



ST. ELPHEGE'S CHURCH

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29 MARCH 2020

The Federation of St Elphege's & Regina Coeli Catholic Schools:

Executive Head of Schools: Mrs. Frances Hawkes

Head of St Elphege's School: Mr. Martin Jones | Tel: 020 8669 6306

Head of Regina Coeli's School: Mrs. Tessa Christoforou | Tel: 020 8688 4582

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue, me, for you, O God, are my strength.

COLLECT: By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord.

FIRST READING: A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel (Ez 37:12-14)
Thus says the Lord God: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus, you shall know that I am the Lord. I have promised, and I will do it, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps. 130): With you, Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication.

R.
If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

R.
I trust in the Lord;
my soul trusts in his word.
More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the Lord.

R.
For with the Lord is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption; And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

SECOND READING: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (Rom. 8: 8-11)

Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.

Gospel Acclamation Jn11:25, 26

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL READING: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John(John 11:1-45)

I am the resurrection and the life

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.

'Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?'

Jesus replied: 'Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.' He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest, he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come, she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' when she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed

her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him, she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart; **'Where have you put him?'**

They said, 'Lord, come and see.' **Jesus wept**; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, **'Lord, by now he will smell**; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So, they took away the stone.

Then Jesus lifted his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, **'Lazarus, here! Come out!'** The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did **believed in him.**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

Hear our prayers, almighty God, and having imbued your servants with the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously cleanse them by this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTPHON:

He All who live and believe in me will never die, says the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS

SUN 29 Family Mass

Jeremy Ravendran & grandparents (RIP)
Frances & Mary dale
Betty & John Lacey (RIP)
Richard Strive (RIP)

MON 30

Rojeswary Roger(RIP)

TUE 31

James & Orla (Thanksgiving in honour of new baby into the family)

WED 1

Qarri family (Private Intentions)

THU 2

People of the Parish

FRI 3

Teresa Joe & Joe Joseph (Private Intentions)

SAT 4

Barbara Nicot
Michael Burke

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers for those who have recently died Amanda Burrell and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time and all those who mourn the loss of loved ones. May they rest in perfect peace. Amen

Please remember and pray for the sick, the isolated and their carers, especially those within our own parish Community:

Rosemary Day, David Uzor, Kosenat Tetteh, Susie King, Jackie Van Elswick, Doreen Charlish, Margaret O'Flaherty, Rosaline Jordan, Anne Jagelman, Mary Scott, Brenda Kavanagh, Luke DuCasse', Monir Jacob, Alex Coffey, Eddie Hamilton, Amanda Burrett, Stan Czastka, Guy Saide ,B.Novicki ,Maggie Deleaney , Cynthia Lobendhan ,Theresa Mittcosbe, Frank Kinsella ,Tracy Killick.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

Hoping that the situation will change, here are the dates and times for our Easter Celebrations:

5 Sunday (***PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD***)

6 Monday Holy Week

7 Tuesday Holy Week

8 Wednesday Holy Week

9 Thursday Holy Week
(Maundy Thursday)

Mass of the Lord's supper
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
(from after Mass till Midnight)

10 FRIDAY THE PASSION OF THE LORD
(Good Friday), a day of fasting and abstinence 11am (stations of the cross)

3pm THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

11 SATURDAY (HOLY SATURDAY)
Vigil of Easter

12 SUNDAY (EASTER SUNDAY OF THE SURRECTION OF THE LORD)

