

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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Sunday 27th March 2022
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Sat 26 th	<i>Lent Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Des Sheridan (RIP 3 rd Anni.) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm and 4.45pm-5.15pm	<i>Confessions</i>	
		5.30pm	Vigil Mass	Mary O'Connor
Sun 27 th	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Hilda Walsh (RIP)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Remi Gohel (RIP)
		12noon	Holy Mass	Owen and Winnie Morgan (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Francie Gaffey (RIP)
Mon 28 th	<i>Lent Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Thanksgiving
Tues 29 th	<i>Lent Feria</i>	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Tony Aston
		12noon	Requiem Mass	Sue Scott (RIP)
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Aboriginal People
Wed 30 th	<i>Lent Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Chris (Ints.)
		6.00pm	<i>Reception and Vigil</i>	Bridie Cullen (RIP)
Thurs 31 st	<i>Lent Feria</i>	6.45am	Holy Mass	Teresa Potter (Ints.)
		9.30am (<i>St Alban's</i>)	Holy Mass	Mrs R Sharp (RIP)
		11.00am	Requiem Mass	Bridie Cullen (RIP)
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Ranford Family
Fri 1 st	<i>Lent Feria</i>	9.30pm	Holy Mass	Bernie Colfor (RIP)
		10.00am – 7.00pm 3.30pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Children's Adoration</i>	
		12 noon (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Ellen Kelly
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Teresa O'Donal (Ints.)
Sat 2 nd	<i>Lent Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Kathleen Byrne Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by First Saturday Devotions</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm and 4.45pm-5.15pm	<i>Confessions</i>	
		5.30pm	Holy Mass	Oliver Nugent (RIP)
Sun 3 rd	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Martin Brown (RIP Anni.)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Mary Teresa Reddington and family
		12 noon	Holy Mass	Thomas and Margaret McCarthy
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Willie Keogh

This Fourth Sunday of Lent is also known as *Laetare Sunday -Laetare* meaning 'rejoice.' This theme, along with the rose vestments that lighten the penitential purple mood, speak of the coming feast of the resurrection that draws ever closer. So today's Collect prays that with *prompt devotion and eager faith we may hasten towards the solemn celebrations to come.*

Today is also known as **Mothering Sunday**. This originates from the Epistle from the Traditional Latin Mass for this day which comes from St Paul's letter to the Galatians which speaks of the heavenly Jerusalem which is our mother. It is from this that the more recent tradition of giving thanks for mothers and motherhood comes.

So today we pray for all those in our parish who are mothers, and for God's blessing on them and their families. We pray also for mothers - and fathers - for whom family life isn't easy, and for whom parenthood has provided its challenges! Of course, we also remember at the altar on this special day those of our mothers who have departed this life, that they may enjoy for ever the happiness and peace of the heavenly Jerusalem our mother!

For parents at Mass who are trying to cope with a crying baby and feel the need to 'dive out' for a moment, please feel very welcome, if you wish, to use the side chapel in St Dunstan's. There are speakers in the chapel, so you won't miss any of the Mass!

Yesterday, some of the children from St Jude's school who are candidates for First Holy Communion made their first confession. Please remember these children in your prayers as they prepare for these holy sacraments.

Church opening. Since the advent of the pandemic St Dunstan's church has been closed outside of Mass times. The church will open at 9am as usual (and now including Tuesday and Thursdays) and will remain open until 12.30pm for those who wish to come and say a prayer before the Blessed Sacrament or light a candle. Hopefully the church will be used enough to prevent misuse! The toilets won't though be open during these mornings.

Gift Aid Envelopes for the new tax year have been available by the church entrance for a couple of weeks now. If you haven't collected yours, they will now be available from the Parish Office in the presbytery. You can also ask at the Office if you would like to Gift Aid and would like some giving envelopes or have a standing order.

It was wonderful to have a good turnout for the Easter singing group. We will meet each Tuesday evening after Mass between now and Easter. If you missed the first practice but would like to be involved, please do join us on Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

Calling all young people from Year 4 and above. We are planning to do "living Stations of the cross" on the afternoon of Sunday 3rd April where we act out each station of the cross. We are looking for young people of our parish to take part. We will be meeting in the Conference Room from 6pm until 7.15pm every Friday to prepare. Come along and see what it's about. Guaranteed to be a fun as well as helping us to prepare for the coming Easter celebration.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Loving God,
we pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their
choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.

Amen.

Proud 2 Profess: We are hoping to take a group of young people to Proud 2 Profess on the 9th April at Oscott College. It is a free event, and it will be a day of fun, faith and community. There will be a host of workshops, games and discussions ending with Mass. The event is for young people aged 12 upwards. If any young people are interested in attending, please contact Nikki Stewart nikz.stew@gmail.com to book your place and for further information.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham. There is the Diocesan Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday May 14th. There will be coaches leaving locally. Please contact Fr Philip Griffin at Our Lady's, Stourbridge, on 01384395308 for information.

The SVP hopes to sponsor another series of "Funds and Lunch" at Manningford Hall, Druids Heath, for parents and children from struggling families over the Easter holidays. If you would like to help us fund this, please donate through the SVP box in the church wall, by using the contactless terminal in the porch or by bank transfer to *SS Dunstan & Jude SVP Sort code 60-60-04. Account 46082956*. If you would like to help out, please talk to Andy Gudge on 07855 824434.

Donations: if anyone has spare toys or books suitable for a 3 year old and a baby of 8 months, could you please call Karen on 07816 686 849. They are much needed at a women's refuge.

We pray for those who have died recently: Ralph Pollett, Terea Griffin, Sue Scott, Mary Ryan (Requiem April 5th at 10am), Thomas Cunningham, and Bridie Cullen.

We pray for those to be Baptised today: Iris Rounce at St Dunstan's.

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting is on **Tuesday 5th April** at 7.45pm in St Dunstan's Church. If you would like to come to this meeting, please contact the Parish office and leave your name and phone number.

PREPARING FOR EASTER:

Stations of the Cross:

St Dunstan's: Fridays 7.30pm

St Jude's: Tuesdays 10.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: St Dunstan's: Fridays 10am – 7pm. There will be a short period of Adoration for children straight after school at 3.30pm.

Lenten Soup Lunch

Fridays at 12.30pm in the Conference Room. Donations are for CAFOD, and Fairtrade goods will be available for purchase.

Early Morning Mass:

St Dunstan's: Thursdays 6.45am followed by tea, coffee and toast in the Conference Room.

Prayer Group in the Conference Room every Sunday at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Lectio Divina in the Conference Room after Mass every Monday when we reflect on the following Sunday's Gospel and how it inspires and informs everyday life with its joys and challenges.

Little Lambs: A chance for a coffee and chat with other parents, grandparents and carers whilst the children play in a COVID safe environment. Come and join us in the Conference Room from 10.15am to 12.15pm this Friday.

Foundation Governors at St Alban's Primary School.

There are currently two vacancies for Foundation Governors which is a voluntary role at school. If you would like further information and an application pack, please email Mrs Birdi on r.birdi@stalbanrc.bham.sch.uk

Bishop Challoner Training School are working with schools in the Birmingham area to help new trainee Teachers into the rewarding teaching profession. There are Primary and Secondary School Direct places available. They are also offering School Experience Days to gain an insight into life in a school on **Wednesday 27th April 2022**. Please visit www.bctsa.org for more information, or email trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

The Parish Office is open from 10am to 12.30pm on Mondays and from 9am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests: we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a pre-arranged appointment.

If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

Masses can be requested by dropping off an envelope at the presbytery or given to one of the priests. If you wish to request a particular date, then this is best done by coming to the office at the above times or by writing your telephone number on the envelope.

GUIDANCE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

There have been occasions where people have walked away with the sacred host without consuming it. So:

It is very important for the respect we ought to give to the most Holy Sacrament, that:

1. You remove your face covering from your mouth immediately before receiving communion so that you can receive.
2. If you do receive the Holy Eucharist in the hand, consume the host immediately before stepping away from the priest.
3. It is also respectful to leave a reasonable space before the person in front of you. There's no rush, and we won't run out of the Blessed Sacrament.

COVID ARRANGEMENTS

1. Entry into Mass will remain through the one entrance, but after the 10.30am and 12 noon Masses at St Dunstan's, exit will be via both doors. At St Jude's, entry and exit will be through the main doors.
2. Both churches will have two 'zones.' The left-hand side as you come into church will be socially distanced, marked up as they have been previously. The right-hand side as you come into church will not be marked up and people will choose their own seats.
3. Use of hand sanitiser will be encouraged as we come into church, as still are the use of face coverings.

COLLECTIONS:

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£547.75	£164.00
Non-Gift Aid	£746.43	£116.02
Jubilee Fund	£524.15	-
Fabric Fund	-	£ 59.57

Standing Orders are a great way of making donations. If you would like a Standing Order form, please contact the Parish Office.

MASS TODAY

MUSIC AT SOLEMN MASS

Hymns: 364
204
810

Organ Voluntary: D. Bourgeois, Serenade, Op. 22

THE COLLECT

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come.

A reading from the book of Joshua (5:9-12)

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 33:2-7*

R: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (5:17-21)

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

I will leave this place and go to my father and say:
'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.'
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (15:1-3,11-32)

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlightened everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity.