever since. For a vocation – like life itself – matures only through daily fidelity.

Franciscus

# Priest Training Fund

Good Shepherd Sunday 2021

Please support  
our priests of  
the future with  
a gift today



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[www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/vocations.htm](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/vocations.htm)

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Want to live a joyful life?

Be a priest



I first felt called to priesthood as an altar server at school, but my route to ordination was circuitous. It was only after university I followed the Lord's call to priesthood. I 'took the plunge' and recall sitting on the plane to start seminary and wondering how I would survive! But the Lord has blessed me with the deep joy. My formation has strengthened me with confidence, and rekindled the Holy Spirit's gift of courage, to enter situations from which I would have retired.

I have been ordained six months but have been privileged to experience a varied ministry, sharing in some of the most beautiful events of people's lives. I've experienced the awe of saying daily Mass for the people, forgiving sins in confession, baptising babies and teaching the faith in our schools. I've also shared in touching moments of grief and sadness, such as anointing those who are with covid and conducting funerals.

You model your life on the Lord's, which is a joy the world cannot give. All young people should consider if the Lord is calling them to follow him in this way so the Eucharist and the Sacraments will always be available. But whatever our specific vocation, we are all called to holiness through regular prayer, receiving the sacraments and serving our neighbour.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI reminded young people that *"the world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness"*. May we all follow the Lord's specific call in our lives to become the great people that He calls us to be.

Fr Dermott, ordained July 2020



## This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
<b>This Sunday</b> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	09.30 11.00	Parishioners
<i>Mon 26th feria of Easter</i>		
<i>Tue 27th feria of Easter</i>	10.00	Those who work in the NHS
<i>Wed 28th (St Peter Chanel)</i>	10.00	Julieta & family DG
<i>Thurs 29th St Catherine of Siena</i>	10.00	Brian Cooper ✕ d2017
<i>Fri 30th (Pope St Pius V)</i>	10.00	Felipe and Lucia ✕
<i>Sat 1st OL in Eastertide</i>	10.00	
<b>Next Sunday</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	09.30 11.00	Parishioners

**Next Week's Readings** Acts 9:26-31      1John 3:18-24      John 5:1-18

**Sacrament of Confession.** *After each Mass or 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 May: *The World of Finance***

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

**For your prayers:**

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

*Those who are Sick:* Mary, David, Michael, Fr Brian  
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:* The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

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