

**Together in Christ?** Make use of Lent to help build up our sense of parish and our mission as Church.

Can you find time and energy to have a chat with others about some questions related to this Sunday Gospel, exploring something of the social implications of the Gospel for us in our parish, and here in Boldmere?

**John 12:20-33**

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied to them: 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.'

Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. 'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

**Some reflection questions:**

- How do you understand this teaching of Jesus?:

*Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.*

- St Irenaeus taught that the Glory of God is human beings fully alive. A lot is packed into that saying. How would you try to explain it to someone else?

**You are welcome to email your thoughts to Fr Allen!**



**Prayer at home but with the parish**

Full details of our present range of on-opportunities to join with other members of the parish for prayer on-line are given on the homepage of the parish website.

If you know people who are not ready to return to Sunday or weekday Mass, do please help them to make use of the on-line opportunities to remain actively engaged with their parish.

**The Gospel of the Day**

If you or someone you know are confined to home, or are otherwise unable to attend the parish prayer times in church or on-line then you might like to spend a little time each day praying the Gospel of the Day. These are posted each day on the *Living Eucharist* Blog at 6am - <https://livingeucharist.wordpress.com> - and (usually about the same time) on the Parish blog also.

Spending time in prayerful reflection is especially encouraged for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

If you or someone you know doesn't have access to the internet don't have access to the internet either then here are the readings for those days, so you can look them up in your Bible.

**Palm Sunday**

Gospel of Mark Chapter 15, verses 1-39

**Maundy Thursday**

Gospel of John Chapter 13, verses 1-15

**Good Friday**

Gospel of John Chapter 18, verse 1 to Chapter 19, verse 42

**Easter Day**

Gospel of John Chapter 20, verses 1-9

It is helpful to pray before reading Scripture, and afterwards. For example

**Before Reading Scripture**

Lord, open my eyes, my mind and my heart to hear you speak through Holy Scripture. Be light for my day.

**After Reading Scripture**

Lord, stay with me, that I may continue to ponder your word in my heart, and listen for your voice throughout my day.

**Churches Together** in Boldmere, Banners Gate and Wylde Green: Full Council Meeting to be held on 23rd March 2021 at 7.30 pm by Zoom. If you would like to attend, please email Fr Allen.

**St Chad's Sanctuary**

In order to not only survive but to continue to meet the ever growing needs of asylum seekers and refugees, St Chad's Sanctuary is appealing for additional support. This is a time of particular need for the Sanctuary and they would appreciate your prayers and your financial support.

**More information at [www.stchadssanctuary.com/](http://www.stchadssanctuary.com/)**



**St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere**

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**Parish Priest:** Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Parish Safeguarding:** Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)  
 Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

**Liturgies of Holy Week and Easter Day**

- Palm Sunday: Masses, 6pm (27/3); 9 and 11am (28/3)
- Maundy Thursday (1/4): *Mass of the Lord's Supper*, 7.30pm
- Good Friday (2/4): *Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion*, 3pm
- Holy Saturday (3/4), *Easter Vigil*, 8pm
- Easter Day (4/4), Mass at 9am and 11am

Given the COVID restrictions that are in place, those who wish to attend these liturgies must book tickets via Eventbrite. The link is provided on the front page of our parish website.

- **If you book tickets and find you cannot use them, please do return them via Eventbrite.**
- **If you find tickets are not available at present, please try again later. At Christmas a number of tickets were returned to Eventbrite even immediately before the Liturgies.**

If you are not successful in booking tickets for Easter Sunday, then do please remember that Easter Day has its octave. So you can come to celebrate Easter Day at any of our parish Masses during Easter week (i.e. Mass at 10am on 5, 6, 7 April.)

Also there will be the opportunity to join with others from the parish in live Zoom celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours

Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer on Holy Thursday

- Morning Prayer on Good Friday and on Holy Saturday
- Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday (*at the end of the weekly Lectio divina meeting. No obligation to join the Lectio prayer time first!*)  
*Details will be on the parish blog on the day.*

**Still shielding but want to come to Mass in Holy Week?**

There will be a special celebration on Thursday 1st April at 11am *solely for those who are presently shielding (and one accompanying person from their household/bubble)* and who will not otherwise be able to come to our parish celebration of the Triduum.

*Places are strictly limited to those who pre-book and because of the additional social distancing which will be in place.*

*If you wish to attend this Mass - or if you want to reserve a place for a family member/friend, please email Fr Allen directly giving the name of those for whom places are requested.*

MASS					
Sa	20	6pm	5th Sunday in Lent	Thomas Quinlisk RIP (Gill family)	
Su	21	9am		Fr Joyce (Byrne)	
		11am		For the parish	
M	22	10am		Dorothy Walsh RIP (Walsh)	
T	23	10am		Sylvia Satur RIP (Walsh)	
W	24	10am			
Th	25	10am	ANNUNCIATION	Tony Lawlor RIP Anniv (Lawlor)	
F	26	7pm			
Sa	27	6pm	6th Sunday in Lent	For the parish	
		9am		PALM SUNDAY	Thanksgiving: safe birth of Harriet Dowle (Byrne)
Su	28	11am			Margaret & Thomas O'Gorman RIP (O'Gorman)

**Confessions** COVID restrictions prevent confessions being heard in the church, or indoors. However, if you wish to celebrate Reconciliation please contact Fr Allen who will be happy to arrange a time and place (outdoors) to celebrate this sacrament of mercy with you.

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Kathleen Melody who died recently; and for Bronia Schmid, Kath Devanny, Philip Cassera, Sheila Hindle, Sarah Finnegan, Tony Lawlor, Eileen Headley, Margaret Lane, Kathleen Passey, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

**Keeping Safe at Mass**

**Face coverings:** Regulations require members of the congregation, aged 5 and over, to wear face-coverings over their nose and mouth throughout the time we are in church. *If you have an exemption certificate please confirm in advance with Fr Allen, so appropriate seating can be arranged for you (and to safeguard others.)*

**Social distancing:** Please keep a social distance of 1m from anyone not of your household. *If going into an empty bench, please sit in the middle space, and leave any remaining space on the aisle for the next to arrive. Do not make people climb over you to get into the bench.*

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

## The Introductory Rites

*The Introductory Rites help us come together as one, establish communion and prepare ourselves to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.*

## The Penitential Act

### Confiteor

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

## The Collect

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Hearing the word proclaimed in worship, we again enter into the unending dialogue between God and the people of the covenant shared in Christ, a dialogue sealed as we share the Eucharistic food and drink. The proclamation of the word is essential to the Mass*

*A brief time of quiet after the readings allows us to take the word of God to heart and begin to prepare a prayerful response to what we have heard.*

### Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

### Psalms 50(51):3-4,12-15

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

### Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

### Gospel Acclamation

*Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!*  
Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;  
and where I am, there also will my servant be.  
*Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!*

### John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come  
for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you, most solemnly,  
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,  
it remains only a single grain;  
but if it dies,  
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;  
anyone who hates his life in this world  
will keep it for the eternal life.  
If a man serves me, he must follow me,  
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.  
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.  
Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world;  
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.  
And when I am lifted up from the earth,  
I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

## Homily

**Prayer of the Faithful** (omitted at the Bishop’s request)

### Apostles Creed

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

*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*

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.

## The Liturgy of the Eucharist

*The Eucharist is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. It is the vital centre of all that the Church is and does, because at its heart is the real presence of the crucified, risen and glorified Lord, continuing and making available his saving work among us.*

### The Offertory

*There is no offertory collection at this time. Instead, you are invited to place your offerings in the basket at the entrance to the church as you arrive, or as you leave.*

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The Eucharistic Prayer, the centre and summit of the entire celebration is a memorial proclamation of praise and thanksgiving for God’s work of salvation, a proclamation in which the Body and Blood of Christ are made present by the power of the Holy Spirit and the people are joined to Christ in offering his Sacrifice to the Father*

### The Preface Dialogue

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.

## THE COMMUNION RITE

*Eating and drinking together of the Lord’s Body and Blood in a Paschal meal is the culmination of the Eucharist. The themes underlying these rites are mutual love and reconciliation. These are the condition and the fruit of worthy communion and the unity of the many in the One.*

## The Lord’s Prayer

### Invitation to Communion

*Please observe the regulations on social distancing when processing to receive Holy Communion.*

*As you approach the minister, please do so with arms at “full stretch” to keep a good distance between you.*

*Communion will be given silently, and in the hand only. (Your hands - palms upwards, one of top of the other - should be extended as flatly as possible.)*

### Prayer after Communion

## The Concluding Rites

*The brief Concluding Rite sends us forth to put into effect in our daily lives the Mystery of Christ’s Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ which we have celebrated. Our mission is to witness to Christ in the world and to bring the Gospel to the poor.*

## Blessing and Dismissal

*Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). All rights reserved. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*

I have no wit, no words, no tears;  
My heart within me like a stone  
Is numb’d too much for hopes or fears;  
Look right, look left, I dwell alone;  
I lift mine eyes, but dimm’d with grief  
No everlasting hills I see;  
My life is in the falling leaf:  
O Jesus, quicken me.

My life is like a faded leaf,  
My harvest dwindled to a husk:  
Truly my life is void and brief  
And tedious in the barren dusk;  
My life is like a frozen thing,  
No bud nor greenness can I see:  
Yet rise it shall—the sap of Spring;  
O Jesus, rise in me.

*From A Better Resurrection  
by Christina Rossetti*

**Lenten Alms:** A reminder that if you wish to donate to the parish Lenten Alms collection, which will be divided 50/50 between the parish SVP group and the St Nicholas World Development Group, then please bring your donation and place it in the Offertory basket on Maundy Thursday - or in a sealed envelope marked ‘Lenten Alms’ and put it in the collection any time after that.