

A parishioner writes

SUNDAY REFLECTION

“Whoever lives in truth comes to the light so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.”

It is rare that Tooting is in the news but this week has seen a fair amount of coverage given the water crisis with homes cut off from basic amenities. Some of our parishioners also lost electricity for a short time and found themselves without light. The gospel this week reminds us of the prospect of Light coming into the world through the actions of God and gently gives us a lift up as to how we can carry on our Lenten journey. The words of Blessed John Newman in his great hymn “Lead Kindly Light” also come to mind for in the darkest of days he reminds us that “lead me on, the night is dark and I am far from home, lead thou me on” is the message of Christ.

Our Mass today started with the words “Rejoice O Jerusalem” from Isaiah 66, and as such is called Laetare Sunday from the Latin. This is traditionally the Sunday in Lent when we are “led” kindly on by Mother Church to a place where we can reflect on the great feast ahead, a short respite in the weeks of Lent and leading us with renewed vigour towards the Easter Triduum. In our celebration, both at Mass and in our homes today, let us celebrate the light and the great gift of faith that we witness every time we gather together at Mass and partake of the Eucharist. Today we see evidence of that light coming into the world in the gradual growth of Spring, in the rose shade of the Priest’s vestment and in the loosening of fasting (just for today; note the Cake sale today.) It is also a day to remember the wonderful tradition of allowing servants to return home both to their Mother church and to see their Mothers so that we can extend that tradition and celebrate “our Mothers” and Mary the Mother of God.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	8.30 am Pro Pop 10.00 am Angelina Moraes <i>RIP</i> 11.15 am E Danisewski <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm A & G Gospage (<i>Sp Int</i>)	Thursday	10.00 am Gerry O’Brien <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm Helen Doyle (<i>Sp Int</i>)
Monday	10.00 am Fr Patrick Cope <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm D & M O’Donoghue <i>RIP</i>	Friday	10.00 am Jorge Sanlay <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm P & E Connor <i>RIP</i>
Tuesday	10.00 am Una Gilsean <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm M & M Donovan <i>RIP</i>	Saturday	10.00 am Holy Souls 6.15 pm Joe Cernuschi <i>RIP</i>
Wednesday	10.00 am Alan J Barlett <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm Stewart Finn <i>RIP</i>	Sunday	8.30 am Pro Pop 10.00 am Derry Fitzgerald <i>RIP</i> 11.15 am Jerome Lobo <i>RIP</i> 6.15 pm J Donnellan (<i>Sp Recov</i>)

FAMILY FOLK MASS, Sunday 18th March at 10am

If you enjoy singing or playing an instrument come and join us. We meet on Saturday 17th March at 10.45am in the upper new hall and on Sunday morning at 9.30am in the church. All First Holy Communion children are encouraged to join us on Sunday to lead the singing.

ST ANSELM’S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179

Parish Office email: stanselmstbec@gmail.com

Parish website: www.stanselmstbec.org.uk

4th Sunday of Lent

10th & 11th March 2018 (Year B)

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Parish Team:

Rev Canon William Hebborn (*Parish Priest*)
Fr Philip Andrews, Fr Paul Connelly
& Fr Emmanuel Ojeifo (*also resident*).
Deacon Michael Carrucan, Deacon Simon English,
Deacon Tom McCarthy & Thelma Lewis.
Tom Gately (*Catechetical Co-ordinator*).
Martine Mercer (*Parish Administrator*).

Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary.

Mass Times:

Saturday 10.00am & 6.15pm.

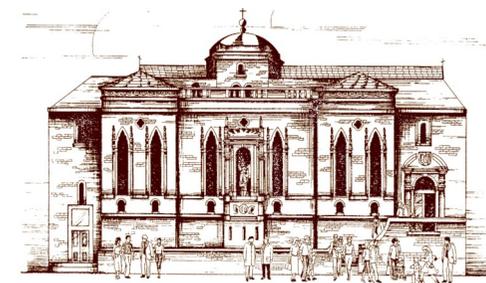
Sunday 8.30am, 10.00am, 11.15am & 6.15pm.

Mass times during the week:

10.00am & 6.15pm. (No 8.00am).

Holydays: 8.00am, 10.00am & 6.15pm & 8.00pm.

Confessions: Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm & 7.00pm.



WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 29:2,4-6,11-13; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ezek 47:1-9,12; Ps 45:2-3,5-6,8-9; Jn 5:1-3,5-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 144:8-9,13-14,17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 105:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1,12-22; Ps 33:16-21,23; Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30
Saturday: Jer 1:4-9; Ps 116; Rom 10:9-18; Mk 16:15-20
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 50:3-4,12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH

We pray for all our housebound parishioners, including those in the six nursing homes and Springfield Hospital.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Despite the rejection of God by the leaders of the people, God engineers their return after exile through the unexpected agency of the Persian king, Cyrus.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

God’s love is so great that even when we were dead through our sins, God brought us to life in Christ.

Gospel John 3:14-21

A simple statement says so much: “God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.”

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON SUNDAYS DURING LENT AT 5.30pm

Stations of the Cross will be led by the clergy/deacons during the six Sundays of Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Wednesday and Friday after the evening Mass.

MOTHER'S DAY CAKE & FLOWER SALE

Delicious homemade cakes, buns, biscuits and flowers to make mum's special day!! Come and see us in the courtyard following the 10am Mass TODAY. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Parish.

CARING KITCHEN, TODAY, Sunday 11th & 25th March, 12.15-2.00pm in the Old Hall (Balham High Rd entrance) in a friendly place and caring environment to enjoy a homemade lunch. We offer sandwiches, soup, cakes and fruit to members of the community, including anyone in the parish who would like to come along. For further information please contact: caringkitchensw@gmail.com

TRIDUUM CHOIR

If you enjoy singing and playing an instrument please join us as we prepare to celebrate the Easter Liturgies. Rehearsals Wednesday 14th March, Tuesday 27th March, all at 7.45pm in the Church, and final rehearsal Saturday 31st March at 10.45am in the Church. Full updates will be given at rehearsals.

LENTEN PENANCE

By abstaining from meat or some other food. By abstaining from alcoholic drink, smoking or some form of amusement. By making special efforts involving family prayer, taking part in the Mass, visiting the Blessed Sacrament or praying the Stations of the Cross. By fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps by giving what is saved in this way to the needy at home and abroad. By making a special effort to help somebody who is poor, sick, old or lonely.

OUR LENTEN RETREAT, EUCHARIST, Discovering the Mass in the Bible

Continues to attract a great number for which we are very blessed. We hope many of you who cannot attend are following the recap sheets on our website. There is however still time to attend the retreat as we enter into the final two sessions. The retreat led by Canon Will and supported by material from Dr Brant Pitre has proved a dynamic and illuminating "hit" as it supports our learning in bringing the Bible basis of the Eucharist to life. Dr Pitre, an Augustine scholar, takes us through the Old and New Testament to discover the origins of the Eucharist, the source and summit of all we believe. Next session Emmaus and the Mystery of the Eucharist. The journey to the end of the Eucharist Course continues with Part 9 this week which explores the way in which the Eucharist affected the thinking of the early church in all aspects of worship. As we approach Holy Week and Easter morning this is an ideal session to bring one in touch with the importance of the Resurrected Christ.

PARISH LENTEN REFLECTION AFTERNOON, Saturday 24th April 2-4pm

Why not join us for a reflective journey as we prepare to step into Holy Week? We will discern the symbolic Passover of the Jews and how Jesus gave us the new Passover in the Eucharist. An afternoon of reading from the Gospels, sharing and discussion, culminating in a prayer liturgy that will allow us to journey with Christ on His last week. All welcome to the upper room.

CHURCH CLEANERS

It takes a merry bunch of cleaners to make the Church sparkle every week. If you can give a couple of hours of your time, please come and join the team on a Thursday morning following the 10am Mass. Come to the sacristy from 11am.

FILM FOR HOLY WEEK 'RISEN'. Sat 24th March at 7.30pm in upper new hall

As we prepare to go into Holy Week, I invite you to come and see an epic Biblical story of the Resurrection, as told through the eyes of a non-believer, Clavius, a powerful Roman military tribune, and his aide, Lucas, who are tasked with solving the mystery of what happened to Jesus in the weeks following the crucifixion, in order to disprove the rumours of a risen Messiah and prevent an uprising in Jerusalem. (*Canon William*).

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION, 25th March Please meet at **9.45am in the courtyard outside the lower new hall** (weather permitting) for the blessing of the palms and procession into the church before the 10am Mass. Blessing of palms at all Masses.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Children's Way of the Cross on Good Friday, 30th March. The children of the parish will have their own 'Way of the Cross' at 12.00 noon. If you would like your child/children to participate, please come to the upper new hall at 11am so that we can have a rehearsal in the church with the readers and musicians before the service. We would be grateful for additional parental help with the children.

TRIDUUM We especially encourage the whole parish, including families and children, to attend the three great celebrations of Maundy Thursday, 29th March, the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8.00pm, Good Friday, 30th March, Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm and the Easter Vigil, Saturday 31st March at 8.00pm. The liturgy brings us into the very presence of Christ in his suffering, in his death and his resurrection. The liturgy is a school of education; it makes faith real and living and actualises a relationship with Jesus and with each other. Therefore, we urge families to come so that we all, including our children, can experience the living liturgy with its rich symbols of bread, wine, fire, water and soil.

A COURSE FOR PENTECOST "THE GIFT" Do you sometimes wonder if there isn't more to your faith? Do you desire a deeper relationship with God but don't know where to start? We may have been baptised and Confirmed but still not be aware of the need to personally and deliberately invite the Holy Spirit to be at work in our lives. This Pentecost, the Parish invites you to do just that! Following the success of last year's course, we are again running 'The Gift', a lively DVD-led course with engaging speakers such as David Payne, Jenny Baker and Michelle Moran who will inspire and provoke you with a fresh and down to earth witness to the challenges of living a Spirit-filled life in a modern world. Commencing on Tuesday 17th April for 6 weeks, we will explore who the Holy Spirit is and how he can lead us to a deeper encounter with God our loving Father. Tuesday 7.45-9.15pm in the upper new hall. "We need to implore the daily grace of the Holy Spirit, asking him to open our cold heart and shake up our lukewarm and superficial existence." (Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel 264).

CAN YOU HELP? CHILDREN'S LITURGY

(Little Fishes (Under 5) & The Followers (Over 5)) We are looking for liturgists to help with both the Under 5 and Over 5 Liturgy groups on a Sunday morning. If you are interested in supporting our lovely children's liturgy, which is an extension of the Mass for our younger members of the parish community, please contact the parish office: stanselmstbec@gmail.com and your details will be forwarded to the coordinators of the groups. Thank you for your consideration. *Canon William*.