

MEETING WITH THE RISEN LORD

Last Sunday we were invited by Pope Francis to re-visit 'our Galilee', that privileged place where we first met with the Risen Lord and experienced our communion with him. Not just as another figure from a distant past, but a living person: not some distant God but the God who is at our side, who more than anyone else knows each one of us, and loves each of us personally.

Pope Francis spoke of a variety of ways in which people can have this experience - in our private prayer, on pilgrimage, in the experience of the Sacraments. Some people can call such experiences easily to mind, so powerful an effect have they had on their lives. Others might wonder whether it is something they have ever experienced.

Such encounter is always a gift to us from the Lord, we cannot 'make' it happen. But there are ways in which we can help ourselves be available to the Lord. During this Easter season - at Mass and in the newsletter we will focus on a number of these ways. Some may be new to us, some very familiar - but for all of us it can be helpful to think about the place they can have in our lives as Catholics. For at the heart of our faith is the Lord's invitation to us to live in that intimate and personal communion with him, which also draws us into communion with the rest of the Church and helps us to truly live in love of God and love of neighbour.

MEETING WITH THE LORD IN SCRIPTURE

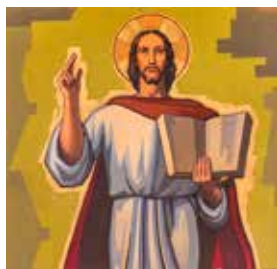
The faith of the Church is that scripture is not just the words of human authors, but their words inspired by God: God speaks through them.

The Church believes more too: that when scripture is proclaimed it is Jesus himself who speaks to each of us personally. We hear the voice of the reader, but it is Jesus who speaks. Scripture proclaimed is a

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Parents with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 might like to make note of the dates and times of Children's Liturgy of the Word during this term time.

- Sunday 30 April at 9am
- Sunday 14 May at 9am
- Sunday 28 May at 9am
- Sunday 11th June at 11am
- Sunday 25th June at 9am
- Sunday 9th July at 9am



Parish Lunch: Come and join in a parish lunch after the 11am Mass and Corpus Christi procession with children from this year's Communion Programme on Sunday 11th June. More details to follow.

sacramental presence of the Lord. The reader says 'The word of the Lord' and we respond 'Thanks be to God', or 'Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.'

We are invited to hear the Lord, and not just the words that are read to us, making him present. We do this by allowing what we hear to find a place in our hearts and minds: we receive the Lord who speaks to us, into our hearts and minds. This is why the reader reads: that we might receive the living Lord.

Sometimes as we reflect on what is ministered to us — like Our Lady, pondering on these things in our heart — we may experience the Lord's personal presence. Our hearts can burn within us as we find ourselves guided to an intense appreciation of what is being said to us, and why. Of course we need to listen - so it is good to develop the discipline of making a point to quietly reflect on the readings in the silences after the readings and elsewhere at Mass, and returning to them in personal prayer after Mass. One thing that many people find helps them listen to the Lord and to hear his authentic voice, is noticing what in particular strikes us with particular force in the reading. It might be a word or phrase that of particular consolation or reassurance. It might be a word of challenge or critique. It's that we need to return to for our deeper and continued listening — and to begin our own prayerful dialogue with the Lord about what we hear.

Much of the time such prayer and conversation might seem humdrum, but at other times it can take on a certain intensity and urgency. We are heart to heart with the Lord, who longs to be heart to heart with us.

Young Families Group

The Young Families group meets in the Benedict Room for refreshments, for chat and getting to know one another after the 9am Mass on the last Sunday of each month.

This timing will also allow people who attend the 11am Mass to join *before* they go to Mass. **Next meeting is 30 April.** In addition, the group is also thinking of having a day out in Spring (May/June perhaps) nearby to enjoy the weather (hopefully!) and have some fun.

Keep an eye on the newsletter for more information.



Colour and Light

A gathering space for all those who want to enjoy making art (of all sorts and at all levels)

Colour and Light meets in the Benedict Room each Wednesday afternoon from 1-3pm (access from behind the church). Next meeting All are welcome. For more information please speak with Geraldine Foster or Fr Allen.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US

Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

E-mail: stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk **Telephone:** 0121 354 1763

Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **Deacon:** Rev John Garvey

Parish Safeguarding: Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

APRIL 2023: PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK

Sa	22	6pm		Richard Charles RD (Platt)
Su	23	9am	3rd Sunday of Easter	John, Kathleen & Madge McGrath (McG)
		11am		Seamus Nolan RD
M	24	10am	ST GEORGE	For the parish
T	25	10am	St Mark	Barron and De Lara families(B)
W	26	10am		Bridie Hennigan RD (Green)
Th	27			
F	28	11am	Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick	
		7pm		Rachel Upham RIP (Green)
Sa	29	6pm		Marie Breen RD
Su	30	9am	4th Sunday of Easter	Noreen Sullivan (O'Gorman)
		11am		For the parish

Anointing of the Sick: Last Friday of month at 11am

Sacrament of Confession: Friday 18.30-18.55; 19.30 (after Mass), until 20.00; and Sat 5.30-5.45 — and by appointment

Please pray for those who are sick including Andy Kean, Brenda Davies; Gino Mastroianni, David Cotton, Rita Rhodes, Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin; Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Jean Lawlor; Joanne McShane & Teresa Monteiro. **Please pray** for Dom Tomlinson, Mary Cosgrove, Patricia Gallagher and all whose anniversaries are at this time.

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER.

1. Parish prayer on Zoom (links on parish website homepage)
Morning Prayer: Zoom meeting Monday to Saturday at 8.30am; **Lectio** Sunday at 4pm; **Rosary** Mon at 7pm.
2. Readings of the day and much more at Universalis.com

Parish Car Park

There is free parking in our parish carpark at all times for one hour. Automatic free parking permits are issued:

- On **Saturdays** for those arriving after 5.30pm and leaving before 7.30pm and on **Sundays** if arriving after 8am and leaving before 2pm
- On **Mondays to Wednesdays** if arriving after 9.30am and leaving before 11.30am and on **Fridays** if arriving after 6.30pm and leaving before 8.30pm
- Permits **may** be automatically issued also for **Masses at other times** too, e.g. funerals. Details of such additional free times will be confirmed in newsletter in advance.

Permits for 'privileged times' are automatically issued when a vehicle enters the car park during those times. You need do nothing more. At other times, if on site for parish meetings and the like, please scan the QR poster in the church or Benedict Room to extend your 'free' parking time.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE FIRST TIME

Please pray for the children preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time during May, beginning on 7th May. Please pray for their families also. May these special celebrations bring each one closer to Christ and his Church.

Forms are available after Mass today to book in for preferred rehearsal times at 3.40pm on May 8 or 9 or 5pm May 10.

WHERE IS CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING EVIDENT IN OUR SOCIETY TODAY?

A gathering to discover and explore the principles of CST at work in our society; where these are being followed or applied; and where they could improve society in cases where these are absent." Book your place at https://bit.ly/JandP_Forum_May2023

LOUDFENCE AT ST CHAD'S CATHEDRAL

A LOUDfence involves tying LOUD (brightly coloured) ribbons and messages of support in public spaces to show support to all victims and survivors of abuse - and to give survivors a voice, create awareness in the community and work to end abuse.

The St Chad's event runs from 7th to 13th May. More details on Diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

A WEEK OF ONLINE GUIDED PRAYER FROM 11-17 MAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY CLERICAL ABUSE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

This offers a safe space for FREE, one to one, confidential sessions of guided prayer with a fully trained Prayer Guide. *All are welcome, whether a survivor, family member or other person shocked and horrified by the sexual abuse crisis. To find out more and to book a place email journeytogetherij@gmail.com*

THERE IS A RETIRING COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY — Vocation Sunday — for the Priests' Training Fund.

The Introductory Rites

Opening Song

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name

Jesus is Lord of all the earth
he is the King of Creation.

Spread the good news o’er all the earth
Jesus has died and has risen.

Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour.

Gloria



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.

Glory to God...

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.

Glory to God...

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.

Glory to God... Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Acts 2:14,22-33

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, for 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.’

Psalms 15(16):1-2,5,7-11



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.’

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.

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.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever.

1 Peter 1:17-21

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!

Luke 24:13-35

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 everything 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 should 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 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.

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

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

Prayer of the Faithful

All: Through our lives and by our prayers,
your kingdom come.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

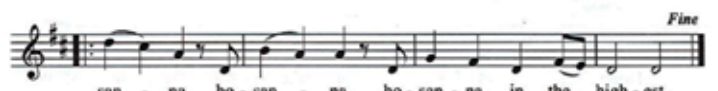
The Offertory

NB Our next collections for the Bethany Food Bank are May 7th and 21st

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to him, do not be afraid,
in him rejoicing: the Lord is near;
in him rejoicing: the Lord is near.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus



The mystery of faith



The Communion Rite

The Lord’s Prayer

Communion thanksgiving

My God loves me. His love will never end.
He rests within my heart for my God loves me.

His gentle hand he stretches over me.
Though storm-clouds threaten the day
he will set me free.

He comes to me in sharing bread and wine.
He brings me life that will reach past the end of time.

My God loves me, his faithful love endures.
And I will live like a child held in love secure.

The joys of love as offerings now we bring.
The pains of love will be lost in the praise we sing.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites

Dismissal

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