
 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (A)</b> <b>Mass Times and Intentions</b> <b>Divine Office – Psalter Week 3</b> 		
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	Intentions of Denise and Michael Liptrot
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	9.30am	Veronica Green
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	7.00pm	Special Intention
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	9.30am	Catherine Higgins
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	Ken Fidler



**The Roman Catholic Parish of  
Our Lady Help of Christians**

Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT

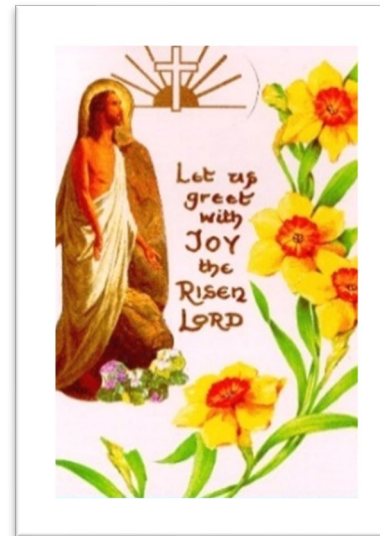
**Administrator: Fr Andrew Rowlands VF**  
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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (A)

### 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026



In the First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter goes deep into the Old Testament scriptures to learn that David spoke of Jesus through the Psalms. He quotes from Psalm 16. Peter then goes on to say that even the great King David died and was buried to be seen no more. Other great men and women of the Old Testament also have come and gone, but Jesus who died was then honoured by the Father by being raised from the dead to live forever. This should give us cause to reflect on how we are fulfilling our role in God's Plan as Jesus did.

In the Responsorial Psalm, the psalmist sings of the great spiritual comfort that comes from being close to Jesus and walking in His footprints. This is something that we should take very seriously because we never know when our time will come. The Second Reading is from the First Letter of St. Peter. In this great pastoral letter, Peter advises us

to walk with the Lord Jesus daily because Jesus paid a great price for our being delivered from sin. Therefore, we should not take His sacrifice lightly. Here also, as he did in "Acts" above, Peter refers back to ancient scripture to acknowledge that Jesus existed before all creation — "before the foundation of the world."

The Gospel Reading is from the Gospel of Luke. In this passage we have the beautiful story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus where they meet Jesus but do not recognize Him. This is understandable because Jesus has been resurrected and is now in His divine "Glory." These disciples must have always seen Jesus in the "here and now" without looking back at how scripture described His coming. The "stranger" then goes through the Old Testament scriptures to point out how they often referred to the Messiah; but it was in the "breaking of the bread," the Eucharist, that they finally recognized Him.

### Sunday Liturgy

<b>Proper of the Mass</b>		<b>p. 259</b>
Profession of Faith	Apostles'	p. 12
Preface	Easter II	p. 74
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 3	p. 28

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April



**For priests in crisis.** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

**April** is the month of the Holy Spirit. To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: "with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)



## Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

### Parish Meeting

There will be a meeting for all Parishioners at 7.00pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April in the Parish Hall. During this meeting we will give an update on recent developments and how these might affect the parish, and hopefully plan some future initiatives.

### Vocations Sunday

Next Sunday we are to reflect on the Christian vocation we have each received in baptism. In the Gospel reading at Mass, Christ presents himself as the Good Shepherd and the Gate of the Sheepfold. We are especially asked to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life, which are needed and valued in the Church today more than ever. Young people should be encouraged to consider these vocations along with other life choices.

The retiring collection at the end of Mass next weekend will be for the Priests Training Fund.

### Whiston Hospital

If you or a loved one are unfortunate enough to have to be admitted to Whiston Hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit from the Chaplaincy team, please phone the Chaplaincy Office on 0151 430 1979. Data protection rules mean that the Chaplaincy team are not allowed to ask if there are any Catholic patients who would like a visit.

### St Helens Choral Society

St Helens Choral Society present their Spring concert '*Requiem - Eternal Rest & Consolation*' on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm at St Luke's Church, Knowsley Road. Come and enjoy music by Gabriel Fauré and John Rutter. Admission £15 including a programme (under 16s £1) pay on the door.

### Notre Dame Reunion

Did you attend a Notre Dame School in the Archdiocese of Liverpool? There will be a reunion on 17<sup>th</sup> May for all ex-pupils & teachers, consisting of Mass at 11.00am followed by a complimentary light lunch & a social finishing at 3.00pm, at the Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo. A donation for our current charity & a raffle prize would be appreciated. Please try to attend, all are welcome. Reply by 3<sup>rd</sup> May to Bernie Shaw, 0161 483 0173

### Liverpool Bach Collective

The Liverpool Bach Collective aims to put on performances of J S Bach's cantatas in churches in and around Liverpool every month as part of Sunday Evening Prayer. The next event takes place at The Church of At Agnes and St Pancras, Ullet Road, Liverpool, , L17 3BA, at 6.30pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April. It Features Cantata No. 104, "O Shepherd of Israel Hear Us", reflecting the Gospel passage in which Christ reveals that he is the Good Shepherd.

## Feast Days This Week

### Monday

**Blessed John Finch** - He was a yeoman of Eccleston, Lancashire, and a member of a well-known old Catholic family, but he appears to have been brought up in schism. When he was twenty years old he went to London, and while there he was forcibly struck by the contrast between Protestantism and Catholicism in practice and determined to lead a Catholic life. He returned to Lancashire where he was reconciled to Catholic Church. He then married and settled down, his house becoming a centre of missionary work, he himself harbouring priests and aiding them in every way. At Christmas, 1581, he was entrapped into bringing a priest, George Ostliffe, to a place where both were apprehended. When he refused to go to the Protestant church he was dragged there by the feet, his head beating on the stones. After three years' imprisonment, he was sent to be tried at Lancaster. There he was brought to trial with three priests on 18 April, 1584. He was found guilty and, 20 April, having spent the night in converting some condemned felons, he suffered martyrdom with Blessed James Bell at Lancaster.

### Tuesday

**St Anselm** - He was born in the year 1033 in Piedmont, Italy. He entered the Benedictine Order in the monastery of Le Bec in France where he taught theology to the students, while he himself quickly progressed in the spiritual life. He went to England, where he was chosen to be Archbishop of Canterbury. There he fought strenuously for the freedom of the Church and was twice condemned to exile. As a result of the investiture controversy - the most significant conflict between Church and state in Medieval Europe. He was renowned for his writings, particularly in mystical theology. He died in the year 1109.

### Wednesday

**St Abdius** - Also called Hebed Jesus, he was a deacon in the Christian community of Persia who was caught up in the persecutions conducted by King Shapur II in the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century.. Records indicate that Abdius was accompanied in his martyrdom by several others, some of whom were Persian courtiers, others priests and bishops. There was also a woman named Tarbula, the sister of St Simeon, who suffered a particularly cruel death by saw

### Thursday

**St George** - He was martyred at Lydda (Israel) around the year 303, during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian. His cult, which pre-dates the legend of his slaying the dragon, spread quickly throughout East and West. During the Crusades, George was seen to personify the Christian ideals of chivalry, and he was adopted as patron saint of many city-states and countries. King Richard I of England placed his crusading army under his protection, and in the year 1222 his feast was declared a holiday.

### Friday

**St Adalbert** - Born in the year 956, Adalbert of Prague, known by his Czech name of Vojtech, was a Bohemian missionary and Christian saint. He was the Bishop of Prague and a missionary to the Hungarians, Poles and Prussians. He was martyred in the year 997 for his efforts to convert the Baltic Prussians to Christianity.

**St Fidelis** - Born in the year 1577, Fidelis of Sigmaringen was a Capuchin friar who led a hard life of penance, vigils and prayer. He was a major figure in the Counter-Reformation and was regarded as an indefatigable preacher. He was martyred by his opponents in the year 1622 at Seewls, now part of Switzerland.

### Saturday

**St Mark the Evangelist** - He was a cousin of St Barnabas. He accompanied St Paul on his first missionary journey and later followed him to Rome. He was a disciple of St Peter and reproduced his teaching in his Gospel. He is said to have founded the Church of Alexandria, one of the most important episcopal sees of the Early Church. His symbol is the winged lion.