

St John the Evangelist

Fr James Callaghan OSB

Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

12 April 2020 (Year A)

Parish Administrator: Kathryn Lynam; **Assistants:** Emma Harrison and William Scrope
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Mass Times this Week

Saturday 11 Holy Saturday
8:30pm Mass of the Easter Vigil: *Parish*

Sunday 12 Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection, Solemnity
10:00am Mass: *Irene Atkin RIP*

Monday 13 Easter Monday

Tuesday 14 Easter Tuesday

Wednesday 15 Easter Wednesday
9:30am Mass: *The Abbot*

Thursday 16 Easter Thursday
6:30pm Mass: *Welfare of the Schools*

Friday 17 Easter Friday
9:30am Mass: *Dead of the EBC*

Saturday 18 Easter Saturday
5:45pm Vigil Mass: *Parish*

Sunday 19 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday
10:00am Mass:

הֲלֹלוּ יְהֹוָה

(Hallelujah!)

RESURREXIT!

LAUDETUR JESUS CHRISTUS, ALLELUIA!

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

Wishing you all from the bottom of my heart a very Happy Easter! That this must be one of the strangest Easters on record does not take away one iota from the fact that beyond this world of shadows the darkness of death has been overcome by the Man-God Himself, who has driven out that darkness with the overwhelming Light of the Resurrection.

It may be very easy to spend this time in anxiety, worry and even fear, but let us all resist that temptation - for that is what it is - and open ourselves, whatever our circumstances, to the knowledge (cont.)

that the events recorded at the end of the four gospels are not pious myths, but TRUE. The man who was killed on a cross and buried, rose to life on the Sunday, lives now and will live for ever. That is why we should shout out aloud "Hallelu Yah!" (which is what the Hebrew at the top of this message says) - "Praise Yah (The Lord)!"

Why was I talking about darkness and light in the first paragraph?

In the gospel for Tuesday of Holy Week we heard "As soon as Judas had taken the piece of bread (from Our Lord at the Last Supper) he went out. Night had fallen." Night had not only fallen because it was late; a profound night had overtaken Judas as he finally set in motion the events which were to lead to his master's death. Darkness appeared as Christ hung on the cross. Holy Saturday was a day - a "non-day" may be more appropriate - of profound "nothing-ness".

The beautiful gospel for today, Easter Day, begins with the words "It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb"; for that Mary, too, the night persisted; she had come to tend to a corpse; her Lord was dead. But in St Matthew's account of this (28: 1-8) what do we read? "...an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow."

Now the light - a brilliant light - is replacing the night. Now it is the true Dawn which the Resurrection of the Lord brings, a dawn which can never more give way to darkness and night - if we can only open our eyes in faith to see it.

Yes, we are living in critical times; the Coronavirus is a manifestation of night, a night about which I would love to write to you, if God spares me, in another message. But today we must in truth be glad - I would go so far as to say that today, yes, even in our current crisis, we should weep for joy! Because Christ has won the final battle *for us*. He has adopted us as his own - we belong now to Him.

May we all rejoice this Eastertide, and may we help others who may be in distress to rejoice too. Belonging as we do to Christ, let us pray throughout the next 50 days that for all those we know and love, and indeed for the whole human race, the night may end and the light of the Resurrection may fill our hearts, and indeed fill the whole world!

God bless every one of you,

With love to you all,

Fr James.

Thought for the Week

We proclaim the Resurrection of Christ when His light illuminates the dark moments of our existence.

Pope Francis

Information and Useful Links

Please see our website for a list of on-line resources, including churches who are live-streaming Mass, and Magnificat's offer for free on-line access during this troubled time. You can also go on www.ChurchPaper.co.uk for editions of all the catholic newspapers.

Please give Kathryn your email address if you would like to receive the bulletin in soft copy.

Please let Kathryn know if you are in need of any kind of assistance at this time.

For those who are interested, there is a live stream from the Diocese of Leeds that could be followed. From the website, it is to attend daily mass, prayers, and the Holy Week masses as well. The Leeds Cathedral live YouTube channel can be accessed from Diocese of Leeds website.

Adoration, Words of exhortation and mass could also be attended by Searching "Divine Retreat Centre UK" from YouTube. Live stream daily as from 17:00

Easter Cards

There are lots of these in the Piety Stall. If you would like to buy some, you can make arrangements through Kathryn, who is in the office most weekdays between 10:30 and 1:30pm

Middlesbrough Food Bank: Thank you for your donations

Due to the continued situation under COVID-19 there will be no more deliveries to Middlesbrough for the time being.

Please remember that financial donations would be an alternative if it was easier for you at the moment. There are some flyers at the back of church and donations can, of course, be made on-line. Cash donations, however small, could be handed in to St Benedict's House.

If you want to keep up to date, please consult the MFB website: middlesbrough.foodbank.org.uk. If you need further information or want to help, please ring: 01653 628755. God bless.

Note that if you have items you would like to donate, we can arrange for them to go to the Easingwold Food Bank in lieu.

Offertory Collections and Charities:

- Thank you for those of you who have offered different ways in which they can still make an offering to the Parish. Envelopes can be dropped through the letterbox of the priory, and if you wish to set up a standing order, Kathryn can set that up. We are most grateful for whatever you can do. This week, Kathryn counted £260 from envelopes dropped through the door. Some people are kindly dropping cheques in also. If you would like to do so, please note that our Account name is "**Ampleforth Abbey Trust: St John's Parish**". Simply "Ampleforth Abbey Trust" will do – there is no need to worry that the money will not come into the parish account, it will! Fr James does not have a personal bank account, so the bank will not accept cheques made out to him.
- APF red boxes: If anyone would like a red box, please contact Anne on 01347 823015
- Easyfundraising this quarter has raised £42.44 for the Parish – thank you very much to those who have signed up. Please see Kathryn if you would like to donate as you shop, at no cost to yourself.

Eggs

Still available in the Porch, many thanks to Trish and Jane. £1 per box, in the Poor Box slot.

Upcoming Events COVID-19 permitting (See Posters)

Parish Forum meeting to be postponed. Details of the Summer Fayre will be on the agenda.

July

- Sat 4 Summer Fayre in the Priory Garden

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

the Sick, Infirm and Housebound: Sally Agar, Mattie Burke, Mary Capaldi, Kitty Carrington, Cath Cavanagh, Jenny Cook, David Craig, Paul Gallagher, Pat Grotrian, Catherine Harmer, Graham Harrand, Mary-Rose Harrison, Marta Hatfield, Vince Kelly, Darren Kennedy, Lt. Commander Matthew Kiernan, Kay Moss, Marion Myers, Marie Podgorski, Harrison Torr and Sophie Williams; *those who have Died recently:* Danny O'Donnell, Howard Snowden, Michelle Hebb, Noreen Fodden, James O'Brien, Gillian Mayne and Conal Kavanagh *and those whose Anniversaries occur about this time:* Patrick Francis McNally, Amos Joseph Judson, Emily Maughan, Sr Stephanie Ion, John Curtis, Josephine Armitage