

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Parish News

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Twinned with the Parish of Ermelo in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

7th April 2019

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Having had Gospel readings from Luke for many Sundays now, we might be surprised that this Sunday's Gospel is from the Gospel of John. All is not as it seems. This Gospel story, although found in John, is very similar to stories in the synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. It is absent from some ancient copies of John, and has long been considered an insertion into John's Gospel. It is, nevertheless, reliable Gospel tradition, but comes from an unknown source. The early Christians deliberately put down in writing all the traditions about Jesus they had received.

As on previous Sundays, the theme of forgiveness is prominent. Jesus is being tested, as so often by the religious leaders of his day. The matter of fidelity to the Law of Moses is raised in a dramatic way. The actions of Jesus are eloquent. He crouches down to write on the ground, turning away from judgement and condemnation. He then 'stands up' to deliver words of forgiveness, words which restore her life to the woman and allow her to rise up. Words of forgiveness empower us to stand erect, and to accept the challenge not to sin again.

***Am I prepared to understand and pardon the sinner?
Do I value the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a way of receiving for
myself the new future offered to the woman in the Gospel passage?
We pray for readiness to seek the forgiveness of Christ.
We pray for all those trapped in lifestyles of abuse.***

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £550.65. Loose Plate: £317.37. Gift Aid Standing Orders: £437.48. Total: £1,305.50. Thank you.

SICK PARISHIONERS: Those of our parishioners and friends who have asked for prayers: Mary Rooney, Peter Beard, Frankie Gall, Maria Hoefft, Megan Delaney, Barbara Mansell, Mary Delaney, Sandra Gilbert, Frances Weaver, Chris Brodie, Mary McGrath, Janet Cash, Rachel Stokes, Isaac Barry, Maria Wray, Barbara Brabon, Margaret Butler, Josie Pullum, Bob Bothello and Brenda Sewell.

ANNIVERSARIES: Effie Gormley, Phylis Ives, Franciszek Cymbor, Barbara Dettmar, Denis White, Angela Polese, Catherine Gorman, Antoine Govinden, Maureen Benfield, Sheila Simpson, Albert Gladas, Margaret McParland, Eileen Doyle, David Collins, Hrenory Jalowyj, Susan Cleary, Caroline Denise, Margaret Smyth, Agnes Nutton, Rose Bright, Mary Octave and Susannah Singleton, May they all rest in peace.

REFRESHMENTS: Available after the **9.00am** and **11.00am Sunday** Masses, in the hall.

FUNERALS: The funeral for **Peter Dooley** will take place on **Tuesday 16th April**, at **11.30am**, in the church, followed by cremation at the Chelmsford Crematorium. The funeral for **Gerard Mooney** will take place on **Tuesday 23rd April**, at **1.30pm**, at the Three Counties Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

BAPTISMS: This weekend, we welcome **Saoirse Úna Williamson**, daughter of Petrona and Matthew, and **Scarlett Mary Halpin**, daughter of Emma and Colin, into the family of the Church. May God bless them both at this special time.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Followed by Mass. **Every Friday** during Lent, at **7.30pm**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: On **Sunday 7th April**, at the **9.00am Mass**, we welcome our First Holy Communion children and their families.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Please collect your envelopes as soon as possible - thank you.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Friday 11th April: Pray for the needs of our Parish - **10.00am - 1.00pm**. Please come for one hour if you can.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Will take place on **Tuesday 9th April**, at **7.30pm**. Fr David will be joined by Fr Liam Sweeney and Fr Joseph Whisstock.

ALTAR SERVING: Please put your name on the list, in the Sacristy, if you are able to serve at Easter, this includes Palm Sunday.

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to buy a lily, in remembrance of a loved one, to decorate the altar this Easter, please put **£3** in an envelope and mark it '**Easter Lily**'. Inside the envelope put the name of the person you would like to remember. Please post it through the Presbytery letterbox by **Tuesday 16th April**, at the very latest. If you are in our Gift Aid Scheme, then please quote your gift-aid number. Thank you.

100 CLUB DRAW: Congratulations to our March winners: 1st Prize (£200): **Elaine Ward**. 2nd Prize (£50): **Jeremy Strickland**. To become a member of our 100 Club, please complete the form at the back of church. Next draw: **Sunday 28th April**.

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING: On **Friday 12th April**, after Mass, in the hall.

THANK YOU: Maureen Pannell would like to thank everybody who has supported her throughout the difficult time since Ken died; for everyone's cards, flowers, prayers and kind words. A special thanks to her son Karl, Pauline, Sheryl and Glen.

EASTER VIGIL: After the Easter Vigil this year, we will be having a gathering in the hall to welcome the two people being received into the Church; Callie and James. Drinks and nibbles will be provided. Please bring a cake donation if you are attending. Cakes can be dropped off in the hall anytime after 7.00pm on Saturday. Thank you.

FOODBANK: Latest shopping lists are now available at the back of church. Thank you.

BREAKFAST ALPHA COURSE: Will commence on **Saturday 27th April** at The Hut BYPC, 2 St Michaels Road, Braintree CM7 1EX. This is a joint venture with Rev Sarah Hayward of St Paul's Church, Hay Lane, Braintree. Starting at **8.45am** with a shared breakfast, there will be separate sessions for adults and young people, as well as a crèche for children. We look forward to welcoming families. Please let Kate Manning know, on 07967 796227, if you wish to come or can offer help of any kind.

LENTEN LUNCHES: Every **Wednesday** until **17th April, 12noon to 1.15pm**, at the Baptist Church. Money raised will be split equally between Hope House and J's Hospice Adults £3. Children £1.

ROSARY PROJECT: Thank you for your continuing support with the Lenten Rosary Project. We are still in need of rosaries, holy medals and small crosses, which will be sent to India, to the Province of Tamil Nadu. They will then be distributed to very poor Catholics who are a minority group and experience discrimination.. Box available, at the back of church, for your donations.



FAMILY CONCERT: On **Sunday 19th May, 2.00pm**, there will be a special Family Concert, in our church, to help raise funds for the repair of the organ. The event will feature children from St Francis School/the Polish Community, as well as a Community Choir, solos by Wendy Purkiss (Martin Fee's daughter (organist)), singing for everyone to join in AND a demo of how lucky we are to have such a fine organ to enhance the church music. There will be coffee, tea and cake afterwards. More details to follow.

PRAYER COURSE: With Sister Frances Moore, on **Saturday 27th April**. Following a rewarding morning at Great Bardfield Catholic Church in January, the next session, on praying *Lectio Divina*, will take place in our Jubilee Hall from 10.00am to 11.30am. All are very welcome.

APF RED BOXES: We need more people to support this invaluable charity, to support missionaries around the world. A Missio money box is provided for you to have at home to put any loose change in. In March and September, you can hand in the collected money (any amount - big or small) via an envelope, which is available at the back of the church. For more information, speak to Sue in the office. Thank you.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: They still have several charity places for The Vitality London 10km run on **Monday 27th May**. For each place, a minimum pledge of £100 is required. For information, contact Julie at jabot@bccs.org.uk.

JOB VACANCIES: New Hall School has lots of vacancies - see the noticeboard.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 6th April Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Birthday Intentions Conrad Colaco (Henriques)
Sunday 7th April FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Ints The Franciscan Sisters (Ellis)
Monday 8th April	9.30am	Communion Service
Tuesday 9th April	9.30am	Eileen Doyle RIP (A) (Jones)
Wednesday 10th April	9.30am	Ken Pannell RIP
Thursday 11th April	9.30am	Ints All Staff at Community Food Ltd
Friday 12th April Stations of the Cross	9.30am 7.30pm	Ints Orla Ledwidge (Williamson) Mrs E Norton Family and Intentions
Saturday 13th April	9.30am	Karolt Virag, Maria Nagy Family and Intentions
Saturday 13th April Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Richard Mintern Courtauld RIP (Foundation Mass)
Sunday 14th April PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	9.00am 11.00am	Ken Pannell RIP (Paul) Albert Gladas RIP (A) (Gladas)

CONFESSIONS ON SATURDAYS, 10.00AM-10.30AM, IN THE CHURCH

Rosary	Church	Mondays (except Bank Holidays)	8.00pm
Women's Group	Jubilee Hall	Thursday 18th April	2.00-4.00pm
Faith Group	Jubilee Hall	Tuesday 16th April	7.30pm
Youth Club	Jubilee Hall	Friday 3rd May	7.30pm

St Francis Primary School Headteacher: Vicky Jackson Gilchrist Way, Braintree, CM7 2SY 01376 320440 www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk	St John Payne Secondary School Headteacher: Tom Coen Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, CM1 4BS 01245 256030 www.sjp.essex.sch.uk
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