



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

31st March 2024

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!*



Today is Easter Sunday the queen of Christian Days. Easter has an Octave (eight days) during that time each day is as if it were the same day (you can't fit it into one day!) And Eastertide continues for fifty days until Pentecost. And there is no such thing as *after* Easter... – it's just...Easter! Surrexit Christus!

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

The Easter Lilies in Church today are all in memory of loved ones who have died, who through the Resurrection of Jesus are in fact, alive! Their names are on the Altar.

Mass tomorrow, being a Bank Holiday, will be at the earlier time of 10.30

Easter Offering. There are some envelopes at the back. You are always so phenomenally generous, thank you in anticipation. You can also use your Card or Phone to make donations. Clever eh?

Alfie, Damaree, Joy and Samuael received the Sacraments of initiation this Easter. Keep them in your prayers. *Welcome to the road to eternal life!*

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

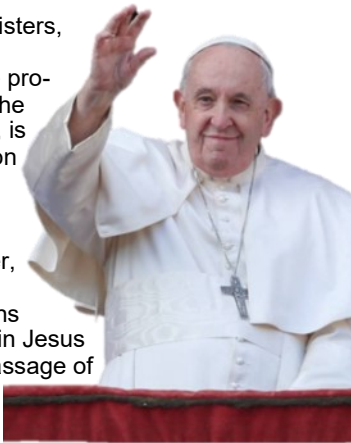
Thank you to all who worked so hard in making the church ready and look so beautiful for today. There is so much that goes on unseen. Thank you indeed!

Recital on Saturday, as we continue our first Saturday Organ Recital Series. This month, is Simon Hogan, who is the Organist at the Anglican Cathedral up the road. Mass at 10.30, followed by coffee, recital at 12.30. Come for part, or come for the whole morning!

Thank you for taking part in our 'Planned Giving' appeal recently. If you missed the pledge, please complete one today - they are available at the back of Church. Once again, thank you! Please keep our parish in your prayers.



Brothers and sisters,
Christ is risen!
On this day we proclaim that he, the Lord of our life, is “the resurrection and the life” of the world (cf. *Jn* 11:25). Today is Easter, the Pasch, a word that means “passage”, for in Jesus the decisive passage of humanity has been made: the passage



from death to life, from sin to grace, from fear to confidence, from desolation to communion. In him, the Lord of time and history, I would like to say to everyone, with heartfelt joy, Happy Easter!

May this Easter be for each of you, dear brothers and sisters, and in particular for the sick and the poor, the elderly and those experiencing moments of trial and weariness, a passage from affliction to consolation. We are not alone: Jesus, the Living One, is with us, forever. Let the Church and the world rejoice, for today our hopes no longer come up against the wall of death, for the Lord has built us a bridge to life. Yes, brothers and sisters, at Easter the destiny of the world was changed, and on this day, which also coincides with the most probable date of Christ’s resurrection, we can rejoice to celebrate, by pure grace, the most important and beautiful day of history.

“Christ is risen; he is truly risen!” In this traditional proclamation of the Churches of the East, the word “truly” reminds us that our hope is not an illusion, but the truth! And that, in the wake of Easter, humanity’s journey, now marked by hope, advances all the more readily. The first witnesses of the resurrection show this by their example. The Gospels speak of the haste with which, on the morning of Easter, the women “ran to tell the disciples” (*Mt* 28:8). Mary Magdalene “ran and went to Simon Peter” (*Jn* 20:2), while John and Peter himself then “ran together” (cf. v. 4) to the place where Jesus had been buried. Later, on the evening of Easter, after meeting the Risen Lord on the road to Emmaus, two disciples “set out without delay” (cf. *Lk* 24:33) and travelled several

miles, uphill and in the dark, spurred on by the irrepressible joy of Easter that burned in their hearts (cf. v. 32). The same joy that led Peter, on the shore of the Lake of Galilee, after catching sight of the risen Jesus, to leave the boat with the others, to throw himself immediately into the water and to swim quickly towards him (cf. *Jn* 21:7). At Easter, then, the journey quickens and becomes a race, since humanity now sees the goal of its journey, the meaning of its destiny, Jesus Christ, and is called to make haste to meet him, who is the hope of the world.

May we too make haste to progress on a journey of reciprocal trust: trust among individuals, peoples and nations. May we allow ourselves to experience amazement at the joyful proclamation of Easter, at the light that illumines the darkness and the gloom in which, all too often, our world finds itself enveloped.

Let us make haste to surmount our conflicts and divisions, and to open our hearts to those in greatest need. Let us hasten to pursue paths of peace and fraternity. Let us rejoice at the concrete signs of hope that reach us from so many countries, beginning with those that offer assistance and welcome to all fleeing from war and poverty.

At the same time, along this journey we also encounter many stumbling blocks, which make it more difficult and demanding to hasten towards the Risen Lord. To him, then, let us make our prayer: Lord, help us to run to meet you! Help us to open our hearts!

Brothers, sisters, may we rediscover the enjoyment of the journey, quicken the heartbeat of hope and experience a foretaste of the beauty of heaven! Today, let us summon the energy to advance in goodness towards Goodness itself, which never disappoints. If, as one of the ancient Fathers once wrote, “the greatest sin is not to believe in the power of the resurrection” “Christ is truly risen from the dead!” We believe in you, Lord Jesus.

Urbi et Orbi
Pope Francis 2023



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

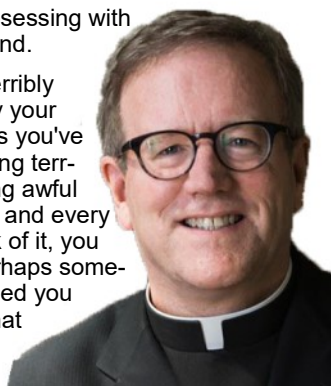
ahead, not obsessing with what lies behind.

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! Alleluia!

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday <i>EASTER SUNDAY</i>	09.30 11.00	Arthur Pearson ✕ <i>d.1960</i> Parishioners
<i>Mon 1st EASTER MONDAY</i>	10.30	DG - life of Bernadette
<i>Tue 2nd EASTER TUESDAY</i>	13.05	Dora ✕
<i>Wed 3rd EASTER WEDNESDAY</i>	13.05	Sr Madeline ND mistress <i>foundation</i>
<i>Thurs 4th EASTETR THURSDAY</i>	13.05	DG - Williams family
<i>Fri 5th EASTER FRIDAY</i>	13.05	Blessings for Margaret
<i>Sat 6th EASTER SATURDAT</i>	10.30†	Colin Barker ✕ sacristan <i>year's mind</i>
Next Sunday <i>Divine Mercy</i> SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	09.30 11.00	Doris Pearson ✕ Parishioners

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

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: £814 (*cash* £179.31; *card* £343.00; *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 April 2024: For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

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: Carmina Carrapa, Dennis Barratt *deacon*,

Rev Bryan Parry, David Stanley *priest*

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson *OLW Parish Priest*

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