

St Joseph's and St Patrick's

Diocese of Leeds Registered Charity No. 249404

Barnoldswick, Earby and District

Parish Priest: Canon Kevin Firth

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www.stjosephsbarnoldswick.org.uk

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

26th April 2020

The Bishops of England and Wales have decided to cease having public liturgies in our churches and chapels. Since the Church finds herself in this difficult situation because of the Coronavirus, the obligation for the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is removed until further notice.

Celebration of Mass.

Priests continue to celebrate Mass in the church without the presence of the people, on a daily basis. The continuing celebration of Mass ensures that the people can join in Spiritual Communion with the priests of the Church.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot today receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

(St Alphonsus Liguori)

Act of Perfect Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.

Fr. Firth is saying Mass each day for all the intentions requested, as follows:

Sunday 26 th	Jenny Nixon (1 st An)
Monday 27 th	Ada Driscoll (LD)
Tuesday 28 th	Margaret (Maggie) Tullet (LD)
Wednesday 29 th	Special Intention (KA)
Thursday 30 th	Keith Whipp (LD)
Friday 1 st May	Dead List
Saturday 2 nd	Francis Livesey

Please pray for the soul of **Ada Driscoll** who died recently, and for her family at this time. A Burial Service for Ada will take place at 2.30 p.m. on Monday at Ghyll.

Mass intentions received: Margaret Tullet (x2); Keith Whipp; Special Intention (KA); Ada Driscoll (LD).

Live-streamed Daily Mass from Leeds Cathedral at 10.30 a.m. and on **Sunday** at 11.00 a.m.

www.leedscathedral.org.uk

In our Diocese:

St Edwards, Wetherby - www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-edward-king-confessor-church-clifford-wetherby

St Mary's Halifax – <https://www.stmaryshalifax.com>

There is Mass every day at 12.00 noon from the Church of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk – live or later – link <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>

Daily Mass and other devotions can be accessed through EWTN television channel. These can be seen on line <https://www.ewtn.com/>

On the website entitled 'Universalis' you can read the Mass readings and the Daily prayer of the Church, which all priests pray every day.
Please think about using your rosary and Stations of the Cross.

Financial Support for the Church. (An updated note from the Diocese)

Whilst we understand that this is a time of great anxiety for all parishioners and that some people may not be in a position to continue supporting the parish financially, some of you have been asking how you can continue with your weekly contributions while the church is closed.

There are now three ways you may consider:

- **Standing Order.** You can set up a regular Standing Order with your bank. This can be cancelled whenever you want, or you may wish to continue donating this way once things get back to normal. If you would like to set this up please contact Anne Wood either via email aeswood@aol.com or by phoning 07882831159
- **Text Giving.** The diocese has set up a way of donating by text.
To contribute £5 to the parish offertory please text CHURCHBARLICK to 70500
You can text as often or as little as you like. The amount will be added to your Mobile Phone bill.
- **Online Donations.** You can visit the Leeds Diocese Website www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk and click on Online Parish Offertory and then search for St Joseph's Barnoldswick.

Of course, you may just wish to bring in your weekly envelopes when the church opens again. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support. Canon Kevin Firth.

Latest Collections - through Fr's letterbox: Envelopes : £85 Easter Offerings : £14

200 Club Update

As you will be aware, due to the closure of our churches we have been unable to continue with making the weekly prize draws for the 200 Club or collecting 200 Club payments.

Due to the uncertainty of the length of the lockdown, and the possibility that some sectors of society may be in lockdown for longer periods, it seems sensible to freeze the prize draw and collection of money until we get back to some sort of normality. No-one will be expected to pay their weekly 200 Club payment as from 22nd March 2020 until further notice. For members who have made payments in advance please note the number of weeks without a draw will be added onto the point to which you are paid up to.

If you would like to take a 'Virtual Tour of the Vatican Museum' the following link will take you there:
www.museivaticani.va Enjoy!

Special Prayers

Lillian Price – Jennie Hendley – Jim Kelly – Marie & Bob Fletcher – Stanley Bajkowski – Mary Posiko – Margaret DeVito – Phyllis Kिरrage – Val Kaynell – Mark Hoare – Dale McLaughlin – Marie Keating – Max Hudson – Peter Catley – Stan Nelson – Paul Wood – Tony Atherton – Jennifer Purcell – Alice Brookes – Pat Maloney – Clifford Ball – Mandy McLaughlan.

Please pray for these and for the comfort of anyone suffering in any way. Please also remember the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Sermon

It is the Mass that matters!

This is the meaning of today's gospel. In the story two disciples were leaving Jerusalem and trying to make some sense of their experiences centred around the death of their Master Jesus. This included stories about the empty tomb. When an apparent stranger joined them on their journey, the two grieving men failed to recognise Him. But very soon their hearts began to warm as this unknown man opened the Scriptures to them but still they did not know Him. It was only when He consecrated the bread and it became the bread of life that their eyes of faith were opened to the new Christ.

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This gospel episode describes the Mass we should be celebrating together and cannot. In the story the first half of the Mass, the Scriptures took place on a seven mile walk and the second half, the liturgy of the Eucharist happened around a table before a meal. What this gospel tells us is that Christianity is incomplete without the Mass. The Mass and its celebration is a central part not only of Catholicism but of all Christianity. Without it, there is a central truth missing.

If we do not follow Christ's teaching to make Him present in His risen Body and Blood which He offered, we are not following the Truth of the gospel. That is why it is so important to take a regular part in sharing in the celebration of the Mass.

At the moment we cannot do what the Lord would like us to do. We are unable to nourish our faith with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. This experience is not unique in our country. After all the Mass was illegal in the British Isles for 250 years. In England people were fined, imprisoned, and even executed by taking part in celebrating the Mass by the state authorities. Catholics who were unable to go to Mass had to find alternative ways of practicing their faith. Some did this with food. When it was an important feast they celebrated with special food and during Lent and Advent they went without certain foods and drink. With no Mass families prayed together every day. People used holy pictures, crucifixes, rosary beads or statues to focus their minds and hearts on Jesus. We can use all these methods here and now.

But when we do restart celebrating public Masses how many will return? Without the bread of life something is truly missing in our spiritual lives. Here is something I read years ago written by a Dublin priest to 'send up' peoples' excuses for not participating in the Mass. But for Mass the priest substituted water and washing.

Why I never wash!

1. I was made to wash as a child.
2. People who wash are hypocrites. They reckon they are cleaner than anybody else.
3. There are many different kinds of soap. I cannot decide on the right one.
4. I used to wash but I began to find it boring, so I stopped.
5. I still wash for special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
6. None of my friends wash anymore.
7. I am still young, maybe when I get older and I am dirtier, I might start washing again.
8. I really do not have the time to wash.
9. The bathroom is never warm enough to wash in.
10. People who make soap are only after your money.

These are the same excuses I have heard for forty years of why so many no-longer see the central truth that God comes to us in bread and wine. It is the Mass that matters! You can watch it even if you cannot fully participate on your screens.

Canon Kevin Firth

A reminder that the SVP and other volunteers are willing to get shopping, prescriptions etc. for the housebound, vulnerable and elderly. We are also available to ring people for a chat. If you have a need, or would like us to contact someone, (please check first with them that they would like us to do this - especially if they are unknown to us), please ring either Father Firth (01282 812204) or Kath Altham (01282 813806) and we can discuss if it is possible to provide help in some way.

Pendle Community Support Hub:

If you, or a vulnerable person you know, needs help, you can:

fill in our Pendle Community Support Hub form

email helpneeded@pendle.gov.uk

ring 01282 661743 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 3pm Saturday and Sunday

We expect calls to the new community hub to be high so please be patient – we will work hard to get the right help and support to people who need it.

Airedale Hospital Chaplain: If you require Fr Michael McLaughlin please phone 01535 653153

Sunday Message

26 APRIL 2020

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year A • Psalter Week 3



The Emmaus story is one of the best-crafted in the Gospel tradition. Luke brings together many important themes: Jerusalem as the place where God's plan will be accomplished; the disciples' journey from bewilderment to faith; the fulfilment of scripture; the elements of the early preaching; the presence of Jesus today in the Eucharist.

The more important location in the story is Jerusalem: the Easter mystery is not yet completed, so the disciples are walking away from the place of salvation. They cannot make sense of the apparent disaster which has befallen them because they can only see one side of the story: they have the facts about Jesus, but cannot see how this could be part of God's plan as they do not understand the Hebrew scriptures. The risen Jesus explains the events against the background of the Law and the Prophets, not by individual texts but taking those writings as a whole. When they persuade him to stay with them, he breaks bread, which for Luke is the characteristic way of referring to the Eucharist; their eyes are opened, they recognise him but he vanishes. They return to Jerusalem where the final act of the Paschal mystery will unfold with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost; they receive the official testimony to the resurrection: the Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon. ■

LEARN

In appearance stories in the Bible, it is always God or the risen Jesus who takes the initiative.

There is nothing in the original text which says that the person with Cleopas has to be another man: the two could be Cleopas and his wife or another female companion.

Cleopas and his companion relate to the disciples in Jerusalem how Jesus had made himself known to them in the breaking of bread.

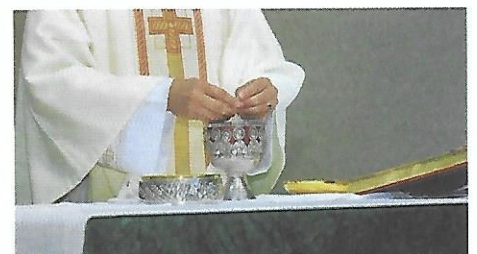
REFLECT

The last line in our Gospel extract today says, "Then they told their story ... how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread." This is not what the original text actually says: it reads how he had made himself known to them at the breaking of bread. In the Bible, God or the risen Jesus reveal themselves to people: individuals do not discover or come across God by accident.

Luke is answering a question common to any generation which did not experience the risen Jesus in the direct way in which his first disciples did: that is, those of us who have to believe without seeing. His answer is: in the Eucharist; this is the most important way in which the Lord makes himself present to his latter-day disciples. Our present liturgy reflects the Emmaus story as it presents the two ways in which Christ nourishes his followers, at the table of the word and of the sacrament. The celebrant is there representing Christ, not as the star of the show. The word is of equal importance to the sacrament, as it should deepen the disciples' appreciation of Jesus and his place in our lives. The presentation of the liturgy is therefore a responsibility on everyone involved: the person presiding should prepare a proper homily; readers should make sure that they communicate the word in a way that everyone can understand; those responsible for music should check that the hymns they select are relevant to the particular day. This is because the liturgy is not a performance: it is the most powerful way in which the risen Lord makes himself present to his disciples. ■

DO

Notice how the celebrant breaks the bread at the Eucharist. Make your "Amen" response to the Body of Christ a real act of faith in the presence of the risen Jesus in the Eucharist.



SAY

Christ walks beside me on the road of life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14,22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: "Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
or with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.

So my heart was glad
and my tongue cried out with joy:
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience
corruption.

You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your
presence.

"Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 15

Response:

Show us, Lord, the path of life.

or

Alleluia!

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: "You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize." (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.

Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, "What matters are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, "You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days." "What things?" he asked. "All about Jesus of Nazareth" they answered "who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God

and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing."

Then he said to them, "You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ would suffer and so enter into his glory?" Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. "It is nearly evening" they said "and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?"

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, "Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(all bow during the next two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

