



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

17th April 2022



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. of his resurrection. Jesus is risen, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Today is Easter Sunday, the queen of Christian Days, the day we celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Easter has an Octave (eight days) during that time each day is as if it were Easter Day. Eastertide continues until Pentecost. But, of course, there is no such thing as *after* Easter - it's just.... Easter!

Easter Friday is a Solemnity, so cannot be a day of abstinence. *Surrexit Christus! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Easter Saturday is part of Easter, so even patron saint day's get moved. Jesus Resurrection is more important. (St George will be celebrated next week).

Welcome to everyone who is here today for the first time, or are back visiting family and friends. We hope you'll come and say hello over a glass of something fizzy. Take our Christian love back to your home parish.

So, when does Lent end?

Baptism is the most important thing that can ever happen to us and we renew our Baptismal Promises today.

Thank you to those who have worked so hard over the last few days, and especially all those who came and helped yesterday. And doesn't the Church look splendid!

Pray for our Candidates, Andres, Denzel, David, Fidelis & Herman, being Confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

No Mass tomorrow, as it's a Bank Holiday. Then Mass times are back to normal this Easter week.

Easter Lilies are a sign of the Resurrection. Those in Church today are all in memory of someone. Their names are in the altar.

Easter Offering can be made using the envelopes at the back. Many thanks.

New Card machines have arrived. We will phase out the old one, as the new are more comprehensive. Thank you for your continued generosity!





Easter is the feast of the new creation. Jesus is risen and dies no more. At Easter, on the morning of the first day of the week, God said once again: “Let there be light”. The night on the Mount of Olives, the solar eclipse of Jesus’ passion and death, the night of the grave had all passed. Now it is the first day once again – creation is beginning anew. “Let there be light”, says God, “and there was light”: Jesus rises from the grave. Life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies. The darkness of the previous days is driven away the moment Jesus rises from the grave and himself becomes God’s pure light. But this applies not only to him, not only to the darkness of those days. With the resurrection of Jesus, light itself is created anew. He draws all of us after him into the new light of the resurrection and he conquers all darkness. He is God’s new day, new for all of us.

But how is this to come about? How does all this affect us so that instead of remaining word it becomes a reality that draws us in? Through the sacrament of baptism and the profession of faith, the Lord has built a bridge across to us, through which the new day reaches us. The Lord says to the newly-baptized: *Fiat lux*– let there be light. God’s new day – the day of indestructible life, comes also to us. Christ takes you by the hand. From now on you are held by him and walk with him into the light, into real life. For this reason the early Church called baptism *photismos* – illumination.

Why was this? The darkness that poses a real threat to mankind, after all, is the fact that he can see and investigate tangible material things, but cannot see where the world is go-

ing or whence it comes, where our own life is going, what is good and what is evil. The darkness enshrouding God and obscuring values is the real threat to our existence and to the world in general. If God and moral values, the difference between good and evil, remain in darkness, then all other “lights”, that put such incredible technical feats within our reach, are not only progress but also dangers that put us and the world at risk. Today we can illuminate our cities so brightly that the stars of the sky are no longer visible. Is this not an image of the problems caused by our version of enlightenment? With regard to material things, our knowledge and our technical accomplishments are legion, but what reaches beyond, the things of God and the question of good, we can no longer identify. Faith, then, which reveals God’s light to us, is the true enlightenment, enabling God’s light to break into our world, opening our eyes to the true light.

On Easter night, the night of the new creation, the Church presents the mystery of light using a unique and very humble symbol: the Paschal candle. This is a light that lives from sacrifice. The candle shines inasmuch as it is burnt up. It gives light, inasmuch as it gives itself. Thus the Church presents most beautifully the paschal mystery of Christ, who gives himself and so bestows the great light. We should remember that the light of the candle is a fire. Fire is the power that shapes the world, the force of transformation. And fire gives warmth. Here too the mystery of Christ is made newly visible. Christ, the light, is fire, flame, burning up evil and so reshaping both the world and ourselves. “Whoever is close to me is close to the fire,” as Jesus is reported by Origen to have said. And this fire is both heat and light: not a cold light, but one through which God’s warmth and goodness reach down to us.

Let us pray to the Lord at this time that he may grant us to experience the joy of his light; let us pray that we ourselves may become bearers of his light, and that through the Church, Christ’s radiant face may enter our world.

Some facts for sceptics

The Body was not found.

After his death on the cross, Jesus' body was placed in a tomb, a giant stone was rolled in front of the entrance, the stone was sealed, and Roman guards were placed there to protect it; yet his body vanished without a trace.

Hundreds of eye-witnesses. Christians don't believe in the resurrection of Jesus merely because his body disappeared or because of a few "fanatically" devotees. St Paul records in his first letter to the Corinthians about 54AD: "...Jesus... appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than *five hundred of the brethren at the same time*, most of whom are still living...." If he wasn't telling the truth, he could have easily be proved wrong.

Would liars die for a lie? Some sceptics say that Jesus' followers somehow stole his body and then lied about having seen the risen Christ. But if that's the case, then why would they be willing to leave behind their religious communities, families, friends, livelihoods, and – for many – their lives in gruesome ways, all for a lie?

The answer of course is that they didn't: they really had seen the risen Christ, and they knew that this changed everything – so much so that they were willing to abandon everything for him. **Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

What's happened to the Angelus?

During Eastertide the Angelus changes to the Regina Cœli and continues until Pentecost. Angelus is Latin for the first words the *Angel declared* and Regina Cœli is Latin for *Queen of Heaven*. It's an ancient tradition to sing, or say an Anthem to our Lady at the end of each day *on going to bed*. This practice now happens at the end of Night Prayer. There is one of four anthems recited according to the season. The Angelus (or Regina Cœli) is said three times a day: morning, noon and evening. The Angelus bell rings three-threes-and-a-nine to remind us to pray it. Why not learn it by heart, so when the bell rings you can thank God for sending Jesus.



Alleluia

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE?

LIGHT
The light of Christ that shines in the darkness.

FIRE
It represents Christ's resurrection.

GRAINS OF INCENSE
They represent the 5 wounds of Christ.



ALPHA AND OMEGA
Christ is the beginning and end of all things.

CROSS
It represents Christ and his eternal light.

YEAR
It reminds us of God's presence here and now.

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday EASTER SUNDAY	09.30 11.00	Those being baptised today Parishioners
<i>Mon</i> 18th EASTER MONDAY		
<i>Tue</i> 19th EASTER TUESDAY	12.35	
<i>Wed</i> 20th EASTER WEDNESDAY	12.35	
<i>Thurs</i> 21st EASTER THURSDAY	12.35	
<i>Fri</i> 22nd EASTER FRIDAY	12.35	
<i>Sat</i> 23rd EASTER SATURDAY	10.00†	Benghiat family ✕
Next Sunday Divine Mercy 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER	09.30 11.00	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Acts 5:12-16 Apocalypse 1:9-13.17-19 John 20: 19-31

Sacrament of Confession. Tuesday - Friday 12.00-12.25

Evensong 4.00pm, & Benediction, 1st Sunday

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

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 2022: *Health Care Workers.* We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

For your prayers:

In priestly formation: Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes), Dn David Cherry, Fr Neil Scott

Our catechumens: Andres, Denzel, David, Fidelis, Herman

St Joseph's School: Appointment of a new Headteacher

Peace: In Ukraine

Those who are Sick: Mary, Monica, Betty, Lottie, Baby Giacomo, all those with Covid

Recently Departed: Gill James, Michael Peters *priest*, Denis Paul, *priest*, Michael Baldry *deacon*

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW *Parish Priest*

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